

# **WESCLIN HIGH SCHOOL**



## **STUDENT/PARENT HANDBOOK**

**2025/2026**

# WESCLIN HIGH SCHOOL

WESCLIN CUSD #3

699 Wesclin Road  
Trenton, Illinois 62293

618-224-7341

FAX: 618-588-9106



[www.wesclin.org](http://www.wesclin.org)

James H. Rahm, Principal  
Lisa Brede, Athletic Director  
Katie Smith, Counselor  
Tiffany Reeser, Administrative Assistant

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August 1, 2025

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Welcome to Wesclin High School!

This handbook has been designed to help guide you and your student through the upcoming school year. At Wesclin, our faculty and staff are committed to ensuring that your student's four years with us are productive, engaging, and full of meaningful opportunities.

To support student success, this handbook serves as a valuable resource. It includes an overview of our programs, services, and personnel, along with important information about school policies, procedures, and expectations. We encourage you to keep it accessible throughout the year, as it can answer many common questions that may arise. Please note that this document is a summary and subject to change without notice.

If you ever need additional information or clarification, do not hesitate to reach out to a teacher, the school counselor, or me. We are here to support you and your student every step of the way.

Together, we will continue to make Wesclin High School a place where students thrive.

**Go WARRIORS!**

Sincerely,

James H. Rahm, Principal  
Wesclin High School



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## **CHAPTER 1: INTRODUCTORY INFORMATION AND GENERAL NOTICES**

This handbook is a summary of the school's rules and expectations, and is not a comprehensive statement of school procedures. The Board's comprehensive policy manual is available for public inspection through the District's website ([www.wesclin.org](http://www.wesclin.org)).

The School Board governs the school district and is elected by the community. Current School Board members are:

Mr. Jeff Stroot	President
Mr. Jared Poettker	Vice President
Mrs. Tina Litteken	Treasurer
Mr. Dustin Biggs	Secretary
Mr. Zach Peters	Member
Mr. Stephen Brown	Member
Mrs. Samanta Mohme	Member

### **WESCLIN C.U.S.D. #3 ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF**

Mrs. Jennifer Filyaw	Wesclin Superintendent
Mr. James Rahm	Wesclin High School Principal
Mr. Zack Huels	Wesclin Middle School Principal
Mrs. Angela Woll	Trenton Elementary Principal
Mr. Patrick Weathers	New Baden Elementary Principal
Mrs. Jaime Bonsall	Special Services Coordinator

### **WESCLIN OFFICE STAFF**

Mrs. Ryann Mugele	District Secretary
Mrs. Cindy Terveer	District Bookkeeper
Mrs. Tiffany Reeser	High School Secretary
Mrs. Georgia Gruenke	High School Secretary
Mrs. Danielle Schmitt	High School Secretary

### **WESCLIN HIGH SCHOOL FACULTY/STAFF**

Mr. Brian Arentsen	Science, Social Science
Mr. Jeff Bassler	Science
Ms. Jamie Block	English
Ms. Lisa Brede	Mathematics / Athletic Director
Mr. Brent Brede	Social Science
Mrs. Cori Brown	Tutor
Mr. Bradley Burcham	Industrial Arts
Mrs. Ronell Bursich	Program / Individual Aide
Mr. Ben Crawford	Social Science
Mr. Mike Cook	Custodian
Mrs. Laura Davis	Spanish

Mr. Colin Detmer  
Mrs. Jackie Englemann  
Mr. Obie Farmer  
Mrs. Bridget Heap  
Mrs. Jenna Hemker  
Mrs. Angie Higgins  
Mrs. Krystal Huelsmann  
Mr. Collin Johnson  
Mrs. Debra Johnson  
Mr. Mike Kuper  
Dr. Heather Klein  
Mr. Tom Krumsieg  
Mrs. Kellie Kunz  
Mrs. Jessica Lamm  
Ms. Heather McIntyre  
Mrs. Lisa Middleton  
Mrs. Kristen Oster  
Mrs. Amy Page  
Dr. Jessica Pilgreen  
Mr. Terry Pollmann  
TBD  
Mr. Bill Quirin  
Ms. Jessica Sanchez  
Mrs. Melinda Schneidewind  
Mr. Jason Schleifer  
Ms. Jennifer Sligar  
Mrs. Katie Smith  
Mrs. Jodie Stallings  
Mrs. Angie Timmerman  
Ms. Lesley Timmermann  
Mrs. Jennifer Walker  
Mr. Tyler Weis  
Mr. Eric Wuebbles

Physical Education  
Program Aide  
Driver Education  
English / Journalism  
Agriculture Studies, Welding  
Special Education  
Study Hall  
Band  
Special Education  
Custodian  
Special Education  
Maintenance  
Business Education  
School Nurse  
School Psychologist  
Library Aide  
Media Center, English  
Chorus  
English  
Custodian  
Social Worker  
Custodian  
District Interpreter  
Art  
Mathematics / Science  
Mathematics  
Guidance Counselor  
District ESL Instructor  
Physical Education  
Family and Consumer Science  
Program / Individual Aide  
Science  
Special Education

The school is located and may be contacted at:

Wesclin CUSD #3  
699 Wesclin Road  
Trenton, Illinois 62293  
618-224-7341

## 2025-2026 Wesclin School District Calendar

Tuesday, August 12	No School - Teacher Institute
Wednesday, August 13	Half Day School Attendance-SIP day
Thursday, August 14	First Full Day of School
Monday, September 1	Holiday - Labor Day – No School
Friday, September 12	No School – Teacher Institute
Friday, October 3	Half Day School Attendance-SIP day
Monday, October 13	Holiday - Columbus Day – No School
Thursday, October 23	Half Day School Attendance - Parent/Teacher Conference in afternoon and Evening
Friday, October 24	No School- Parent Teacher Conference
Tuesday, November 11	No School – Veteran’s Day Observance
Wednesday, November 26 through Friday, Nov. 28	No School – Thanksgiving Break
Friday, December 12	Half Day School Attendance-SIP day
Monday, December 22 through Friday, January 2	No School - Winter Break
Monday, January 5	School Resumes
Friday, January 16	Half Day School Attendance-SIP day
Monday, January 19	Holiday – Martin Luther King Birthday – No School
Friday, February 13	Teacher Institute – No School
Monday, February 16	Holiday - President's Day – No School
Friday, March 20	Teacher Institute – No School
Thursday, April 2 through Monday, April 6	No School - Spring Break
Friday, April 17	Half Day School Attendance-SIP day
Friday, May 8	Half Day School Attendance-SIP day
Tuesday, May 19	LAST DAY OF SCHOOL (no emergency days used)
Wednesday, May 27	(Last day of School with 5 emergency days used)

\*\*\*\*\*

### DISMISSAL TIMES

#### **Full Attendance Day**

High School - 8:00-2:48  
Middle School - 8:15-3:03  
Elementary School - 8:00-2:45

#### **Half Attendance Day**

High School – 8:00-11:35  
Middle School – 8:15 – 11:45  
Elementary School – 8:00 – 11:30

### END OF SEMESTER DATES

***End of First Semester***  
***End of Second Semester***

***December 19***  
***May 19***

## **ADDRESSING QUESTIONS OR CONCERNS**

The most effective way to address a concern is to begin with the person directly involved. If your concern is related to a specific class or classroom matter, please contact the teacher first. If your concern involves a school-wide regulation or practice, you should contact the principal.

Teachers are available between 7:45 a.m. and 3:03 p.m. We recommend calling ahead to schedule an appointment. Please note that teachers will return phone calls during their preparation period or after school. They will not be called out of class to take phone calls during instructional time.

If your concern cannot be resolved at the teacher level, the next step is to contact the principal. Should further resolution be needed after speaking with the teacher and principal, you may choose to bring the matter to the attention of the superintendent, especially if it pertains to state laws or district-wide policies.

In the event the superintendent is unable to resolve the issue and you believe it is important enough for consideration by the Board of Education, you may request that the superintendent place your concern on the agenda for the next board meeting. Time is reserved at each board meeting for public input. To ensure your voice is heard effectively, please inquire in advance about the procedures and time limits for public comment.

It is highly encouraged to present your concerns in writing and bring copies to share with board members. Written statements often help clarify your message and leave a lasting impression.

## **SCHOOL START TIMES**

### **Full Attendance Day**

High School - 8:00 a.m.-2:48 p.m.

### **Half Attendance Day**

High School – 8:00 a.m.-11:35 a.m.

## **GRADING SCALE**

<u>Grade Ranges</u>	<u>GPA points</u>
A: 90-100	4
B: 80-89	3
C: 70-79	2
D: 60-69	1
F: 0-59	0

\*\*Weighted grades at Wesclin High School – see page 29 for details.

## **OPEN HOUSE / ORIENTATION**

Each year, an open house and/or orientation is scheduled at Wesclin High School. All parents and students are invited to meet the teachers and visit the classrooms.

**2025-2026 Open House: August 12<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.**

## **EQUAL OPPORTUNITY AND SEX EQUITY**

Equal educational and extracurricular opportunities are available to all students without regard to race, color, nation origin, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, ancestry, age, religion, physical or mental disability, status as homeless, immigration status, order of protection status, military status, unfavorable military discharge, reproductive health decisions, or actual or potential marital or parental status, including pregnancy.

No student shall, based on sex, sexual orientation, or gender identity, be denied equal access to programs, activities, services, or benefits or be limited in the exercise of any right, privilege, advantage, or denied equal access to educational and extracurricular programs and activities. Any student or parent/guardian with a sex equity or equal opportunity concern should contact: Mrs. Jennifer Filyaw, District Superintendent.

Any student may file a sex discrimination complaint under the District's Title IX Grievance Procedure.

Any student may file a sex equity complaint under the District's Uniform Grievance Procedure. A student may appeal the Board's decision to the Regional Superintendent and, thereafter, to the State Superintendent of Education.

## **Crisis Hotline Information**

- Dial 988 to reach the Suicide and Crisis Lifeline
- Text HOME to 741741 to reach the Crisis Text Line.
- Contact Safe2Help Illinois: Dial: 1-844-4-SAFE-IL, Text: SAFE2 (72332), or email [HELP@Safe2HelpIL.com](mailto:HELP@Safe2HelpIL.com)
- Anonymous Alerts is an online reporting mobile app that has been purchased by the district to report any incidents anonymously or after school hours.

## **AWARENESS AND PREVENTION OF CHILD SEXUAL ABUSE, GROOMING BEHAVIORS, AND BOUNDARY VIOLATIONS**

Child sexual abuse, grooming behaviors, and boundary violations harm students, their parents/guardians, the District's environment, its school communities, and the community at large, while diminishing a student's ability to learn.

### **Warning Signs of Child Sexual Abuse**

Warning signs of child sexual abuse include the following.

#### **Physical signs:**

- Sexually transmitted infections (STIs) or other genital infections
- Signs of trauma to the genital area, such as unexplained bleeding, bruising, or blood on the sheets, underwear, or other clothing
- Unusual weight gain or loss

**Behavioral signs:**

- Excessive talk about or knowledge of sexual topics
- Keeping secrets
- Not talking as much as usual
- Not wanting to be left alone with certain people or being afraid to be away from primary caregivers
- Regressive behaviors or resuming behaviors that the child had grown out of, such as thumb sucking or bedwetting
- Overly compliant behavior
- Sexual behavior that is inappropriate for the child's age
- Spending an unusual amount of time alone
- Trying to avoid removing clothing to change or bathe

**Emotional signs:**

- Change in eating habits or unhealthy eating patterns, like loss of appetite or excessive eating
- Signs of depression, such as persistent sadness, lack of energy, changes in sleep or appetite, withdrawing from normal activities, or feeling "down"
- Change in mood or personality, such as increased aggression
- Decrease in confidence or self-image
- Anxiety, excessive worry, or fearfulness
- Increase in unexplained health problems such as stomach aches and headaches
- Loss or decrease in interest in school, activities, and friends
- Nightmares or fear of being alone at night
- Self-harming behaviors or expressing thoughts of suicide or suicidal behavior
- Failing grades
- Drug or alcohol use

**Warning Signs of Grooming Behaviors**

School and District employees are expected to maintain professional and appropriate relationships with students based upon students' ages, grade levels, and developmental levels. Prohibited grooming is defined as (i) any act, including but not limited to, any verbal, nonverbal, written, or electronic communication or physical activity, (ii) by an employee with direct contact with a student, (iii) that is directed toward or with a student to establish a romantic or sexual relationship with the student. Examples of grooming behaviors include, but are not limited to, the following behaviors:

- Sexual or romantic invitations to a student
- Dating or soliciting a date from a student
- Engaging in sexualized or romantic dialogue with a student
- Making sexually suggestive comments that are directed toward or with a student
- Self-disclosure or physical exposure of a sexual, romantic, or erotic nature
- Sexual, indecent, romantic, or erotic contact with a student
- Failing to respect boundaries or listening when a student says "no."

- Engaging in touching that a student or student's parents/guardians have indicated is unwanted
- Trying to be a student's friend rather than filling an adult role in the student's life
- Failing to maintain age-appropriate relationships with students
- Talking with students about personal problems or relationships
- Spending time alone with a student outside of their role in the student's life or making up excuses to be alone with a student
- Expressing unusual interest in a student's sexual development, such as commenting on sexual characteristics or sexualizing normal behaviors
- Giving a student gifts without occasion or reason
- Spending a lot of time with a student
- Restricting a student's access to other adults

### **Warning Signs of Boundary Violations**

School and District employees breach employee-student boundaries when they misuse their position of power over a student in a way that compromises the student's health, safety, or general welfare. Examples of boundary violations include:

- Favoring a certain student by inviting the student to "hang out" or by granting special privileges
- Engaging in peer-like behavior with a student
- Discussing personal issues with a student
- Meeting with a student off-campus without parent/guardian knowledge and/or permission
- Dating, requesting, or participating in a private meeting with a student (in person or virtually) outside of a professional role
- Transporting a student in a school or private vehicle without administrative authorization
- Giving gifts, money, or treats to an individual student
- Sending a student on personal errands
- Intervening in a serious student problem instead of referring the student to an appropriately trained professional
- Sexual or romantic invitations toward or from a student
- Taking and using photos/videos of students for non-educational purposes
- Initiating or extending contact with a student beyond the school day in a one-on-one or non-group setting
- Inviting a student to an employee's home
- Adding a student on personal social networking sites as contacts when unrelated to a legitimate educational purpose
- Privately messaging a student
- Maintaining intense eye contact with a student
- Making comments about a student's physical attributes, including excessively flattering comments
- Engaging in sexualized or romantic dialogue
- Making sexually suggestive comments directed toward or with a student
- Disclosing confidential information

- Self-disclosure of a sexual, romantic, or erotic nature
- Full frontal hugs
- Invading personal space

If you believe you are a victim of child sexual abuse, grooming behaviors, or boundary violations, or you believe that your child is a victim, you should immediately contact the Building Principal, a school counselor, or another trusted adult employee of the School.

Additional Resources include:

National Sexual Assault Hotline at 800. 656.HOPE (4673)

National Sexual Abuse Chatline at [online.rainn.org](http://online.rainn.org)

Illinois Department of Children and Family Services Hotline at 1.800.25. ABUSE (2873)

### **ANIMALS ON SCHOOL PROPERTY**

In order to assure student health and safety, animals are not allowed on school property, except in the case of a service animal accompanying a student or other individual with a documented disability. This rule may be temporarily waived by the building principals in the case of an educational opportunity for students, provided that (a) the animal is appropriately housed, humanely cared for, and properly handled, and (b) students will not be exposed to a dangerous animal or an unhealthy environment. Prior to bringing any animal on school property, for any reason, you must contact and receive permission from the building principal.

### **CLOSED CAMPUS**

Students are to remain in their assigned buildings and on the school's grounds continuously from the time of reporting to the time of departure for the day, unless permission to leave is granted by the building principal or a designee. Leaving campus without permission will result in disciplinary action.

### **EMERGENCY SCHOOL CLOSINGS**

In the event of severe weather or mechanical breakdown, the school may be closed. If school is closed, each student's number on file will be called through our automated system to alert them to the emergency closing. Typically, an email message will be sent via the TeacherEase system as well. It will also be announced on KMOV Channel 4 and KSDK Channel 5.

Reports in the morning will be given between 6:00 am and 8:00 am. The announcement will be "WESCLIN SCHOOL DISTRICT" will be closed. If no report is heard, it can be assumed that there will be school for the day. Please do not call the school. Telephone lines must be kept open for emergency calls.

### **AUTOMATED CALLING SYSTEM**

The district utilizes a phone service to make automated calls to parents' homes, work, or cell numbers. Calls can be launched to the entire district, one building, one grade level, or a select group of students.



### **FIRE/STORM ALARMS**

The fire alarm is one continuous blast to signal the fire alarm system. Teachers will lead the class to the designated place of safety, and then back to the classroom following the drill. Each room has instructions indicating a safety area posted on the wall near the door. Students should assist in closing all doors and windows in the room. The signal to return is a series of short rings on the bell system. It is illegal to set off a false alarm. Students apprehended will be arrested and charged. Illinois State law states that setting off an alarm is a felony, and serious consequences will follow.

The storm drill signal is a series of short rings on the regular tone system. Students will proceed to their designated place of safety. The signal to return to class is a series of tones on the tone system. Further instructions may be given over the public address system.

### **FUNDRAISING**

The principal must approve all fundraising projects. Tickets or articles of any kind, other than those associated with school-sponsored activities, are not to be sold on school property by students or outside organizations.

### **SIGN IN/SIGN OUT**

A sign-in/sign-out register is maintained in the office. Students arriving after 8:00 a.m. must sign in at the office before going to class. Students leaving before 2:48 p.m. must come to the office to sign out.

### **VISITORS TO SCHOOL**

All visitors, including parents and siblings, are required to enter through the front door of the building and proceed immediately to the main office. Visitors should identify themselves and inform office personnel of their reason for being at school.

Visitors must sign in, identifying their name, the date and time of arrival, and the classroom or location they are visiting. Approved visitors must take a tag identifying themselves as a guest and place the tag on their outer clothing in a clearly visible location. Visitors are required to proceed immediately to their location in a quiet manner. All visitors must return to the main office and sign out before leaving the school.

Any person wishing to confer with a staff member should contact that staff member to make an appointment. Conferences with teachers are held, to the extent possible, outside school hours or during the teacher's conference/preparation period.

Visitors are expected to abide by all school rules during their time on school property. A visitor who fails to conduct himself or herself in a manner that is appropriate will be asked to leave and may be subject to criminal penalties for trespass and/or disruptive behavior.

No person on school property or at a school event shall perform any of the following acts:

1. Strike, injure, threaten, harass, or intimidate a staff member, board member, sports official, or coach, or any other person.
2. Behave in an unsportsmanlike manner or use vulgar or obscene language.
3. Unless specifically permitted by State law, possess a weapon, any object that can reasonably be considered a weapon or looks like a weapon, or any dangerous device.

4. Damage or threaten to damage another's property.
5. Damage or deface school property.
6. Violate any Illinois law or municipal, local, or county ordinance.
7. Smoke or otherwise use tobacco products.
8. Distribute, consume, use, possess, or be impaired by or under the influence of an alcoholic beverage, cannabis, other lawful product, or illegal drug.
9. Be present when the person's alcoholic beverage, cannabis, other lawful product, or illegal drug consumption is detectable, regardless of when and/or where the use occurred.
10. Use or possess medical cannabis, unless he or she has complied Illinois' Compassionate Use of Medical Cannabis Act and district policies.
11. Impede, delay, disrupt, or otherwise interfere with any school activity or function (including using cellular phones in a disruptive manner).
12. Enter upon any portion of school premises at any time for purposes other than those that are lawful and authorized by the board.
13. Operate a motor vehicle: (a) in a risky manner, (b) in excess of 20 miles per hour, or (c) in violation of an authorized district employee's directive.
14. Engage in any risky behavior, including roller-blading, roller-skating, or skateboarding.
15. Violate other district policies or regulations, or a directive from an authorized security officer or district employee.
16. Engage in any conduct that interferes with, disrupts, or adversely affects the district or a school function.

Any person who engages in prohibited conduct may be ejected from or denied admission to school property in accordance with State law. The person may also be subject to being denied admission to school athletic or extracurricular events for up to one calendar year.

#### **ACCOMMODATING INDIVIDUALS WITH DISABILITIES**

Individuals with disabilities will be provided an opportunity to participate in all school-sponsored services, programs, or activities. Individuals with disabilities should notify the superintendent or building principal if they have a disability that will require special assistance or services and, if so, what services are required. This notification should occur as far in advance as possible of the school-sponsored function, program, or meeting.

#### **CHANGE OF ADDRESS/TELEPHONE NUMBER**

Inform the office if there are any changes to your address or telephone number. This information may be critical in an emergency.

#### **WITHDRAWAL FROM SCHOOL**

Parents/ guardians of a student dropping or transferring from Wesclin High School are required to accompany the student to the office to authorize the withdrawal. The student and parent are required to complete a withdrawal form before leaving the school.

## **WESCLIN HIGH SCHOOL BELL SCHEDULE**

### **Full Day Attendance**

1 <sup>st</sup> Hour	8:00am – 8:47am
2 <sup>nd</sup> Hour	8:51am – 9:38am
3 <sup>rd</sup> Hour	9:42am – 10:29am
4 <sup>th</sup> Hour	10:33am – 11:20am
5 <sup>th</sup> Hour	11:24am – 12:11am
Early Lunch	11:20am – 11:50am
6 <sup>th</sup> Hour	11:54am – 12:41pm
Late Lunch	12:11am – 12:41pm
7 <sup>th</sup> hour	12:45am – 1:32pm
8 <sup>th</sup> hour	1:36pm – 2:23pm
Advisory	2:27pm – 2:48pm

### **WESCLIN HALF DAY BELL SCHEDULE**

1 <sup>st</sup> Hour	8:00 a.m. – 8:27 a.m.
2 <sup>nd</sup> Hour	8:31 a.m. – 8:58 a.m.
3 <sup>rd</sup> Hour	9:02 a.m. – 9:31 a.m.
4 <sup>th</sup> Hour	9:35 a.m. – 10:02 a.m.
5 <sup>th</sup> Hour & 6 <sup>th</sup> Hour	10:06 a.m. – 10:33 a.m.
7 <sup>th</sup> Hour	10:37 a.m. – 11:04 a.m.
8 <sup>th</sup> Hour	11:08 a.m. – 11:35 a.m.

\*\*\*The half-day schedule does not include an advisory period.

### **WELLNESS WEDNESDAY SCHEDULE**

1 <sup>st</sup> Hour	8:00 a.m. – 8:45 a.m.
2 <sup>nd</sup> Hour	8:49 a.m. – 9:34 a.m.
3 <sup>rd</sup> Hour	9:38 a.m. – 10:23 a.m.
4 <sup>th</sup> Hour	10:27 a.m. – 11:12 a.m.
5 <sup>th</sup> Hour	11:16 a.m. – 12:01 a.m.
Early Lunch	11:12 a.m. – 11:42 a.m.
6 <sup>th</sup> Hour	11:46 p.m. – 12: 31 p.m.
Late Lunch	12:01 p.m. – 12:32 p.m.
7 <sup>th</sup> Hour	12:35 p.m. – 1:20 p.m.
8 <sup>th</sup> Hour	1:24 p.m. – 2:09 p.m.
Advisory	2:13 p.m. – 2:48 p.m.

### **SOCIAL WORK SERVICES**

Social Work services are available for every student in the school. These services include; assistance with educational planning, interpretation of test scores, helping to develop study skills, and help with home, school and/or social concerns. Students wishing to visit the social worker should come to the high school office and request an appointment.

### **VIDEO & AUDIO MONITORING SYSTEMS**

A video monitoring system may be in use in public areas of the school building and on our district buses. These systems have been put in place to protect students, staff, visitors, and school property. If a discipline problem is captured on audiotape or videotape, these recordings may be used as the basis for imposing student discipline. If criminal actions are recorded, a copy of the tape may be provided to law enforcement personnel.

### **YEARBOOK**

A high school yearbook is assembled and made available to students and parents. Individual classroom, organizational, and activity pictures are included in this yearly publication. The yearbook is made available to parents and students at a nominal fee.

### **LOST AND FOUND**

Lost and found articles should be turned in to the building office. Students may come to the office and properly identify articles before claiming them. Parents may call the school office when inquiring about lost items.

### **TELEPHONE USAGE**

Students may use the school telephone in the school offices for local calls. Students must first secure permission in order to use these telephones. Parents should avoid calling teachers during instruction hours. Before or after school hours is recommended, but anytime in an emergency.

### **CELL PHONES AND MOBILE TELECOMMUNICATIONS**

Students may not possess cellular phones during regular school hours. Cellular phones should be stored in their locker during the times of 8:00 am – 2:48 pm. The only exception where cellular phones are allowed for students is during their lunch period. **\*\*Note\*\* Cellular phone use is a privilege, and it may be revoked if the students do not use their phones appropriately during the designated time.**

The school welcomes the use of technology for educational purposes, allowing students the opportunity to learn at the highest level. Students who choose to use their cell phones for non-educational/inappropriate reasons will be subject to discipline determined by the administration. All technology devices that are brought to school are the responsibility of the individual and not the school.

Again, cellular phones are to be stored in their locker throughout the school day, except during the student's lunch period only. The following procedures will be used in cell phone violations:

- First Offense – Cell Phone confiscated and sent to the office. The student will pick up the phone from the office. A Lunch Detention will be issued.
- Second Offense – Cell Phone confiscated and sent to the office. An After-School Detention will be issued.
- Third Offense – Cell Phone confiscated and sent to the office. An After-School Detention will be issued, and the Parent has to pick up the Phone from the office.
- Fourth Offense – Cell Phone confiscated and sent to the office. A Saturday School Detention will be issued, and the Parent has to pick up the Phone from the office.
- Fifth Offense – Cell phone confiscated and sent to the office. An In-School Suspension will be issued, and the Parent has to pick up the Phone from the office.

### **COMMON GOAL/TEACHER EASE**

Common Goal/TeacherEase is the student management system that Wesclin CUSD #3 uses for daily operations. Parents will receive an email giving step-by-step directions on how to access the system, and from that point, the parents will log-in to [www.teacherease.com](http://www.teacherease.com) using their email address to view their student's academic progress.

### **WEBSITE**

The District website is [www.wesclin.org](http://www.wesclin.org). Use this site to find forms, schedules, upcoming events, and contact information for school faculty and staff.

### **PARENT/TEACHER CONFERENCES**

Conferences will be held at the end of October. Each parent will have an opportunity to meet with teachers during these scheduled times to discuss their child's educational progress. At any time during the school year, if questions or concerns arise regarding your child's education, we encourage you to contact the teacher.

**2025-2026 Parent/Teacher Conferences: October 22<sup>nd</sup> (evening only) & 23<sup>rd</sup> (afternoon & evening).**

### **REGISTRATION**

Students entering the Wesclin District for the first time need to complete a registration form provided by the school. A certified birth certificate and proof of residency must be presented at the time of registration.

Students transferring from other schools must register and furnish the complete name and address of the school last attended so that a transcript of their official record can be obtained.

All students entering Wesclin High School will complete the registration forms. Application forms for free and reduced meals, textbooks, waivers, and fees are available in the registration packet. The District Superintendent or his/her designee grants approval.

### **STUDENT DROP OFF AND PICK UP**

All parent pick-up/drop-off should take place in the east parking lot. Please use the designated drop off area located on the west side of the parking lot by the gym. **Please do not use the crosswalks to drop off/pick up your student.** Always use extreme caution during pick-up/drop-off, as there are a large number of students exiting or entering the building during these times.

## **CHAPTER 2: ATTENDANCE, GUIDANCE, AND GRADING POLICIES**

Illinois law requires that whoever has custody or control of any child between six (by September 1<sup>st</sup>) and seventeen years of age shall ensure that the child attends school in the district in which he or she resides, during the entire time school is in session (unless the child has already graduated from high school). Illinois law also requires that whoever has custody or control of a child who is enrolled in the school, regardless of the child's age, shall ensure that the child attends school during the entire time school is in session.

### **STUDENT ATTENDANCE POLICY**

Absence from school is one of the most common causes for failure or low grades. Attendance and grades are part of each student's permanent record. Students are expected to attend all classes and assigned activities unless there are justifiable reasons for being absent. Parents, with the aid of the school, are responsible for ensuring regular, punctual attendance. Poor attendance and truancy will be reported to parents and/or the proper authorities.

The progress of a student at school depends greatly upon regular attendance and punctuality. Students are expected to be in school regularly unless the student is physically or mentally ill, or a serious illness or death in the immediate family occurs. If a student needs to be absent from school, due to the above reasons, a phone call from the parent to the office is necessary on the day of an absence, stating the reason for such absence. The parents/guardians will be allowed to excuse a student up to 10 days per year. Any absences accrued after the 10 days must be verified by a doctor's excuse. If a doctor's excuse is not received, the absence shall remain unexcused. Extenuating circumstances will be evaluated by the administration on a case-by-case basis. Parents are to telephone the school (618-224-7341) before 9:00 a.m. to report their student's absence.

Students who are absent and their parents have not called the office to report the absence will be considered absent without justifiable cause and will result in an "unexcused absence." The student, upon returning to school, may present the attendance officer with a parent/guardian written note fully explaining the cause of the absence. Upon receiving the absence note from the parent, an "excused absence" designation may be given. Students have two school days from the time of the absence to have an unexcused absence excused. If the unexcused absence has not been excused within the two school days, that absence may be permanently considered unexcused.

If a student is more than 10 minutes late to a class without a valid excuse, the student is considered unexcused/truant from the class and will receive disciplinary consequences as determined by the administration. The student may receive one warning depending on the

amount of school missed. Consequences may vary but will generally follow: 1-hour detention for every period more than 10 minutes late/truant.

## **ABSENCE CLASSIFICATIONS**

### **EXCUSED ABSENCES**

Subject to specific requirements in State law, the following children are not required to attend public school: (1) any child attending a private school (including a home school) or parochial school, (2) any child who is physically or mentally unable to attend school (including a pregnant student suffering medical complications as certified by her physician), (3) any child lawfully and necessarily employed, (4) any child over 12 and under 14 years of age while in confirmation classes, (5) any child absent because of religious reasons, including to observe a religious holiday, for religious instruction, or because his or her religion forbids secular activity on a particular day(s) or time of day, and (6) any child 16 years of age or older who is employed and is enrolled in a graduation incentives program.

For students who are required to attend school, there are two types of absences: excused and unexcused. Excused absences include: illness (including up to 5 days per school year for mental or behavioral health of the student), attendance at a verified medical or therapeutic appointment (including a victim services provider), observance of a religious holiday or event, death in the immediate family, family emergency, situations beyond the control of the student as determined by the school board, circumstances that cause reasonable concern to the parent/guardian for the student's mental, emotional, or physical health or safety, attending a military honors funeral to sound TAPS, attend a civic event, or other reason as approved by the building principal. For students who are parents, expectant parents, or victims of domestic or sexual violence, an excused absence includes the fulfillment of a parenting responsibility and addressing circumstances resulting from domestic or sexual violence. Students eligible to vote are also excused for up to two hours to vote in a primary, special, or general election.

Additionally, a student will be excused for up to 5 days in cases where the student's parent/guardian is an active-duty member of the uniformed services and has been called to duty for, is on leave from, or has immediately returned from deployment to a combat zone or combat-support postings. The Board of Education, in its discretion, may excuse a student for additional days relative to such leave or deployment. A student and the student's parent/guardian are responsible for obtaining assignments from the student's teachers before any excused absences and for ensuring that such assignments are completed by the student before his or her return to school.

**It is the responsibility of the STUDENT to contact the teacher on the day he/she returns to receive any school work that was missed.**

### **MAKE-UP WORK**

An excused absence entitles a student to make-up all assignments missed. The student will have the number of days absent to turn in make-up work, except for long-term

projects/papers/presentations/scheduled tests that which the due date has been given in advance. (ex. If a student misses three days of school, the student has three days to make up the work. The missing work is due on the fourth day.) If a student is absent for longer than one week, the due date will be determined by the principal. Also, if a student is absent the day before a test or project, the student will be allowed one day to make up the test or project. Please note it is the responsibility of the student to meet with the teacher(s) for make-up work, quizzes, tests, etc.

### **UNEXCUSED ABSENCES**

An absence due to truancy or any cause that the administration cannot approve is classified as unexcused. Oversleeping, car troubles, missing the bus, and needing to work are examples of unexcused absences.

If a student is more than 10 minutes late to a class without a valid excuse, the student is considered unexcused/truant from the class and will receive disciplinary consequences as determined by the administration. The student may receive one warning depending on the amount of school missed. Consequences may vary but will generally follow: 1-hour detention for every period more than 10 minutes late/truant.

### **PARTIAL DAY ABSENCE**

Permission to miss class for personal emergency or for medical/dental appointments that cannot be scheduled during non-school hours must be obtained in the office. Students will be required to present an appointment card or other verification from a medical office. In no case should a student leave the school grounds without reporting to the office, nor shall a student report late to school without first checking into the office. Failure to do so may result in an unexcused absence and disciplinary action. Students who become ill at school should report to the office to be excused for the remainder of the day.

### **RELEASE TIME FOR RELIGIOUS INSTRUCTION/OBSERVANCE**

Students desiring to attend religious services shall be allowed to do so. In order for the absence to be excused, the parent/guardian must send a note to the school explaining the reason a student will be released from school, as an excused absence, to observe a religious holiday or for religious instruction. The student's parent/guardian must give written notice to the building principal at least 3 calendar days before the student's anticipated absence(s). Students excused for religious reasons will be allowed to make up any examination, study, or work requirement.

### **HOME AND HOSPITAL INSTRUCTION**

A student who is absent from school, or whose physician, physician assistant, or licensed advanced practice registered nurse anticipates his or her absence from school because of a medical condition, may be eligible for instruction in the student's home or hospital.

Appropriate educational services from qualified staff will begin no later than five school days after receiving a written statement from a physician, physician assistant, or licensed advanced



practice registered nurse. Instructional or related services for a student receiving special education services will be determined by the student's individualized education program.

A student who is unable to attend school because of pregnancy or pregnancy-related conditions, the fulfillment of parenting obligations related to the health of the child, or health and safety concerns arising from domestic or sexual violence will be provided home instruction under the following circumstances:

1. Before the birth of the child when the student's physician, physician assistant, or advanced practice registered nurse indicates, in writing, that she is medically unable to attend regular classroom instruction.
2. For up to three months after the child's birth or a miscarriage.
3. When a student must care for his or her ill child if:
  - a. The child's physician, physician assistant, or advanced practice registered nurse informs the school, in writing, that the child has a serious health condition that would require the student to be absent from school for two or more consecutive weeks; and
  - b. The student or the student's parent/guardian informs the school, in writing, that the student needs to care for the child during this period.
4. The student must treat physical or mental health complications or address safety concerns arising from domestic or sexual violence when a health care provider or an employee of the student's domestic or sexual violence organization informs the school in writing that the care is needed by the student and will cause the student's absence from school for two or more consecutive weeks.

The school may reassess home instruction provided to a student under No. 3 or No. 4 every two months to determine the student's continuing need for home instruction.

Periodic conferences will be held between appropriate school personnel, parent(s)/guardian(s), and hospital staff to coordinate coursework and facilitate a student's return to school.

For information on home or hospital instruction, contact: Principal James H. Rahm.

### **TARDINESS**

Students who are not in their classroom by the time the bell rings with all needed materials are tardy. Students tardy to school in the morning must report directly to the office to sign in and obtain an admit slip before entering class. Students will be allowed four unexcused tardies per semester without consequences from the office. Students are always subject to individual classroom teacher rules regarding tardiness. Excessively tardy students are subject to disciplinary action (refer to the section on Disciplinary Violations). Students more than **10 minutes** tardy will be counted as absent/truant for the period.

Tardies 1-4 for each semester will carry no consequences.

Violation 5-9 = one-hour detention

Violation 10 = In-school-supervision for one day

Violation 11-14 = two-hour detention

Violation 15 = three days in-school-supervision

If a student is more than 10 minutes late to a class without a valid excuse, the student is considered unexcused/truant from the class and will receive disciplinary consequences as determined by the administration. The student may receive one warning depending on the amount of school missed. Consequences may vary but will generally follow: 1-hour detention for every period more than 10 minutes late/truant.

### **BEFORE AND AFTER SCHOOL**

No student should be in the building before 7:30 a.m. After arriving on school grounds students must receive permission from the office to leave. No student should be in the building after 4:00 p.m. unless supervised.

### **TRUANCY**

Student attendance is critical to the learning process. Truancy is therefore a serious issue and will be dealt with in a serious manner by the school and district.

Students who miss more than 1% but less than 5% or more of the prior 180 regular school days without valid cause (a recognized excuse) are considered truants. Students who miss 5% or more of the prior 180 regular school days without a valid cause are considered chronic truants. Students who are chronic truants will be offered support services and resources aimed at correcting the truancy issue.

If a student is more than 10 minutes late to a class without a valid excuse, the student is considered unexcused/truant from the class and will receive disciplinary consequences as determined by the administration. The student may receive one warning depending on the amount of school missed. Consequences may vary but will generally follow: 1-hour detention for every period more than 10 minutes late/truant.

### **DIAGNOSTIC PROCEDURES FOR IDENTIFYING STUDENT ABSENCES AND SUPPORT SERVICES TO TRUANT OR CHRONICALLY TRUANT STUDENTS**

State law requires every school district to collect and review its chronic absence data and determine what systems of support and resources are needed to engage chronically absent students and their families to encourage the habit of daily attendance and promote success. This review must include an analysis of chronic absence data from each attendance center.

Furthermore, State law provides that school districts are encouraged to provide a system of support to students who are at risk of reaching or exceeding chronic absence levels with strategies and are also encouraged to make resources available to families such as those available through the State Board of Education's Family Engagement Framework to support and engage students and their families to encourage heightened school engagement and improved daily school attendance.

"Chronic absence" means absences that total 10% or more of school days of the most recent academic school year, including absences with and without valid cause, and out-of-school suspensions.

The School and District use the following diagnostic procedures for identifying the causes of unexcused student absences: Interviews with the student, his or her parent/guardian, and any school officials who may have information about the reasons for the student's attendance problems.

Supportive services to truant or chronically truant students include: parent conferences, student counseling, family counseling, and information about existing community services.

If chronic truancy persists after support services and other resources are made available, the school and district will take further action, including:

- Referral to the truancy officer
- Reporting to officials under the Juvenile Court Act
- Referral to the State's Attorney
- Appropriate school discipline

A parent or guardian who knowingly and willfully permits a child to be truant is in violation of State law.

### **CHRONIC ABSENTEEISM**

Chronic absenteeism is defined as missing more than 10% of school.

### **ATTENDANCE FOR ATHLETICS/EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES**

For a student to participate or attend a scheduled extracurricular practice or activity on a school afternoon or night, **he/she must be in attendance at school before 11:20 a.m.** This includes athletic practices, games, other extracurricular events, and general attendance at those events. The only exception will be a pre-arranged administrative approval (i.e., funeral, doctor's appointment, etc.) Students who miss due to a doctor's appointment must present a written note or an appointment card from a medical office to be eligible for participation in an after-school activity.

### **SIGN IN/SIGN OUT**

A sign-in/sign-out register is maintained in the office. Students arriving after 8:00 a.m. must sign in at the office before going to class. Students leaving before 2:48 p.m. must come to the office to sign out.

### **PRE-ARRANGED ABSENCES**

Pre-arranged absences will be allowed on an individual basis. Primary considerations will be based on the student's current academic status and the number of previous total absences. Pre-arranged absence requests must be completed at least two days before the absence. Pre-arranged absence forms are available in the office. Days missed due to family vacations will be considered excused only if a pre-arranged absence has been applied for and granted by the principal. **Please note that family vacations are discouraged during the school year.** Students often fall behind in their coursework due to family vacations during the school year.

## **COLLEGE VISITATIONS**

A "Senior College Day" is considered a pre-arranged absence and will be considered excused only if the verification form is returned with the appropriate signature from the college. College Day request forms are available in the Guidance Office and must be submitted three (3) school days before the date requested. Seniors are allowed **two** college days per school year, and no college days will be granted in the last two weeks of the semester. The principal reserves the right to deny a request for a college day if the student is not in good standing regarding attendance and/or academics. Juniors may be allowed, under the permission of the Principal/Guidance Office, an Official College Day Visit. The same guidelines will be followed as with Senior College Day visits.

## **GUIDANCE / SOCIAL WORK SERVICES**

Guidance services are available for every student in the school. These services include assistance with educational planning, interpretation of test scores, study skills, help with home, school, and/or social concerns, or any question the student may feel he/she would like to discuss with the counselor. **Students may not miss classes in order to meet with the counselor or social worker except in emergency situations.** Students wishing to visit the counselor or social worker **must** contact the guidance counselor or secretary to arrange an appointment. Students are encouraged to seek the help of the counselor to develop class schedules that meet the student's career objectives. High school juniors and seniors have the opportunity to receive college and career-oriented information. Representatives from colleges and universities, occupational training institutions, and career-oriented recruiters, including the military, may be given access to the school campus in order to provide students and parents/guardians with information.

## **CLASS LOAD**

All students must carry a minimum of five academic subjects plus PE. (Students are encouraged to take seven classes each year to obtain a diverse education.)

## **POST SECONDARY INSTITUTION PROGRAM**

Wesclin School District suggests that the following courses constitute a rigorous academic curriculum and should be taken by all prospective college, military bound, or technical school-bound students:

English	4 years
Foreign Language	2 years
Math	4 years
Science	3 years
Social Studies	3 years

Students should plan their individual course of study for 4 years. This will allow the student to be able to take all the courses needed in their particular path of study. The college-bound student may wish to take a sixth subject rather than a study hall. This would allow the student to take four additional courses over the course of their high school career and the opportunity to participate in the Fine Art electives.

## **COURSE OFFERINGS AND DESCRIPTIONS**

Copies of complete course offerings and descriptions are available through the Guidance Office.

## **GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS**

Each student must successfully complete the following courses in order to graduate from high school, and each student must have 20 credits for graduation. Each semester class is worth .5 credits (except PE). Each student must also complete 8 semesters of high school.

1. Four years of Language Arts, which includes two years of writing-intensive coursework. Speech will be included in the four years of required Language Arts.
2. Three years of mathematics; one year must be Algebra I and one year must be a course that includes geometrical content
3. Two years of science
4. Two and a half years of social studies, of which at least one year must be the "History of the United States," and one semester of "American Government," and one semester of "Civics".
5. One semester of Health
6. One semester of Personal Finance
7. One semester of Speech
8. 1.0 credit Physical Education (.125 credit per semester). Students must pass one semester of PE for every semester enrolled at WHS unless the student is exempt. Exemptions are for marching band, athletics, additional classes for graduation, college entrance requirements, and/or administrative exemption that can be used under state law.
9. One year chosen from music, art, foreign language or vocational education.

For students first entering high school in the 2022-23 school year, one year of a course that includes intensive instruction in computer literacy, which may be English, social studies, or any other subject, and which may be counted toward the fulfillment of other graduation requirements.

### **Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) Graduation Requirement**

As a prerequisite to receiving a high school diploma, the parent or guardian of each student or, if a student is at least 18 years of age or legally emancipated, the student must comply with either of the following:

1. File a FAFSA with the United States Department of Education or, if applicable, an application for State financial aid.
2. File a waiver indicating that the parent or guardian or, if applicable, the student understands what the FAFSA and application for State financial aid are and has chosen not to file an application.

Upon request, the school will provide a student and his or her parent or guardian any support or assistance necessary to comply with this requirement

A school district may award a high school diploma to a student who is unable to meet this requirement due to extenuating circumstances, as determined by the school district, if (i) the student has met all other graduation requirements, and (ii) the principal attests that the school

district has made a good faith effort to assist the student or, if applicable, his or her parent or guardian in filing an application or a waiver.

### **GRADE POINT AVERAGE (GPA)/WEIGHTED CLASSES**

Honors classes and dual credit classes will be weighted.

A bonus will be added to the semester GPA and the cumulative GPA for students taking weighted classes. The bonus is determined by the following calculations:

The semester bonus will be calculated by multiplying the number of weighted classes by 1/7 and added to the unweighted GPA (4.0 + .143 for one weighted class = 4.143, 4.0 + .286 = 4.286 for two weighted classes). The cumulative GPA will be calculated by multiplying the number of weighted classes by the constant for the number of completed semesters.

One semester	$1/7 = 0.143$
Two semesters	$1/14 = 0.071$
Three semesters	$1/21 = 0.048$
Four semesters	$1/28 = 0.036$
Five semesters	$1/35 = 0.029$
Six semesters	$1/42 = 0.024$
Seven semesters	$1/49 = 0.020$
Eight semesters	$1/56 = 0.018$

### **HONORS CLASSES (weighted)**

English, I Honors  
English II Honors  
English III Honors  
Algebra II Honors  
Geometry Honors  
Physics  
Chemistry II

**DUAL CREDIT CLASSES (weighted)** (Dual credit classes will receive college credit through Kaskaskia College.)

Trigonometry  
Calculus  
College Algebra  
Child Development  
Intro to Drafting  
Ag. Mech. And Tech.  
Agribusiness Management  
Drafting I  
Graphic Design and Information Processing  
Rhetoric  
Research

Accounting 2  
Building Trades  
Horticulture I  
Horticulture II  
Software Applications

All classes except PE are calculated into the GPA.

### **HIGHEST HONORS/HIGH HONORS/HONOR ROLL**

A student must have 4.2 or greater GPA to obtain Highest Honors, a 4.0 – 4.19 GPA to be on High Honor Roll, and a 3.8 – 3.99 GPA to be on Honor Roll. Physical Education is not considered for GPA or honor rolls.

Semester grading will be utilized at the High School. A letter grade, based on the teacher's numerical grade, will be recorded for each 18-week grading period and the semester final on the report card. Semester final grades will be computed by combining the semester grade (80%) with the exam grade (20%).

### **ACADEMIC LETTERS**

1. Students in grades 10-12 are eligible.
2. Students must maintain a full academic schedule.
3. Students must have earned the following cumulative grade point average:
  - a. Sophomores must have a 4.0 GPA based on 9<sup>th</sup>/10<sup>th</sup> grade work for 3 semesters
  - b. Juniors must have a 3.75 GPA based on 9<sup>th</sup>/10<sup>th</sup>/11<sup>th</sup> grade work for 5 semesters
  - c. Seniors must have a 3.50 GPA based on 9<sup>th</sup>/10<sup>th</sup>/11<sup>th</sup>/12<sup>th</sup> grade work for 7 semesters
4. Students must not have earned any "D" or "F" grades.
5. Transfer students must have completed a minimum of one full semester at Wesclin High School.

### **PART TIME STUDENT**

To request approval to become a part-time student from the Board of Education, the student must meet the following criteria:

- A senior
- Possess a GPA of 3.0 or higher through 6 semesters
- After 6 semesters, be on track for graduation and have 17 credits
- After 7 semesters, be on track for graduation and have 19 credits
- Enrolled in an in-person college class during the school day

### **PHYSICAL EDUCATION**

It is a state law that every student enrolled in high school must participate daily in physical education. It is our policy that all students be properly dressed for physical education classes. The teachers will inform the students on appropriate dress. Students will receive a regular grade for their participation, dress and conduct. Students must pass one semester of PE for every semester enrolled at WHS unless the student is exempt. Exemptions are for marching band (fall

semester only), additional classes for graduation, college entrance requirements, and/or administrative exemption that can be used under state law.

Physical Education does not count towards the students' GPA. Physical Education uniforms will be required. The male uniform is a gray shirt with black shorts. The female uniform is an orange shirt with black shorts. Teacher-approved uniform of Wesclin Strength Training attire will also be acceptable.

Athletic Study Hall may be available to students who are participating in athletics during the appropriate sports season. The students may choose to report to study hall instead of Physical Education only during the season in which they are participating in athletics. Students must choose one or the other and maintain that choice during the season. If a student quits the sport in which they are participating, they must return to Physical Education the following day. If a student already has a study hall in their schedule, they are not eligible for Athletic Study Hall.

#### **EXEMPTION FROM PHYSICAL EDUCATION REQUIREMENT**

To be excused from participation in physical education, a student must present an appropriate excuse from his or her parent/guardian or from a person licensed under the Medical Practice Act. The excuse may be based on medical or religious prohibitions. An excuse because of medical reasons must include a signed statement from a person licensed under the Medical Practice Act that corroborates the medical reason for the request. An excuse based on religious reasons must include a signed statement from a member of the clergy that corroborates the religious reason for the request.

A student in grades 9-12 may submit a written request to the building principal requesting to be excused from physical education courses for the reasons stated below.

1. Enrollment in a marching band program for credit;
2. Enrollment in Reserve Officer's Training Corps (ROTC) program sponsored by the District;
3. Ongoing participation in an interscholastic athletic program;
4. Enrollment in academic classes that are required for admission to an institution of higher learning (student must be in the 11th or 12th grade); or
5. Enrollment in academic classes that are required for graduation from high school, provided that failure to take such classes will result in the student being unable to graduate (student must be in the 11th or 12th grade).

Students with an Individualized Education Program may also be excused from physical education courses for reasons stated in Handbook Procedure.

Special activities in physical education will be provided for a student whose physical or emotional condition, as determined by a person licensed under the Medical Practices Act, prevents his or her participation in the physical education course.

State law prohibits the School District from honoring parental excuses based upon a student's participation in athletic training, activities, or competitions conducted outside the auspices of the School District.



Students who have been excused from physical education shall return to the course as soon as practical. The following considerations will be used to determine when a student shall return to a physical education course:<sup>2</sup>

1. The time of year when the student's participation ceases;
2. The student's class schedule; and
3. The student's future or planned additional participation in activities qualifying for substitutions for physical education, as outlined above or in Handbook Procedures.

### **DRIVER EDUCATION**

Please be advised that a student will not be eligible to take Drivers Education if they have two or more F's the previous semester. Also, students will be removed from the class if they miss 4 or more Drivers Education class instruction periods.

### **REPORT CARDS**

Report cards are reported online on a semester basis and can be found on TeacherEase. If you prefer a paper copy, please contact the office.

### **SCHOLARSHIP/FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE**

Information on applying for scholarships and other types of financial assistance for post-high school education may be obtained through the Guidance Office.

### **WITHDRAWAL FROM SCHOOL**

Parents/guardians of a student dropping or transferring from Wesclin High School are required to accompany the student to the office to authorize the withdrawal. Parents/guardians and/or students need to complete a withdrawal form before records can be released.

### **GRADUATION CEREMONY POLICY**

In order for a student to participate in the graduation ceremony, the student must have earned at least the 20 credits required by the Board of Education, pass all required courses, and attend 8 semesters of high school. The Guidance Office will notify the parents of any student who will not graduate as soon as it is known.

Students who are enrolled in either approved college classes, night school, or taking an approved correspondence course to gain the required credits must complete the coursework with a passing grade before they may participate in the graduation exercises.

Seniors must clear all records and/or complete all obligations before participating in the graduation ceremony.

Participation in the graduation ceremony is a privilege, not a right. Students must be in good standing in order to participate in the graduation ceremony.

Non-graduating seniors are not eligible to participate in the Senior Trip.

***\*IMPORTANT\****

*Students must participate in the graduation ceremony practice in order to participate in the actual graduation ceremony. Extenuating circumstances may warrant being excused from practice at the building principal's discretion.*

The following procedure will be used to determine our Graduation Speaker(s).

- President(s) of Student Council. Assuming the President is a Senior Student.
- President(s) of National Honor Society.
- Top-Ranked Senior(s) after First Semester of Senior Year.

**GRADUATION HONORS**

At graduation, students will receive Cum Laude Honors. Cum Laude Honors will be announced as students' names are read at commencement. The student will wear a Cum Laude Medallion, and a sticker will be placed on the student's diploma indicating the appropriate honor:

- Suma Cum Laude – Gold Medallion
- Magna Cum Laude – Silver Medallion
- Cum Laude – Bronze Medallion

Requirements for Honors

- GPA calculated after eight semesters. GPA's will not be rounded up.
- 4.2 and above – Suma Cum Laude
- 4.0-4.19 – Magna Cum Laude
- 3.8-3.99 – Cum Laude

**HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMA**

A diploma will not be issued to a senior until final grades have been recorded. Also, all records must be cleared before a diploma can be issued. In some cases, this will mean that some seniors will have to wait until sometime shortly after graduation exercises to receive their diploma. This would apply specifically to those seniors taking final exams, finishing correspondence courses, finishing underclassman requirements, or taking courses that have been previously failed and are needed to satisfy graduation requirements.

**EARLY RELEASE/COLLEGE ATTENDANCE**

Senior students carrying a 3.0 GPA or above, on track for graduation, have a 95% attendance rate, and who have scheduled all senior required classes may, with parental and administrative permission, choose to enroll and attend a college-level program. Approval for this option may be granted for one semester at a time and must be applied for each semester. College credits shall not be used as credits towards graduation from Wesclin High School. A schedule of college classes or a paid registration receipt will serve as proof of enrollment. Grade cards from college must be presented to the principal before enrollment for a subsequent semester is approved. Students utilizing this option will be dismissed at the appropriate time as determined by the building principal. The building principal may adjust the requirements as needed.

### **EARLY GRADUATION**

Students must complete eight semesters of high school and all educational requirements before they may graduate. Students who have met all the requirements for graduation except the eight semesters of attendance will be considered for early graduation. Prior to the 7<sup>th</sup> semester, the student and parents shall meet with the principal and/or counselor. A formal written request will then need to be made to the principal prior to the graduating semester. Each case will be acted upon independently.

Early graduates must take full responsibility to make arrangements with the high school office for anything pertaining to the graduation ceremony. (i.e. announcements, cap and gown rental, graduation practices, etc.)

Any student enrolled in an off-campus course to fulfill graduation requirements must show documentation of such course(s) by the last day of the seventh semester. Failure to produce this documentation will result in the approval being revoked.

The student and a parent will schedule a conference with the Principal and/or the counselor prior to the beginning of the student's seventh semester.

Early Graduates may still attend their Senior Prom and may walk in the Spring Graduation. However, they are not eligible to participate in the Senior Trip.

### **EXTRA COURSE CREDIT**

When granting credit to the students for work done outside of the regular Wesclin curriculum, the Wesclin Board of Education establishes the following policy:

A student can earn a maximum of two credits in these three categories: night class, college class, or correspondence class. This is for credit recovery purposes only (speech excluded). Credit will also be given for approved summer session classes. No credit will be given for life experiences, military, or proficiency tests. The principal has the right to modify this agreement about credit recovery in extenuating circumstances.

Students must receive pre-approval from the building principal to receive credit for any non-District course or experience. The building principal will determine the amount of credit and whether a proficiency examination is required before the credit is awarded. Students assume responsibility for any fees, tuition, supplies, and other expenses. Students are responsible for (1) providing documents or transcripts that demonstrate successful completion of the experience, and (2) taking a proficiency examination, if requested. The building principal shall determine which, if any, non-District courses or experiences will count toward a student's grade point average, class rank, and eligibility for athletic and extracurricular activities.

### **SCHEDULE CHANGES**

If it is necessary to change your schedule during the year, go to the Guidance Office to request a program change. No program change will be made without a written request from the

parents and a consultation with the counselor. Changes may be *considered* through **the first five (5) school days of the semester**, without penalty, if:

1. The change is possible in terms of your existing schedule and will not overload a particular class.
2. The change results in a reasonable program of study in terms of the established curriculum.
3. The change has principal approval.

In addition, should a student want to drop a class after the five-school day time period:

1. The teacher, guidance counselor and principal discuss the circumstances of the request. The building principal will make the final determination regarding a request for withdrawal.
2. If the request is approved, the student withdraws from class without penalty.
3. If the request is not approved, the student may withdraw from the class and substitute a study hall period only if the student is not currently enrolled in a study hall. The student will receive a failing grade for the class.
4. Students are permitted to withdraw from class, without penalty, at semester break. (must have parental permission)
5. Students will not be allowed to add a class, attend that class, then drop the class. If a student feels the need to add a class within the first five days of the semester, they will remain in the class for the remainder of the semester.

### **TRANSCRIPTS**

A transcript may be requested from the Guidance Office.

### **SEMESTER EXAMS/FINAL EXAMS**

Semester/Final Exam exemptions will be as follows: Please be advised that if any student has an ISS or OSS (anytime throughout the school year), they will lose their exemption(s) for Exams.

- I. First Semester (Seniors ONLY). Freshmen – Juniors will take the Exams First Semester.
  - Seniors may utilize their earned exemptions from SAT Testing as Juniors. Seniors are allowed to save a “voucher” for Second Semester Testing if they so choose. The criteria are as follows:
    - ISBE Benchmark may be determined at a later date.
    - ACT College Readiness Benchmark score is 18 in Reading, 22 in Mathematics, 22 in Reading, and 23 in Science.
    - No Unexcused Absences during the Semester chosen for Exemptions.
    - Seniors cannot be exempt from Dual Credit Class exams.
  - All Other Students will take the Exams First Semester.
  - Exams are worth 20% of the final grade.
- II. Second Semester
  - All Students Criteria to be exempt from Testing
    - Have to have an “A” for the Class in the Second Semester

- No Unexcused Absences for class in the Second Semester.
- Exams are worth 20% of the final grade.
- Students cannot be exempt from Dual Credit Class exams.

### **CARE TEAM**

The CARE Team is a group of education professionals, led by a coordinator, coming together to consider student-specific data, brainstorm possible strategies/interventions, and develop a plan of action to address a student-specific need.

Team members include but are not exclusive to: CARE Team coordinator, building representative, school administration, school psychologists, special education coordinator, grade/content area general educators, various specialists and other behavior/mental health professionals.

Teachers will notify parents of students who are referred to the CARE Team.

### **INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIAL**

A student's parent/guardian may inspect, upon their request, any instructional material used as part of their child's educational curriculum within a reasonable time of their request.

### **ACADEMIC INTEGRITY**

Wesclin High School students are held to high standards of academic integrity. Classroom teachers provide academic support through various resources, instruction in note-taking skills, and promotion of good study habits. In addition, faculty and staff are available to assist struggling students. Therefore, students are expected to avoid cheating and plagiarism at all costs. Students who choose to cheat or plagiarize harm themselves by hindering critical thinking, a skill that is necessary in all professions, and by preventing themselves from learning.

### **CHEATING**

Cheating is defined as the use or possession of unauthorized materials or assistance on tests or assignments. Students providing unauthorized materials **and** students accepting them are liable for disciplinary action. Some, not all, examples of cheating are listed below:

- Copying homework.
- Providing help on a test/quiz when not authorized by a teacher.
- Discussing specific questions/content on a test or quiz with students who have not taken the test/quiz.
- Submitting the same assignment for two different classes without permission from the teacher(s).
- Using notes, study guides, graphing calculators, electronic devices, or accessing outside sources when not permitted.

## **PLAGIARISM**

Plagiarism is defined as the use of another's work(s)/idea(s) without giving proper credit to the original source. Unless specifically permitted, all Wesclin High School students are expected to properly cite any material taken from the Internet (web page, database, blog, etc.) or a print source (book, magazine, newspaper, etc.). Some, but not all, examples of plagiarism are listed below:

- Copying and pasting material (even just one sentence or phrase) without using quotation marks and a Works Cited page to indicate the use of an outside source.
- Paraphrasing or summarizing material that is not considered common knowledge (a well-known and established fact or information discussed in class) without proper attribution of the source.
- Submitting the work of another student (past or present) as one's own original work. Even modification of the original student's work is considered plagiarism. All student work is expected to be original and properly cited.
- Purchasing work from the Internet or another person and submitting it as one's own original work.

## **CONSEQUENCES**

The first offense for cheating/plagiarism will result in a zero on the assignment(s) in question, and parent/guardian contact will be made. A disciplinary referral will also be issued. The second offense for cheating will result in a zero on the assignment(s) in question and an in-person meeting involving the student(s), teacher, administrator, and parent/guardian. Suspension from school is possible.

In addition to these consequences, students are held to the standards/consequences outlined in the syllabus of each individual teacher.

## **CHAPTER 3: STUDENT FEES AND MEAL COSTS**

### **STUDENT FEES**

The district establishes fees and charges to fund certain school activities, including textbook rental and workbook purchase. Some families may be unable to pay these fees. Students will not be denied educational services or academic credit due to the inability of their parent or guardian to pay fees or certain charges. Students whose parent or guardian is unable to afford student fees may receive a fee waiver. A fee waiver does not exempt a student from charges for lost and damaged books, locks, materials, supplies, and/or equipment.

Applications for fee waivers may be submitted by a parent or guardian of a student who has been assessed a fee. A student is eligible for a fee waiver if:

- The student currently lives in a household that meets the free lunch or breakfast eligibility guidelines established by the federal government

pursuant to the National School Lunch Act; or

- The student or the student's family is currently receiving aid under Article IV of the Illinois Public Aid Code (Aid to Families of Dependent Children); Or
- The student's parent is a veteran or active-duty military personnel with income at or below 200% of the federal poverty line.

The building principal will give additional consideration where one or more of the following factors are present:

- An illness in the family;
- Unusual expenses such as fire, flood, storm damage, etc.;
- Seasonal employment;
- Emergency situations; or
- When one or more of the parents/guardians are involved in a work stoppage.

Within 30 days, the building principal will notify the parent/guardian if the fee waiver request has been denied, along with the appropriate appeal process. If you have questions regarding the fee waiver process, you may contact the building principal.

Pursuant to the Hunger-Free Students' Bill of Rights Act, the school is required to provide a federally reimbursable meal or snack to a student who requests one, regardless of whether the student has the ability to pay for the meal or snack, or owes money for earlier meals or snacks. Students may not be provided with an alternative meal or snack, and the school is prohibited from publicly identifying or stigmatizing a student who cannot pay for or owes money for a meal or snack.

Students withdrawing from or enrolling in the school system during the school year will receive or pay a prorated student fee.

#### **SCHOOL BREAKFAST & LUNCH PROGRAM**

Breakfast is served every school day from 7:30 a.m. to 8:00 a.m. Lunch will be served every school day from 11:20-12:41 p.m.

A student may purchase breakfast for \$1.85. A student may bring a sack lunch from home or may purchase a school lunch for \$2.90 and/or milk for \$0.70

#### **FREE AND REDUCED-PRICE FOOD SERVICE**

Free or reduced-price meals are available for qualifying students. Applications are available at registration or you can contact the building principal. For more information, see [www.fns.usda.gov/school-meals/unpaid-meal-charges](http://www.fns.usda.gov/school-meals/unpaid-meal-charges), and/or contact the Building Principal.

When the parents/guardians of students are unable to pay for their child(ren)'s meal services, meal charges will apply per a student's eligibility category and will be processed by the District accordingly.

A student's eligibility for free and reduced-price food services shall be determined by the income eligibility guidelines, family-size income standards set annually by the U.S. Dept of Agriculture, and distributed by the Ill. State Board of Education.

The Building Principal and District staff will work jointly to prevent meal charges from accumulating. Every effort to collect all funds due to the District will be made on a regular basis and before the end of the school year. Contact your Building Principal about whether your child(ren)'s charges may be carried over at the end of the school year.

Unpaid meal charges are considered delinquent debt when payment is overdue as defined by Board policy 4:45, Insufficient Fund Checks and Debt Recovery, and the Hunger-Free Students' Bill of Rights Act (105 ILCS 123/). The District will make reasonable efforts to collect charges classified as delinquent debt, including repeated contacts to collect the amounts and, when necessary, requesting that the student's parent(s)/guardian(s) apply for meal benefits to determine if the student qualifies for such benefits under Board policy 4:130, Free and Reduced-Price Food Services. The District will provide a federally reimbursable meal or snack to a student who requests one, regardless of the student's ability to pay or negative account balance.

When a student's funds are low and when there is a negative balance, reminders will be provided to the staff, students, and their parent(s)/guardian(s) at regular intervals during the school year. State law allows the Building Principal to contact parents(s)/guardian(s) to attempt collection of the owed money when the amount owed is more than the amount of five lunches. If a parent/guardian regularly fails to provide meal money for the child(ren) that he/she is responsible for in the District and does not qualify for free meal benefits or refuses to apply for such benefits, the Building Principal will direct the next course of action. Continual failure to provide meal money may require the District to notify the Ill. Dept. of Children and Family Services (DCFS) and/or take legal steps to recover the unpaid meal charges, up to and including seeking an offset under the State Comptroller Act, if applicable.

#### **VANDALISM**

The school district will seek restitution from students and their parents/guardians for vandalism or other students' acts that cause damage to school property.

### **CHAPTER 4: TRANSPORTATION/PARKING**

#### **BUS TRANSPORTATION**

The district provides bus transportation to and from school for all students living 1.5 miles or more from the school. A list of bus stops will be published at the beginning of the school year before student registration. Parents must, at the beginning of the school year, select one bus



stop at which a student is to be picked up, and one stop at which a student is to be dropped off. Students are not permitted to ride a bus other than the bus to which they are assigned. Exceptions must be approved in advance by the building principal.

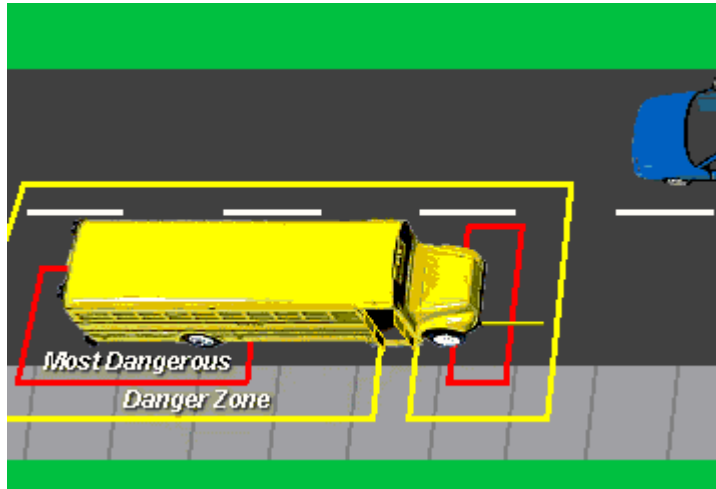
While students are on the bus, they are under the supervision of the bus driver. In most cases, bus discipline problems can be handled by the bus driver. In the case of a written disciplinary referral, student bus problems will be investigated and handled by the building principal.

A video monitoring system may be used on our district school buses. These systems have been put in place to protect students, staff, and school property. If a discipline problem is captured on videotape, these recordings may be used as the basis for imposing student discipline. If criminal actions are recorded, a copy of the tape may be provided to law enforcement personnel.

Students are expected to follow all school rules while on the bus. Students may be suspended from riding the school bus for up to 10 consecutive school days for violating school rules or for engaging in other gross disobedience or misconduct. The school board may suspend the student from riding the school bus for a period in excess of 10 days for safety reasons. The district's regular suspension procedures shall be used to suspend a student's privilege to ride a school bus. In the interest of the student's safety and compliance with State law, students are also expected to observe the following:

1. Be aware of moving traffic and pay attention to your surroundings.
2. Dress properly for the weather. Make sure all drawstrings, ties, straps, etc. on all clothing, backpacks, and other items are shortened or removed to lessen the likelihood of them getting caught in bus doors, railings, or aisles.
3. Arrive on time at the bus stop, and stay away from the street while waiting for the bus.
4. Stay away from the bus until it stops completely and the driver signals you to board. Enter in single file without pushing. Always use the handrail.
5. Take a seat right away and remain seated facing forward. Keep your hands, arms, and head inside the bus.
6. Talk quietly on the bus. No shouting or creating loud noises that may distract the driver. Tablets, iPods, iPads, smartphones, and other electronic devices must be silenced on the bus unless a student uses headphones.
7. Help keep the bus neat and clean. Keep belongings out of the aisle and away from emergency exits. Eating and drinking are not allowed on the bus.
8. Always listen to the driver's instructions. Be courteous to the driver and other students. Sit with your hands to yourself and avoid making noises that would distract the driver or bother other passengers. Remain seated, keeping your hands, arms, and head inside the bus at all times.
9. Wait until the bus pulls to a complete stop before standing up. Use the handrail when exiting the bus.
10. Stay out of the danger zone next to the bus where the driver may have difficulty seeing you. Take five giant steps away from the bus and out of the danger zone, until you can see the driver and the driver sees you. Never crawl under a bus.

11. If you must cross the street after you get off the bus, wait for the driver's signal and then cross in front of the bus. Cross the street only after checking both ways for traffic.
12. Never run back to the bus, even if you dropped or forgot something.



Video and audio cameras may be active on busses to record student conduct and may be used for the purposes of investigation into misconduct or accidents on the bus.

For questions regarding school transportation issues, please contact your building office.

The riding of the bus is a privilege granted to District #3 students by the Board of Education. Any serious violation of the bus rules will result in the removal of the individual from the bus. Bus suspension may be extended to include the remainder of the current school year.

### **STUDENT PARKING/DRIVING**

Students who drive to and from school are expected to comply with the regulations listed below. These regulations are reasonable and are for the protection of everyone.

1. Vacate cars immediately upon arrival. Students are not permitted in the parking lot, during the school day, without permission from a faculty member.
2. Students driving to school must register their license plate with the office. If a student drives more than one car to school, all vehicles must be registered in the office.
3. Students will park in the in the areas designated with white lines throughout the school year.
4. Students must purchase a parking permit if they wish to drive to school. The cost of the permit is \$35.00 (\$25 for fourth quarter) and may be purchased at any time of the year, space permitting. The hanging permit is to be displayed upon the mirror of the car at all times while at school. The permit must be visible at all times. Failure to display the permit may result in parking privileges being suspended and/or the vehicle being towed away. If the permit is lost or stolen, a replacement may be purchased for a minimal fee. **Parking permits are non-transferable to other**

- students.** They are to be used only by the person to whom they were issued and on family vehicles that have been properly registered. All students (without parking passes) may drive once the seniors have started senior final exams.
5. Students whose driving behavior is reckless may have all parking privileges suspended for part or all of the school year. No refund will be given if a student's parking privileges are suspended. (See below)
  6. All vehicles parked on the Wesclin CUSD property are subject to being searched if a reasonable suspicion exists.
  7. No student parking is permitted on Wesclin Road, Route 160, or any adjacent farm field. Disciplinary action will result from the violation of this rule.
  8. Towing: If a vehicle is found parked in the student parking lot and does not have a valid parking permit, the vehicle may be towed. **All expenses incurred are the owner's responsibility.**

#### **MINOR DRIVING VIOLATIONS:**

1. First offense may result in a minimum of a 5-day suspension of parking privileges.
2. Second offense may result in a minimum of a 10-day suspension of parking privileges.
3. Third offense may result in a minimum of a 20-day suspension of parking privileges.
4. Fourth offense may result in the loss of parking privileges for one calendar year.

Major driving violations will result in immediate suspension of parking privileges for a minimum of one calendar year.

If a student's parking privileges are revoked, the student may not drive and park at school for any reason. Parking at the school while under a parking suspension may result in the permanent suspension of parking privileges and immediate towing of the vehicle.

The school is not responsible for student vehicles, any possessions left in them, or anything attached to the vehicles. **STUDENTS PARK THEIR VEHICLES ON SCHOOL PROPERTY AT THEIR OWN RISK.** Students should be aware their vehicles are not protected in any way while in the parking lot, and items of value should not be left in or near the vehicle while unattended.

Students have no reasonable expectation of privacy in cars parked on school grounds. School lots may be searched by contraband dogs, administration, and police officers. Students should be aware that items and spaces on school grounds are subject to search and view by others, and that prohibited items discovered during the course of a search may result in discipline, including, but not limited to, expulsion from school.

Vehicles **MAY NOT** be parked or located in the bus lanes or fire lanes at **ANY TIME**. Bus lanes and fire lanes are clearly marked. Vehicles located in these locations may be ticketed and/or towed by the police.

Video cameras may be active in parking lots and may be used for the purposes of investigation into student misconduct. Discipline for misconduct includes all disciplinary measures in the student discipline code and/or withdrawal of parking privileges.

### **STUDENT DROP OFF/PICK UP**

Those dropping off and picking up children may do so in the west area of the Wesclin High School parking lot (by the gym). Please do not use the circle drive in front of the school before and after school during bus drop-off and pick-up times. Please do not drop off/pick up in the crosswalks.

## **CHAPTER 5: HEALTH AND SAFETY**

### **HEALTH-RELATED REASONS TO KEEP YOUR CHILD HOME FROM SCHOOL**

Wesclin will follow IDPH Communicable Disease Guidelines

- Do not send if your child **has a fever over 100 degrees**. Do not send until he/she has been free of fever for 24 hours **WITHOUT THE USE OF MEDICATION**, such as Tylenol or Ibuprofen.
- Do not send if your child is **vomiting or has diarrhea**. Do not send until your child has been vomit and diarrhea-free for 24 hours.
- Do not send if your child has a **rash** of unexplained origin with accompanying symptoms (such as fever, headache, sore throat, swollen glands), until he/she has been seen and diagnosed by a doctor.
- Do not send if your child has an **uncontrollable cough**, or is coughing up **yellow/green phlegm**, or has **shortness of breath**.
- Do not send if your child has been diagnosed with **strep throat** until he/she has been taking antibiotics for 12 hours. However, during outbreaks or in the setting of recurrent infection, IDPH recommends individuals stay home at least 24 hours on effective antibiotics AND fever-free or symptoms improving if fever not present.
- Do not send if your child has **pink or red eyes** that have **white or yellow drainage** and has accompanying symptoms (such as fever, headache, swollen glands), until he/she has been seen by a doctor and is cleared to return to school.
- Do not send if your child has **chicken pox** for a minimum of five days and until all pox are dry and scabbed over.
- Students who are excluded from school for lice or nits must be cleared by the district nurse or building principal before returning to school.

### **STUDENTS WITH FOOD ALLERGIES**

State law requires our school district to annually inform parents of students with life-threatening allergies or life-threatening chronic illnesses of the applicable provisions of Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and other applicable federal statutes, state statutes, federal regulations, and state rules.

If your student has a life-threatening allergy or life-threatening chronic illness, please notify the building principal and/or school nurse at (618)-224-7341.

### **CARE OF STUDENTS WITH DIABETES**

If your child has diabetes and requires assistance with managing this condition while at school and school functions, a Diabetes Care Plan must be submitted to the building principal.

Parents/guardians are responsible for and must:

1. Inform the school in a timely manner of any change that needs to be made to the Diabetes Care Plan on file with the school for their child.
2. Inform the school in a timely manner of any changes to their emergency contact numbers or contact numbers of health care providers.
3. Sign the Diabetes Care Plan.
4. Grant consent for and authorize designated School District representatives to communicate directly with the health care provider whose instructions are included in the Diabetes Care Plan.

For further information, please contact the building principal.

### **REQUIRED HEALTH EXAMINATIONS AND IMMUNIZATIONS**

All students are required to present appropriate proof of a health examination and the immunizations against, and screenings for, preventable communicable diseases within one year prior to:

1. Entering kindergarten or the first grade;
2. Entering the sixth and ninth grades; and
3. Enrolling in an Illinois school for the first time, regardless of the student's grade.

Proof of immunization against meningococcal disease is required for students in grades 6 and 12. A diabetes screening must be included as part of the health exam (though diabetes testing is not required). Students between the ages of one and seven must provide a statement from a physician assuring that the student was "risk-assessed" or screened for lead poisoning. Beginning with the 2017-2018 school year, an age-appropriate developmental screening and an age-appropriate social and emotional screening are required parts of each health examination. Failure to comply with the above requirements by October 15 of the current school year will result in the student's exclusion from school until the required health forms are presented to the school, subject to certain exceptions. A student will not be excluded from school due to his or her parent/guardian's failure to obtain a developmental screening or a social and emotional screening.

New students who register mid-term have 30 days following registration to comply with the health examination and immunization requirements. If a medical reason prevents a student from receiving a required immunization by October 15, the student must present, by October 15, an immunization schedule and a statement of the medical reasons causing the delay. The schedule and statement of medical reasons must be signed by an appropriate medical professional.

The School District includes informational materials regarding influenza and influenza vaccinations and meningococcal disease and meningococcal vaccinations developed, provided or approved by the Department of Public Health under Section 2310-700 of the Department of Public Health Powers and Duties Law of the Civil Administrative Code of Illinois when the board provides information on immunizations, infectious diseases, medications, or other school health issues to the parents or guardians of students.

**Eye Examination**

All students entering kindergarten or the school for the first time must present proof by October 15 of the current school year of an eye examination performed within one year. Failure to present proof by October 15 allows the school to hold the student's report card until the student presents: (1) proof of a completed eye examination, or (2) that an eye examination will take place within 60 days after October 15.

**Dental Examination**

All students entering kindergarten, second, sixth, and ninth grades must present proof by May 15 of the current school year of having been examined by a licensed dentist within the last 18 months. Failure to present proof allows the school to hold the child's report card until the student presents: (1) proof of a completed dental examination, or (2) that a dental examination will take place within 60 days after May 15.

**EXEMPTIONS**

A student will be exempted from the above requirements for:

1. Religious or medical grounds if the student's parent/guardian presents to the building principal a signed statement explaining the objection; Must use the Illinois Certificate of Religious Exemption form.
2. Health examination or immunization requirements on medical grounds if a physician provides written verification;
3. Eye examination requirement if the student's parent/guardian shows an undue burden or lack of access to a physician licensed to practice medicine in all of its branches who provides eye examinations, or a licensed optometrist; or
4. Dental examination requirement if the student's parent/guardian shows an undue burden or a lack of access to a dentist.

**STUDENT MEDICATION**

Taking medication during school hours or during school-related activities is prohibited unless it is necessary for a student's health and well-being. When a student's licensed health care provider and parent/guardian believe that it is necessary for the student to take a medication during school hours or school-related activities, the parent/guardian must request that the school dispense the medication to the child by completing a "School Medication Authorization Form."

No school or district employee is allowed to administer to any student, or supervise a student's self-administration of, any prescription or non-prescription medication until a completed and signed School Medication Authorization Form is submitted by the student's parent/guardian. No student is allowed to possess or consume any prescription or non-prescription medication on school grounds or at a school-related function other than as provided for in this procedure.

**Self-Administration of Medication**

A student may possess and self-administer an epinephrine injector (e.g., EpiPen®) and/or an asthma inhaler or medication prescribed for use at the student's discretion, provided the student's parent/guardian has completed and signed a School Medication Authorization Form.

Students who are diabetic may possess and/or self-administer diabetic testing supplies, equipment, and insulin if authorized by the student's diabetes care plan, which must be on file with the school.

Students with epilepsy may possess and/or self-administer supplies, equipment, and medication, if authorized by the student's seizure action plan, which must be on file with the school.

Students may self-administer (but not possess on their person) other medications required under a qualified plan, provided the student's parent/guardian has completed and signed a School Medication Authorization Form.

The school district shall incur no liability, except for willful and wanton conduct, as a result of any injury arising from a student's self-administration of medication, including asthma medication or epinephrine injectors, or medication required under a qualifying plan. A student's parent/guardian must indemnify and hold harmless the school district and its employees and agents against any claims, except a claim based on willful and wanton conduct, arising out of a student's self-administration of an epinephrine injector, asthma medication, and/or a medication required under a qualifying plan.

**Administration of Medical Cannabis**

In accordance with the Compassionate Use of Medical Cannabis Program, qualifying students are allowed to utilize medical cannabis infused products while at school and school events. Please contact the building principal for additional information. Discipline of a student for being administered a product by a designated caregiver pursuant to this procedure is prohibited. The District may not deny a student attendance at a school solely because he or she requires administration of the product during school hours.

**Undesignated Medications**

The school may maintain the following undesignated prescription medications for emergency use: (1) Asthma medication; (2) Epinephrine injectors; (3) Opioid antagonists; and (4) Glucagon. No one, including without limitation, parents/guardians of students, should rely on the school or district for the availability of undesignated medication. This procedure does not guarantee the availability of undesignated medications. Students and their parents/guardians should consult their own physician regarding these medication(s). If you do not want your child to receive any of these lifesaving medications during an emergency, please provide a note stating that you decline with a parent/guardian signature.

**Emergency Aid to Students**

Nothing in this policy shall prohibit any school employee from providing emergency assistance to students, including administering medication.

**COMMUNICABLE DISEASES**

The school will observe recommendations of the Illinois Department of Public Health regarding communicable diseases.

1. Parents are required to notify the school nurse if they suspect their child has a communicable disease.
2. In certain cases, students with a communicable disease may be excluded from school or sent home from school following notification of the parent or guardian.
3. The school will provide written instructions to the parent and guardian regarding appropriate treatment for the communicable disease.
4. A student excluded because of a communicable disease will be permitted to return to school only when the parent or guardian brings to the school a letter from the student's doctor stating that the student is no longer contagious or at risk of spreading the communicable disease.

**HEAD LICE**

The school will observe recommendations of the Illinois Department of Public Health regarding head lice.

1. Parents are required to notify the school nurse if they suspect their child has head lice.
2. Students diagnosed with live head lice do not need to be sent home early from school. They can go home at the end of the day, be treated, and return to class after appropriate treatment has begun. It will be determined by the school nurse, depending on the severity of infestation if the student can remain at school or not.
3. The school will provide written instructions to parent or guardian regarding appropriate treatment for the infestation.
4. A student excluded because of head lice will be permitted to return to school only when the parent or guardian brings the student to school to be checked by the school nurse or building principal and the child has been treated for head lice, no live lice are present, and the majority of the nits have been removed. The school nurse or principal will make the determination. Infested children are prohibited from riding the bus to school to be checked for head lice.

**Prevention of Anaphylaxis**

While it is not possible for the School or District to completely eliminate the risks of an anaphylactic emergency, the District maintains a comprehensive policy on anaphylaxis prevention, response, and management in order to reduce these risks and provide accommodations and proper treatment for anaphylactic reactions. Parent(s)/guardian(s) and students who desire more information or who want a copy of the District's policy may contact the Building Principal.



## **SAFETY DRILL PROCEDURES AND CONDUCT**

Safety drills will occur at times established by the school board. Students are required to be silent and shall comply with the directives of school officials during emergency drills. There will be a minimum of three (3) evacuation drills, a minimum of one (1) severe weather (shelter-in-place) drill, a minimum of one (1) law enforcement drill to address an active shooter incident, and a minimum of one (1) bus evacuation drill each school year. There may be other drills at the direction of the administration. Drills will not be preceded by a warning to the students.

## **SCHOOL SAFETY RESPONSE – STANDARD RESPONSE PROTOCOL (SRP)**

Our school has adopted the “I Love U Guys” Foundation’s Standard Response Protocol (SRP). Students and staff will be training, practicing, and drilling the protocol. The premise is simple - there are five specific actions that can be performed during an incident. When communicating these, the action is taken after the directive has been given. Execution of the action is performed by active participants, including students, staff, teachers, and first responders. The SRP is based on the following actions: Hold, Secure, Lockdown, Evacuate, and Shelter.

### **Hold – In Your Classroom or Area**

Students are trained to:

- Clear the hallways and remain in their area or room until the “All Clear” is announced
- Do business as usual

Adults and staff are trained to:

- Close and lock the door
- Account for students and adults
- Do business as usual

### **Secure – Get Inside, Lock Outside Doors**

Students are trained to:

- Return to inside of building
- Do business as usual

Adults and staff are trained to:

- Close and lock the door
- Account for students and adults
- Do business as usual

### **Lockdown – Locks, Lights Off, Out of Sight**

Students are trained to:

- Moved away from sights
- Maintain silence
- Do not open the door for any reason

Adults and staff are trained to:

- Recover students from hallway if possible
- Lock the classroom door

- Turn out the lights
- Move away from sight
- Maintain silences
- Do not open the door for any reason
- Prepare to evade of defend

### **Evacuate - To a Location**

Students are trained to:

- Leave stuff behind if required
- Bring phone if possible
- Follow instructions

Adults and staff are trained to:

- Bring roll sheet
- Lead students to Evacuation location
- Account for students and adults
- Report injuries or problems

### **Shelter – State Hazard and Safety Strategy**

Hazards might include:

- Tornado
- Hazmat
- Earthquake

Students are trained to:

- Appropriate strategies based on the emergency

Adults and staff are trained to:

- Appropriate strategies based on the emergency
- Account for students and adults
- Report injuries or problems

### **SEX EDUCATION INSTRUCTION**

Students will not be required to take or participate in any class or course in comprehensive sex education if his or her parent or guardian submits a written objection. The parent or guardian's decision will not be the reason for any student discipline, including suspension or expulsion. Nothing in this Section prohibits instruction in sanitation, hygiene or traditional courses in biology.

### **SPORTS PHYSICALS**

All students must turn in a completed IHSA sports physical (separate from the 9<sup>th</sup> grade physical) before trying out and/or participating in any athletic event or practice.

**All forms are available at [www.wesclin.org](http://www.wesclin.org) or through the school office.**

### **GUIDANCE AND COUNSELING**

The school provides guidance and counseling programs for students. The school's counselors are available to those students who require additional assistance. Under Illinois law, any

student 12 years of age or older may receive counseling services without the consent of the student's parent/guardian. However, until the consent of the student's parent/guardian has been obtained, counseling services provided to a student under the age of 17 are generally limited to not more than eight 90-minute sessions.

The guidance program is available to assist students in identifying career options consistent with their abilities, interests, and personal values. Students are encouraged to seek the help of counselors to develop class schedules that meet the students' career objectives. High school juniors and seniors have the opportunity to receive college and career-oriented information. Representatives from colleges and universities, occupational training institutions, and career-oriented recruiters, including the military, may be given access to the school campus in order to provide students and parents/guardians with information.

### **STUDENTS WHO ARE PARENTS, EXPECTANT PARENTS, OR VICTIMS OF DOMESTIC OR SEXUAL VIOLENCE**

Domestic and sexual violence affect a student's ability to learn. Students who are parents or expectant parents have unique needs. Providing support services that enable students who are parents, expectant parents, or victims of domestic or sexual violence (Article 26A Students) to succeed in school are important school and district goals and are required by law.

#### **Requesting Support Services**

To facilitate the full participation of Article 26A Students, the school district provides in-school support services and information regarding non-school-based support services. Article 26A Students are also able to make up work missed on account of circumstances related to their status as a parent, expectant parent, or victim of domestic or sexual violence.

In-school support services include, but are not limited to, enabling a student to meet with counselors or other service providers, excusing the student from class as necessary for circumstances consistent with their Article 26A status, and assisting students with the development of a student success plan.

An Article 26A Student and/or their parent/guardian may request a complete copy of the District's policies related to Article 26A Students and information on support services by contacting the Article 26A Resource Person listed below.

#### **Filing a Complaint**

An Article 26A Student and/or their parent/guardian may file a complaint for violations of this procedure with the Nondiscrimination Coordinator, Title IX Coordinator, Building Principal, Assistant Building Principal, Dean of Students, a Complaint Manager, or any employee with whom the person is comfortable speaking.

**Retaliation Prohibited**

Retaliation against an Article 26A Student or their parent/guardian for exercising or attempting to exercise their rights under this procedure is prohibited. Individuals should report allegations of retaliation to the Building Principal, an administrator, the Nondiscrimination Coordinator, and/or a Complaint Manager.

**CHAPTER 6: DISCIPLINARY PROCEDURES AND MEASURES**

Teachers and other certified educational personnel must maintain discipline in the schools. In all matters related to the discipline of students, the school stands in the place of parents and guardians. This relationship shall extend to all activities connected with the school program and may be exercised at any time for the safety and supervision of the pupils in the absence of their parents and guardians. (Illinois School Code). Cooperation among parents, teachers and administrators is both necessary and desirable. In order for the student to benefit from disciplinary procedures, it is most important that they understand the reasons for such actions. The development of discipline is a major element of the maturation process. As a child matures, he/she must progress from the need of external control to internalized self-discipline necessary to become an effective, responsible adult.

An individual has the right to the opportunity of public supported education. However, an individual does not have the right to interfere with the rights of others to an education in a safe, secure and orderly manner. The rights of an individual and the institution must be balanced.

**DELEGATION OF AUTHORITY**

Each teacher and any other school personnel, when students are under his or her charge, are authorized to impose any disciplinary measure, other than suspension, expulsion, or corporal punishment, which is appropriate and in accordance with the policies and rules on student discipline.

The Superintendent and Principals are authorized to impose the same disciplinary measures as teachers and may suspend students guilty of gross disobedience or misconduct from school (including all school functions) and from riding the school bus, up to 10 consecutive school days, provided the appropriate procedures are followed.

The School Board may suspend a student from riding the bus in excess of 10 days for safety reasons and may expel students guilty of gross disobedience or misconduct for the remainder of the school term or for a shorter period as determined by the Board.

**PROHIBITED STUDENT CONDUCT**

Students may be disciplined for gross disobedience or misconduct, including but not limited to the following:

1. Using, possessing, distributing, purchasing, selling or offering for sale tobacco or nicotine materials, including electronic cigarettes, e-cigarettes, vapes, vape pens or other vaping related products.

2. Using, possessing, distributing, purchasing, or selling alcoholic beverages. Students who are under the influence of an alcoholic beverage are not permitted to attend school or school functions and are treated as though they had alcohol in their possession.
3. Using, possessing, distributing, purchasing, selling or offering for sale:
  - a. Any illegal drug, controlled substance, or cannabis (including marijuana, hashish, and medical cannabis unless the student is authorized to be administered a medical cannabis infused product under *Ashley's Law*).
  - b. Any anabolic steroid unless it is being administered in accordance with a physician's or licensed practitioner's prescription.
  - c. Any performance-enhancing substance on the Illinois High School Association's most current banned substance list unless administered in accordance with a physician's or licensed practitioner's prescription.
  - d. Any prescription drug when not prescribed for the student by a physician or licensed practitioner, or when used in a manner inconsistent with the prescription or prescribing physician's or licensed practitioner's instructions. The use or possession of medical cannabis, even by a student for whom medical cannabis has been prescribed, is prohibited unless the student is authorized to be administered a medical cannabis infused product under *Ashley's Law*.
  - e. Any inhalant, regardless of whether it contains an illegal drug or controlled substance: (a) that a student believes is, or represents to be capable of, causing intoxication, hallucination, excitement, or dulling of the brain or nervous system; or (b) about which the student engaged in behavior that would lead a reasonable person to believe that the student intended the inhalant to cause intoxication, hallucination, excitement, or dulling of the brain or nervous system. The prohibition in this section does not apply to a student's use of asthma or other legally prescribed inhalant medications.
  - f. "Look-alike" or counterfeit drugs, including a substance that is not prohibited by this policy, but one: (a) that a student believes to be, or represents to be, an illegal drug, controlled substance, or other substance that is prohibited by this policy; or (b) about which a student engaged in behavior that would lead a reasonable person to believe that the student expressly or impliedly represented to be an illegal drug, controlled substance or other substance that is prohibited by this policy.
  - g. Drug paraphernalia, including devices that are or can be used to: (a) ingest, inhale, or inject cannabis or controlled substances into the body; and (b) grow, process, store, or conceal cannabis or controlled substances.
  - h. Any substance inhaled, injected, smoked, consumed or otherwise ingested or absorbed with the intention of causing a physiological or psychological change in the body, including without limitation, pure caffeine in a tablet or powdered form.

Students who are under the influence of any prohibited substance are not permitted to attend school or school functions and are treated as though they have the prohibited substance, as applicable, in their possession.

4. Using, possessing, controlling, or transferring a “weapon” or violating the procedures listed below under the Weapons Prohibition section of this handbook procedure.
5. Using or possessing an electronic paging device.
6. Using a cellular telephone, smartphone, video recording device, personal digital assistant (PDA), or similar electronic device in any manner that disrupts the educational environment or violates the rights of others, including using the device to take photographs in locker rooms or bathrooms, cheat, or otherwise violate student conduct rules. Unless otherwise banned under this policy or by the building principal, all cellular phones, smartphones and other electronic devices must be kept powered-off and out-of-sight during the regular school day unless: (a) the supervising teacher grants permission; (b) use of the device is provided in a student’s individualized education program (IEP); (c) it is used during the student’s lunch period; or (d) it is needed in an emergency that threatens the safety of students, staff, or other individuals..
7. Using or possessing a laser pointer unless under a staff member’s direct supervision and in the context of instruction.
8. Disobeying rules of student conduct or directives from staff members or school officials. Examples of disobeying staff directives include refusing a staff member’s request to stop, present school identification or submit to a search.
9. Engaging in academic dishonesty, including cheating, intentionally plagiarizing, wrongfully giving or receiving help during an academic examination, altering report cards and wrongfully obtaining test copies or scores.
10. Engaging in bullying, hazing or any kind of aggressive behavior that does physical or psychological harm to a staff person or another student or encouraging other students to engage in such behavior. Prohibited conduct specifically includes, without limitation, any use of violence, intimidation, force, noise, coercion, threats, stalking, harassment, sexual harassment, public humiliation, theft or destruction of property, retaliation, hazing, bullying, bullying using a school computer or a school computer network or other comparable conduct.
11. Engaging in any sexual activity, including without limitation, offensive touching, sexual harassment, indecent exposure (including mooning) and sexual assault.
12. Engaging in teen dating violence.
13. Causing or attempting to cause damage to, stealing, or attempting to steal, school property or another person’s personal property.
14. Entering school property or a school facility without proper authorization.
15. In the absence of a reasonable belief that an emergency exists, calling emergency responders (calling 9-1-1); signaling or setting off alarms or signals indicating the presence of an emergency; or indicating the presence of a bomb or explosive device on school grounds, school bus or at any school activity.
16. Being absent without a recognized excuse.
17. Being involved with any public-school fraternity, sorority, or secret society.
18. Being involved in a gang or engaging in gang-like activities, including displaying gang symbols or paraphernalia.
19. Violating any criminal law, including but not limited to assault, battery, arson, theft, gambling, eavesdropping, vandalism, and hazing.

20. Engaging in any activity, on or off campus, that interferes with, disrupts, or adversely affects the school environment, school operations, or an educational function, including but not limited to, conduct that may reasonably be considered to: (a) be a threat or an attempted intimidation of a staff member; or (b) endanger the health or safety of students, staff, or school property.
21. Making an explicit threat on an Internet website against a school employee, a student, or any school-related personnel if the Internet website through which the threat was made is a site that was accessible within the school at the time the threat was made or was available to third parties who worked or studied within the school grounds at the time the threat was made, and the threat could be reasonably interpreted as threatening to the safety and security of the threatened individual because of his or her duties or employment status or status as a student inside the school.
22. Operating an unarmed aircraft system (AUS) or drone for any purpose on school grounds or at any school event unless granted permission by the building principal.
23. Sexting, which, for purposes of this procedure, is the act of creating, sending, sharing, viewing, receiving, or possessing sexually explicit messages, images, or videos electronically, regardless of whether they are authentic or computer-generated, through the use of a computer, electronic communication device, or cellular phone. Sexting also includes creating, sending, sharing, viewing, receiving, or possessing indecent visual depictions, non-consensual dissemination of private sexual images, and non-consensual dissemination of sexually explicit digitized depictions, as defined in State law.

For purposes of these rules, the term “possession” includes having control, custody, or care, currently or in the past, of an object or substance, including situations in which the item is: (a) on the student’s person; (b) contained in another item belonging to, or under the control of, the student, such as in the student’s clothing, backpack, or automobile; (c) in a school’s student locker, desk, or other school property; (d) at any location on school property or at a school-sponsored event; or (e) in the case of drugs and alcohol, substances ingested by the person. Efforts, including the use of positive interventions and supports, shall be made to deter students, while at school or a school-related event, from engaging in aggressive behavior that may reasonably produce physical or psychological harm to someone else.

No disciplinary action shall be taken against any student that is based totally or in part on the refusal of the student’s parent/guardian to administer or consent to the administration of psychotropic or psychostimulant medication to the student.

The entire Student Behavior Policy is Policy 7:190 and can be found on the school district website under Board of Education. The web address is: <https://www.wesclin.org/vnews/display.v/SEC/Board%20of%20Education%7CBoard%20Policies>

#### **When and Where Conduct Rules Apply**

The grounds for disciplinary action also apply whenever the student’s conduct is reasonably related to school or school activities, including but not limited to:

1. On, or within sight of, school grounds before, during, or after school hours or at any time;

2. Off school grounds at a school-sponsored activity or event, or any activity or event that bears a reasonable relationship to school;
3. Traveling to or from school or a school activity, function, or event; or
4. Anywhere, if the conduct interferes with, disrupts, or adversely affects the school environment, school operations, or an educational function, including but not limited to, conduct that may reasonably be considered to: (a) be a threat or an attempted intimidation of a staff member; or (b) endanger the health or safety of students, staff, or school property; or
5. During periods of remote learning.

### **Disciplinary Measures**

School officials shall limit the number and duration of expulsions and out-of-school suspensions to the greatest extent practicable, and, where practicable and reasonable, shall consider forms of non-exclusionary discipline before using out-of-school suspensions or expulsions. School personnel shall not advise or encourage students to drop out of school voluntarily due to behavioral or academic difficulties. Potential disciplinary measures include, without limitation, any of the following measures:

1. Notifying parents/guardians.
2. Disciplinary conference.
3. Withholding of privileges.
4. Temporary removal from the classroom.
5. Return of property or restitution for lost, stolen, or damaged property.
6. In-school suspension.
7. After-school Detention or Saturday Detention is provided if the student's parent/guardian has been notified.
8. Seizure of contraband; confiscation and temporary retention of the personal property that was used to violate school rules.
9. Suspension of bus riding privileges.
10. Suspension from school and all school activities for up to 10 days. A suspended student is prohibited from being on school grounds.
11. Expulsion from school and all school activities for a definite time period not to exceed 2 calendar years. An expelled student is prohibited from being on school grounds.
12. Transfer to an alternative program if the student is expelled or otherwise qualifies for transfer under State law.
13. Notifying juvenile authorities or other law enforcement whenever the conduct involves criminal activity, such as, illegal drugs (controlled substances), "look-alikes," alcohol or weapons or in other circumstances as authorized by the reciprocal reporting agreement between the District and local law enforcement agencies.

The above list of disciplinary measures is a range of options that will not always be applicable in every case. In some circumstances, it may not be possible to avoid suspending or expelling a student because behavioral interventions, other than a suspension or expulsion, will not be appropriate and available, and the only reasonable and practical way to resolve the threat and/or address the disruption is a suspension or expulsion.



### **Refusal to Serve Consequences**

- Refusing to serve a lunch detention will result in an additional lunch detention as well as an after-school detention.
- Refusing to serve an after-school detention will result in an additional after-school detention as well as a Saturday detention.
- Refusing to serve a Saturday detention will result in an additional Saturday detention as well as an In-School Suspension.
- Refusing to serve an In-School Suspension will result in an additional In-School Suspension as well as an Out-Of-School Suspension.

### **Isolated Time Out, Time Out, and Physical Restraint**

Isolated time out, time out, and physical restraint shall only be used if the student's behavior presents an imminent danger of serious physical harm to the student or others, and other less restrictive and intrusive measures were tried and proven ineffective in stopping it. The school may not use isolated time out, physical restraint, or physical restraint as discipline or punishment, convenience for staff, retaliation, a substitute for appropriate educational or behavioral support, a routine safety matter, or to prevent property damage in the absence of imminent danger of serious physical harm to the student or others. The issue of prone restraint is prohibited.

### **Corporal Punishment**

Corporal punishment is prohibited in all circumstances. Corporal punishment is defined as a discipline method in which a person deliberately inflicts pain upon a student in response to the student's unacceptable behavior or inappropriate language, with the aim of setting an example for others. It includes slapping, paddling, or prolonged maintenance of students in physically painful positions, or intentional infliction of bodily harm. Corporal punishment does not include reasonable force as permitted by State law.

### **Weapons Prohibition**

A student who is determined to have brought one of the following objects to school, any school-sponsored activity or event, or any activity or event that bears a reasonable relationship to school shall be expelled for a period of not less than one year but not more than 2 calendar years:

A student who is determined to have brought one of the following objects to school, any school-sponsored activity or event, or any activity or event that bears a reasonable relationship to school shall be expelled for a period of not less than one year but not more than 2 calendar years:

1. A firearm, meaning any gun, rifle, shotgun, weapon as defined by Section 921 of Title 18 of the United States Code, firearm as defined in Section 1.1 of the Firearm Owners Identification Card Act, or firearm as defined in Section 24-1 of the Criminal Code of 1961. The expulsion period may be modified by the superintendent, and the superintendent's determination may be modified by the board on a case-by-case basis.

2. A knife, brass knuckles or other knuckle weapon regardless of its composition, a billy club, or any other object if used or attempted to be used to cause bodily harm, including “look-alikes” of any firearm as defined above.

The expulsion requirement may be modified by the superintendent, and the superintendent’s determination may be modified by the board on a case-by-case basis.

### **Gang & Gang Activity Prohibited**

“Gang” is defined as any group, club or organization of two or more persons whose purposes include the commission of illegal acts. No student on or about school property or at any school activity or whenever the student’s conduct is reasonably related to a school activity, shall: (1) wear, possess, use, distribute, display, or sell any clothing, jewelry, paraphernalia or other items which reasonably could be regarded as gang symbols; commit any act or omission, or use either verbal or non-verbal gestures, or handshakes showing membership or affiliation in a gang; or (2) use any speech or commit any act or omission in furtherance of the interest of any gang or gang activity, including, but not limited to, soliciting others for membership in any gangs; (3) request any person to pay protection or otherwise intimidate, harass or threaten any person; (4) commit any other illegal act or other violation of district policies, (5) or incite other students to act with physical violence upon any other person.

### **Re-Engagement of Returning Students**

The building principal or designee shall meet with a student returning to school from an out-of-school suspension, expulsion, or alternative school setting. The goal of this meeting shall be to support the student’s ability to be successful in school following a period of exclusion and shall include an opportunity for students who have been suspended to complete or make up missed work for equivalent academic credit.

No disciplinary action shall be taken against any student that is based totally or in part on the refusal of the student’s parent/guardian to administer or consent to the administration of psychotropic or psychostimulant medication to the student.

### **SCHOOL DRESS CODE**

The administration believes all students should dress in a manner appropriate for school. Students are expected to wear clothing in a neat, clean, and well-fitting manner while on school property and/or in attendance at school-sponsored activities. Students are to use discretion in their dress and are not permitted to wear apparel that causes a substantial disruption in the school environment. The general rule to follow is, if you think it might be inappropriate, it probably is. We have some general rules to follow:

1. Student dress (including accessories) may not advertise, promote, or picture alcoholic beverages, illegal drugs, drug paraphernalia, violent behavior, or other inappropriate images.
2. Student dress (including accessories) may not display lewd, vulgar, obscene, or offensive language or symbols, including gang symbols.
3. Hats, coats, bandannas, sweat bands, and sunglasses may not be worn in the building during the school day.

4. Properly fitting clothing is to be worn. Oversized, extremely baggy clothing or improperly fitted clothing is not allowed. Pants and shorts must be worn at the waistline; “sagging” is prohibited.
5. Bare midriff clothing is not allowed.
6. Spiked apparel, accessories, or chains shall not be worn.
7. Earbuds are prohibited during the school day, unless given permission by the teacher and/or principal.
8. The length of shorts or skirts must be appropriate for the school environment.
9. Appropriate footwear must be worn at all times.
10. If there is any doubt about dress and appearance, the building principal will make the final decision.

Students dressed inappropriately will be required to change clothes. They will be given an opportunity to change into other clothes or call home to have their parents bring alternate clothing. If this is not an option, the school will provide alternate clothing. Students who abuse this privilege or refuse to change clothing may be subject to disciplinary action.

#### **DISCIPLINARY VIOLATIONS:**

Violations, unless they are severe enough to be considered suspendable offenses, may result in an after-school detention for each violation. If a student is suspended from school, the length of the suspension will depend upon the nature of the violation, the cooperation of the student, and the number of previous violations/suspensions. Driving privileges may also be revoked.

#### **PROCEDURE FOR REMOVAL FROM CLASS**

In the event that a teacher feels it necessary to remove a student from class or study hall, the student must be directed to the principal’s office. The teacher, indicating the reason for the dismissal, should complete a disciplinary referral form.

The office views student removal from class as a serious offense, indicating that the teacher has utilized all means to improve student behavior and is seeking administrative assistance. Students who are removed from class by a teacher will be isolated in the office and are not to talk with any other students in the office. In addition, students may not leave the office without permission. If a student is removed from class, the principal shall meet with that student to discuss disciplinary actions. The parents/guardians will be notified of any subsequent disciplinary actions.

#### **LUNCH & CAFETERIA RULES**

Students may not leave campus during lunch. The following rules shall be observed and abided by during lunch:

- Students shall not loiter in the halls or classrooms and shall immediately proceed to their lunch destination upon dismissal from class.
- Students shall immediately proceed to the cafeteria. Students shall obey all cafeteria rules during lunch.

### **Cafeteria Rules**

- Students shall not save seats for other students.
- Loud talking, yelling, screaming, and other disruptions are prohibited.
- Students shall not throw food, drinks.
- Students shall not save places in line, cut in line, or otherwise cheat or intimidate their way into line for food service.
- Students shall not leave the cafeteria until after the appropriate tone rings or otherwise directed by staff.
- Students shall follow the instructions of the cafeteria aides and other staff and show proper respect toward all cafeteria personnel.
- Students shall immediately become silent when staff or presenters make announcements in the cafeteria.
- Students shall report spills and broken containers to cafeteria staff immediately.

### **DETENTION**

Detention will be served after school from 2:50 to 3:50 p.m. on the designated day. Morning detention starts at 7:00 a.m. in the high school office. Students arriving late will not be admitted. Detentions are expected to be completed within one week of reception. Serving an assigned detention will take precedence over all extracurricular activities. Skipping detention may result in an in-school-supervision session.

### **SATURDAY DETENTION**

Students who have accrued 3 after-school detentions will result in having to serve a Saturday Detention. Also, a Saturday Detention may be issued in an individual discipline case(s) as an alternative to a type of Suspension when deemed appropriate by the principal. Saturday Detention takes place two Saturdays a month from 8:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.m. Failure to serve a Saturday Detention will result in an In-School Suspension, and the student will serve the next Saturday Detention.

### **IN-SCHOOL SUPERVISION (ISS):**

In school supervision (ISS) may be assigned as an intermediate step to out-of-school suspension. ISS will be held as needed. ISS begins at 8:00 a.m. (SHARP) and ends at 2:48 p.m. Students will be allowed one-bathroom break in the morning and one in the afternoon. Students will eat lunch between the 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> period lunches and they will eat in the in-school supervision room. It is the responsibility of the student to bring the necessary work to the ISS room. Any disturbances caused by an ISS student may result in further disciplinary action.

### **SUSPENSION (OUT OF SCHOOL)**

Suspension out of school is a disciplinary action taken by school officials to separate a student from school for a period of ten days or less. Students who are suspended are not permitted to be on campus, to use school transportation, or to attend school-sponsored activities (home or away). Students suspended from school are expected to turn in assignments that are assigned and due during the length of the suspension. All class work assigned during the suspension will

be granted up to 100% credit. Students are encouraged to complete all assignments to ensure continued academic success. There will be no due date extension.

### **SUSPENSION DUE PROCESS**

The Superintendent and any Principal of Wesclin School District are authorized to suspend students guilty of gross disobedience or misconduct from school and all school functions for a period not to exceed ten (10) school days. The student and/or parents are due the following procedural protection:

1. Prior to suspension, the student shall be provided oral or written notice of the charges. If the charges are denied, the student shall be explained the evidence against him/her and given an opportunity to present his/her version of the incident.
2. Prior notice and hearing as stated above may not be required, and the student immediately suspended, when the student's presence poses a continuing danger to persons or property or an ongoing threat of disruption to the academic or educational process. In such cases, the necessary notice and hearing shall follow as soon as it is practical.
3. Any suspension shall be reported to the parents or guardian of the student. Such reports shall contain a full statement of the reasons for suspension and a notice to the parents or guardians of their right of review. Also, a copy of the notice shall be given to the Superintendent.
4. Upon request of the parents or guardian, a hearing shall be conducted by the School Board, Superintendent, or an appointed hearing officer to review the suspension. At the hearing, the parents or guardians of the student may appear and discuss the suspension with the Board. After the hearing or upon the receipt of the report of the hearing officer, the Board may take such action as it finds appropriate.

### **DENIAL OF PRIVILEGES/ SOCIAL PROBATION**

Students who have multiple violations may be denied the privilege of attendance or participation at school sponsored activities. This includes, but may not be limited to, field trips, student trips, dances, homecoming, prom, and school assemblies.

### **EXPULSION**

The term "expulsion" refers to disciplinary action taken by the Board of Education whereby a student is separated from school attendance for a period of time in excess of ten days. The student will be removed for the balance of the current school year. The student may be permitted, upon petition, to complete required examinations in order to receive credit for courses taken in the current semester of the current year.

### **EXPULSION PROCEDURE**

- A. A statement of the reason(s) for the proposed expulsion, including any school rule which has been violated.
- B. The duration of the proposed expulsion.
- C. The time and place of the expulsion hearing.
- D. A statement of the parents' right to be represented at the expulsion hearing

- by an attorney or other representative.
- E. A copy of the expulsion hearing procedures.

The grounds for disciplinary action also apply whenever the student's conduct is reasonably related to school or school activities, including but not limited to:

1. On, or within sight of, school grounds before, during, or after school hours or at any time;
2. Off school grounds at a school-sponsored activity or event, or any activity or event that bears a reasonable relationship to school;
3. Traveling to or from school or a school activity, function, or event; or
4. Anywhere, if the conduct interferes with, disrupts, or adversely affects the school environment, school operations, or an educational function, including but not limited to, conduct that may reasonably be considered to: (a) be a threat or an attempted intimidation of a staff member; or (b) endanger the health or safety of students, staff, or school property.

#### **FIREARMS, KNIVES, BRASS KNUCKLES & OTHER OBJECTS USED OR ATTEMPTED TO BE USED TO CAUSE HARM**

A student who is determined to have brought one of the following objects to school, any school-sponsored activity or event, or any activity or event that bears a reasonable relationship to school shall be expelled for a period of not less than one year:

(1) A firearm. For the purposes of this Section, "firearm" means any gun, rifle, shotgun, weapon as defined by Section 921 of Title 18 of the United States Code, firearm as defined in Section 1.1 of the Firearm Owners Identification Card Act, or firearm as defined in Section 24-1 of the Criminal Code of 1961. The expulsion period may be modified by the superintendent, and the superintendent's determination may be modified by the board on a case-by-case basis.

(2) A knife, brass knuckles or other knuckle weapon regardless of its composition, a billy club, or any other object if used or attempted to be used to cause bodily harm, including "look alikes" of any firearm as defined above the expulsion requirement may be modified by the superintendent, and the superintendent's determination may be modified by the board on a case-by-case basis.

#### **PREVENTION OF AND RESPONSE TO BULLYING, INTIMIDATION, AND HARASSMENT**

Bullying, intimidation, and harassment diminish a student's ability to learn and a school's ability to educate. Preventing students from engaging in these disruptive behaviors and providing all students equal access to a safe, non-hostile learning environment are important district and school goals.

Bullying on the basis of actual or perceived race, color, national origin, military status, unfavorable discharge status from the military service, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender orientation, gender-related identity or expression, ancestry, age, religion, physical or mental disability, order of protection status, homelessness, or actual or potential marital or parental status, including pregnancy, association with a person or group with one or more of

the aforementioned actual or perceived characteristics, or any other distinguishing characteristic is **prohibited** in each of the following situations:

1. During any school-sponsored education program or activity.
2. While in school, on school property, on school buses or other school vehicles, at designated school bus stops waiting for the school bus, or at school-sponsored or school-sanctioned events or activities.
3. Through the transmission of information from a school computer, a school computer network, or other similar electronic school equipment.
4. Through the transmission of information from a computer that is accessed at a non-school-related location, activity, function, or program or from the use of technology or an electronic device that is not owned, leased, or used by the school district or school if the bullying causes a substantial disruption to the educational process or orderly operation of a school.

*Bullying* includes cyber-bullying and means any severe or pervasive physical or verbal act or conduct, including communications made in writing or electronically, directed toward a student or students that has or can be reasonably predicted to have the effect of one or more of the following:

1. Placing the student or students in reasonable fear of harm to the student's or students' person or property;
2. Causing a substantially detrimental effect on the student's or students' physical or mental health;
3. Substantially interfering with the student's or students' academic performance; or
4. Substantially interfering with the student's or students' ability to participate in or benefit from the services, activities, or privileges provided by a school.

Cyberbullying means bullying through the use of technology or any electronic communication, including without limitation any transfer of signs, signals, writing, images, sounds, data, or intelligence of any nature transmitted in whole or in part by a wire, radio, electromagnetic system, photo-electronic system, or photo-optical system, including without limitation electronic mail, Internet communications, instant messages, or facsimile communications. Cyberbullying includes the creation of a webpage or weblog in which the creator assumes the identity of another person or the knowing impersonation of another person as the author of posted content or messages if the creation or impersonation creates any of the effects enumerated in the definition of bullying. Cyberbullying also includes the distribution by electronic means of a communication to more than one person or the posting of material on an electronic medium that may be accessed by one or more persons if the distribution or posting creates any of the effects enumerated in the definition of bullying.

Examples of prohibited conduct include name-calling, using derogatory slurs, stalking, sexual violence, causing psychological harm, threatening or causing physical harm, threatened or actual destruction of property, or wearing or possessing items depicting or implying hatred or prejudice of one of the characteristics stated above.

Students are encouraged to immediately report bullying. A report may be made orally or in writing to the building principal, nondiscrimination coordinator, district complaint manager or

any staff member with whom the student is comfortable speaking. All school staff members are available for help with a bully or to make a report about bullying. Anyone, including staff members and parents/guardians, who has information about actual or threatened bullying is encouraged to report it to the district complaint manager or any staff member. Anonymous reports are also accepted by phone call or in writing.

A reprisal or retaliation against any person who reports an act of bullying is prohibited. A student's act of reprisal or retaliation will be treated as bullying for purposes of determining any consequences or other appropriate remedial actions.

A student will not be punished for reporting bullying or supplying information, even if the school's investigation concludes that no bullying occurred. However, knowingly making a false accusation or providing knowingly false information will be treated as bullying for purposes of determining any consequences or other appropriate remedial actions.

The entire Prevention of and Response to Bullying, Intimidation and Harassment Policy is Policy 7:180 and can be found on the school district website under Board of Education. The web address is: <https://www.wesclin.org/vnews/display.v/SEC/Board%20of%20Education%7CBoard%20Policies>

### **HAZING**

Hazing is prohibited. Hazing includes soliciting, encouraging, aiding, or engaging in hazing activities. "Hazing" means any intentional, knowing, or reckless act directed against a student for the purpose of being initiated into, affiliating with, holding office in, or maintaining membership in any organization, club, athletic team whose members are or include other students.

### **HARASSMENT AND TEEN DATING VIOLENCE PROHIBITED.**

#### **Harassment Prohibited**

No person, including a school or school district employee or agent, or student, shall harass, intimidate, or bully a student on the basis of actual or perceived: race; color; national origin; military status; unfavorable discharge status from military service; sex; sexual orientation; gender identity<sup>1</sup>; gender-related identity or expression; ancestry; age; religion; physical or mental disability; order of protection status; status of being homeless; actual or potential marital or parental status, including pregnancy; physical appearance; socioeconomic status; academic status; association with a person or group with one or more of the aforementioned actual or perceived characteristics; or any other distinguishing characteristic. The District will not tolerate harassing, intimidating conduct, or bullying, whether verbal, physical, sexual, or visual, that affects the tangible benefits of education, that unreasonably interferes with a student's educational performance, or that creates an intimidating, hostile, or offensive educational environment. Examples of prohibited conduct include name-calling, using derogatory slurs, stalking, sexual violence, causing psychological harm, threatening or causing physical harm, threatened or actual destruction of property, or wearing or possessing items depicting or implying hatred or prejudice of one of the characteristics stated above.



### **Sexual Harassment Prohibited (Title IX)**

Sexual harassment affects a student's ability to learn and an employee's ability to work. Providing an educational and workplace free from sexual harassment is an important goal. Sexual harassment as defined in Title IX, by any person, including a District employee or agent, or student is prohibited.

The entire Sexual Harassment Policy and Grievance Procedure is Policy 2:265 and can be found on the school district's website under the Board of Education section. The web address is: <https://www.wesclin.org/vnews/display.v/SEC/Board%20of%20Education%7CBoard%20Policies>

### **Teen Dating Violence Prohibited**

Engaging in teen dating violence that takes place at school, on school property, at school-sponsored activities, or in vehicles used for school-provided transportation is prohibited. For purposes of this policy, the term *teen dating violence* occurs whenever a student who is 13 to 19 years of age uses or threatens to use physical, mental, or emotional abuse to control an individual in the dating relationship, or uses or threatens to use sexual violence in the dating relationship.

For more information about this issue, please see the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's educational materials at: [www.cdc.gov/injury/features/dating-violence/index.html](http://www.cdc.gov/injury/features/dating-violence/index.html).

### **Investigation Process**

Reports and complaints of discrimination or harassment will be confidential to the greatest extent practicable, subject to the District's duty to investigate and maintain an educational environment that is productive, respectful, and free of unlawful discrimination, including harassment.

### **Enforcement**

Any District employee who is determined, after an investigation, to have engaged in conduct prohibited by this policy will be subject to remedial action and/or disciplinary action, up to and including discharge.

Any District student who is determined, after an investigation, to have engaged in conduct prohibited by this policy will be subject to remedial action and/or disciplinary action, including but not limited to suspension and expulsion, consistent with the student discipline information in this handbook.

Any third party who is determined, after an investigation, to have engaged in conduct prohibited by this policy will be addressed in accordance with the authority of the Board in the context of the relationship of the third party to the District, e.g., vendor, parent, invitee, etc.

Any person making a knowingly false accusation regarding prohibited conduct will likewise be subject to remedial and/or disciplinary action.

### **Retaliation Prohibited**

Retaliation against any person for bringing complaints, participating in the complaint process, or otherwise providing information about discrimination or harassment based on race, color, or national origin is prohibited.

Individuals should report allegations of retaliation to the Building Principal, an administrator, the Nondiscrimination Coordinator, and/or a Complaint Manager.

### **Making a Report or Complaint**

Students are encouraged to promptly report claims or incidents of bullying, intimidation, harassment, sexual harassment, or any other prohibited conduct to the Nondiscrimination Coordinator, Title IX Coordinator, Building Principal, Assistant Building Principal, Dean of Students, a Complaint Manager, or any employee with whom the student is comfortable speaking.

Any person making a knowingly false accusation regarding prohibited conduct will likewise be subject to discipline.

### **DISCRIMINATION AND HARRASSMENT ON THE BASIS OF RACE, COLOR, and NATIONAL ORIGIN PROHIBITED**

Discrimination and harassment on the basis of race, color, or national origin negatively affects a student's ability to learn and an employee's ability to work. Providing an educational and workplace environment free from such discrimination and harassment is an important District and School goal. The District and School do not discriminate on the basis of actual or perceived race, color, or national origin in any of its education programs or activities and comply with federal and State non-discrimination laws.

Examples of conduct that may constitute discrimination on the basis of race, color, or national origin include: disciplining students more harshly and frequently because of their race, color, or national origin; denying students access to high-rigor academic courses, extracurricular activities, or other educational opportunities based on their race, color, or national origin; denying language services or other educational opportunities to English learners; and assigning students special education services based on a student's race, color, or national origin.

Harassment is a form of prohibited discrimination. Examples of conduct that may constitute harassment on the basis of race, color, or national origin include: the use of racial, ethnic or ancestral slurs or stereotypes; taunts; name-calling; offensive derogatory remarks about a person's actual or perceived race, color, or national origin; the display of racially-offensive symbols; racially-motivated physical threats and attacks; or other hateful conduct.

## **Making a Report or Complaint; Investigation Process**

Individuals are encouraged to promptly report claims or incidents of discrimination or harassment based on race, color, or national origin to the Nondiscrimination Coordinator, a Complaint Manager, or any employee with whom the student is comfortable speaking. Reports will be processed under the District's Uniform Grievance Procedure. Reports and complaints of discrimination or harassment will be confidential to the greatest extent practicable, subject to the District's duty to investigate and maintain an educational environment that is productive, respectful, and free of unlawful discrimination, including harassment.

## **Federal and State Agencies**

If the District fails to take necessary corrective action to stop harassment based on race, color, or national origin, further relief may be available through the Illinois Dept. of Human Rights (IDHR) or the U.S. Dept. of Education's Office for Civil Rights. To contact IDHR, go to: <https://dhr.illinois.gov/about-us/contact-idhr.html> or call (312) 814-6200 (Chicago) or (217) 785-5100 (Springfield).

## **Prevention and Response Program**

The District maintains a prevention and response program to respond to complaints of discrimination based on race, color, and national origin, including harassment and retaliation. The program includes procedures for responding to complaints, which:

1. Reduce or remove, to the extent practicable, barriers to reporting discrimination, harassment, and retaliation;
2. Permit any person who reports or is the victim of an incident of alleged discrimination, harassment, or retaliation to be accompanied when making a report by a support individual of the person's choice who complies with the District's policies and rules;
3. Permit anonymous reporting, except that an anonymous report may not be the sole basis of any disciplinary action;
4. Offer remedial interventions or take such disciplinary action as may be appropriate on a case-by-case basis;
5. Offer, but do not require or unduly influence, a person who reports or is the victim of an incident of harassment or retaliation the option to resolve allegations directly with the accused; and
6. Protects a person who reports or is the victim of an incident of harassment or retaliation from suffering adverse consequences as a result of a report of, investigation of, or a response to the incident.

## **Enforcement**

Any District employee who is determined, after an investigation, to have engaged in conduct prohibited by this policy will be subject to remedial action and/or disciplinary action, up to and including discharge.

Any District student who is determined, after an investigation, to have engaged in conduct prohibited by this policy will be subject to remedial action and/or disciplinary action, including but not limited to suspension and expulsion, consistent with the student discipline information in this handbook.

Any third party who is determined, after an investigation, to have engaged in conduct prohibited by this policy will be addressed in accordance with the authority of the Board in the context of the relationship of the third party to the District, e.g., vendor, parent, invitee, etc. Any person making a knowingly false accusation regarding prohibited conduct will likewise be subject to remedial and/or disciplinary action.

## **Retaliation Prohibited**

Retaliation against any person for bringing complaints, participating in the complaint process, or otherwise providing information about discrimination or harassment based on race, color, or national origin is prohibited. Individuals should report allegations of retaliation to the Building Principal, an administrator, the Nondiscrimination Coordinator, and/or a Complaint Manager.

## **STUDENT CONDUCT: DRUGS/ALCOHOL**

The illicit use, possession, or distribution of non-medical drugs, the use, possession or distribution of “look alike” drugs, illicit possession, drug paraphernalia, use or distribution of prescription drugs is not permitted on school buses, in school buildings, or on school property at any time. The illicit use, possession, or distribution of the above-mentioned items is not permitted on school buses, in school buildings, or on school property at any time. This includes all school-sponsored and related activities, whether held during school hours or after. Students will not be permitted to attend school under the influence of illicit drugs or alcohol. Any student in violation of this policy shall be recommended for suspension and/or expulsion according to the requirements of the Wesclin Board policy 7.240-AP1 (see appendix). Parent and juvenile authorities shall be promptly notified. When a substance is determined to be an illicit or “look-alike” drug, the identity of the student shall be given to the proper authorities for prosecution. Also prohibited from school grounds are items that can be used as an inhalant. Students are not to bring aerosol cans of any type to school. This includes hairspray or other cosmetic items. If students must bring hairspray or other cosmetic items to school, they should not be the aerosol types.

If there is any reason to believe that a student is using drugs illicitly at any time on or off school premises, the health and counseling services of the school shall be made available to the student and parents. All prescription drugs, medicine, or stimulants must be turned into the

office for dispensing. A letter from the parent must accompany the medicine, stating the dosage and duration the student is to be taking the prescription. The letter will be kept on file in the office.

### **FIELD TRIPS**

Field trips are a privilege for students. Students must abide by all school policies during transportation and during field-trip activities, and shall treat all field-trip locations as though they are school grounds. Failure to abide by school rules and/or location rules during a field trip may subject the student to discipline.

All students who wish to attend a field trip must receive written permission from a parent or guardian with the authority to give permission. Students may be prohibited from attending field trips for any of the following reasons:

1. Failure to receive appropriate permission from the parent/guardian or teacher;
2. Failure to complete appropriate coursework;
3. Behavioral or safety concerns;
4. Attendance concerns;
5. Denial of permission from the administration;
6. Other reasons as determined by the school.

### **COATS**

Students are prohibited from wearing large/heavy coats in the classroom. Students shall not wear hoods over their heads while in the building.

### **BOOKBAGS**

Backpacks/bookbags are to remain in student lockers throughout the school day. Students will not be allowed to carry backpacks/book bags into the classroom during school hours.

### **LOCKER USE**

Lockers must be kept closed and locked during the school day. Students who do not keep their lockers closed and locked may be issued a detention. Lunches must be kept in a sack, lunchbox, or appropriate container. Lockers should be kept tidy, without paper and other materials sticking or falling out of them. Students who have lockers that can be considered disruptive, dirty, or disrespectful will face disciplinary action. All lockers must be locked after school. Decoration of lockers can only be done with sticky-tack-type substances. No glue or glitter of any kind should be used on or in the lockers. All outside decorations should be removed on the last school day.

### **HALL PASSES**

Students are not permitted in the hallways during class hours unless they have been issued a pass from their teacher. Students are to be issued hall passes for emergencies only. Violation of hall pass procedures will result in a disciplinary referral being issued.

### **BATHROOM STALL USAGE**

Only one student at a time is allowed in a bathroom stall. Disciplinary measures will be given to all students involved if more than one student is found in a bathroom stall.

## **CHAPTER 7: INTERNET AND TECHNOLOGY PROCEDURES**

### **ACCESS TO STUDENT SOCIAL NETWORKING PASSWORDS & WEBSITES**

School authorities may require a student or his or her parent or guardian to provide a password or other related account information in order to gain access to the student's account or profile on a social networking website if school authorities have reasonable cause to believe that a student's account on a social networking website contains evidence that a student has violated a school disciplinary rule or procedure

### **CHROMEBOOK USAGE**

Wesclin CUSD #3 will provide each student with a District-owned Chromebook. During the school day, students must use district-provided Chromebooks. Students are not permitted to bring their own devices.

### **CHROMEBOOK PROTECTION INSURANCE PROGRAM**

Wesclin School District offers each family the opportunity to insure district-owned Chromebooks issued to students as part of the one-to-one program. This insurance program protects the Chromebooks against accidental damage (drops/spills), loss, theft, fire, flood, and natural disasters. The insurance policy will provide replacement cost coverage and protect the Chromebook on and off school grounds. For additional information, please contact your building office.

### **ACCEPTABLE USE OF THE DISTRICT'S ELECTRONIC NETWORKS**

All use of the District's *electronic networks* shall be consistent with the District's goal of promoting educational excellence by facilitating resource sharing, innovation, and communication. These procedures do not attempt to state all required or prohibited behavior by users. However, some specific examples are provided. **The failure of any user to follow these procedures will result in the loss of privileges, disciplinary action, and/or legal action.**

### **Terms and Conditions**

The term *electronic networks* include all of the District's technology resources, including, but not limited to:

1. The District's local-area and wide-area networks, including wireless networks (Wi-Fi), District-provided Wi-Fi hotspots, and any District servers or other networking infrastructure;
2. Access to the Internet or other online resources via the District's networking infrastructure or to any District-issued online account from any computer or device, regardless of location;

3. District-owned and District-issued computers, laptops, tablets, phones, or similar devices.

**Acceptable Use** – Access to the District’s electronic networks must be: (a) for the purpose of education or research, and be consistent with the District’s educational objectives, or (b) for legitimate business use.

**Privileges** – Use of the District’s electronic networks is a privilege, not a right, and inappropriate use may result in a cancellation of those privileges, disciplinary action, and/or appropriate legal action. The system administrator or Building Principal will make all decisions regarding whether or not a user has violated these procedures and may deny, revoke, or suspend access at any time. His or her decision is final.

**Unacceptable Use** – The user is responsible for his or her actions and activities involving the electronic networks. Some examples of unacceptable uses are:

1. Using the electronic networks for any illegal activity, including violation of copyright or other intellectual property rights or contracts, or transmitting any material in violation of any State or federal law;
2. Using the electronic networks to engage in conduct prohibited by board policy;
3. Unauthorized downloading of software or other files, regardless of whether it is copyrighted or scanned for malware;
4. Unauthorized use of personal removable media devices (such as flash or thumb drives);
5. Downloading of copyrighted material for other than personal use;
6. Using the electronic networks for private financial or commercial gain;
7. Wastefully using resources, such as file space;
8. Hacking or attempting to hack or gain unauthorized access to files, accounts, resources, or entities by any means;
9. Invading the privacy of individuals, including the unauthorized disclosure, dissemination, and use of information about anyone that is of a personal nature, such as a photograph or video;
10. Using another user’s account or password;
11. Disclosing any network or account password (including your own) to any other person, unless requested by the system administrator;
12. Posting or sending material authored or created by another without his/her consent;
13. Posting or sending anonymous messages;
14. Creating or forwarding chain letters, spam, or other unsolicited messages;
15. Using the electronic networks for commercial or private advertising;
16. Accessing, sending, posting, publishing, or displaying any abusive, obscene, profane, sexual, threatening, harassing, illegal, or knowingly false material;
17. Misrepresenting the user’s identity or the identity of others; and
18. Using the electronic networks while access privileges are suspended or revoked.

**Network Etiquette** – The user is expected to abide by the generally accepted rules of network etiquette. These include, but are not limited to, the following:

1. Be polite. Do not become abusive in messages to others.
2. Use appropriate language. Do not swear, or use vulgarities or any other inappropriate language.
3. Do not reveal personal information, including the addresses or telephone numbers, of students or colleagues.
4. Recognize that the District's electronic networks are not private. People who operate District technology have access to all email and other data. Messages or other evidence relating to or in support of illegal activities may be reported to the authorities.
5. Do not use the networks in any way that would disrupt its use by other users.
6. Consider all communications and information accessible via the electronic networks to be private property.

**No Warranties** – The District makes no warranties of any kind, whether expressed or implied, for the service it is providing. The District will not be responsible for any damages the user suffers. This includes loss of data resulting from delays, non-deliveries, missed-deliveries, or service interruptions caused by its negligence or the user's errors or omissions. Use of any information obtained via the Internet is at the user's own risk. The District specifically denies any responsibility for the accuracy or quality of information obtained through its services.

**Indemnification** – By using the District's electronic networks, the user agrees to indemnify the District for any losses, costs, or damages, including reasonable attorney fees, incurred by the District relating to, or arising out of, any violation of these procedures.

**Security** – Network security is a high priority. If the user can identify or suspects a security problem on the network, the user must promptly notify the system administrator or Building Principal. Do not demonstrate the problem to other users. Keep user account(s) and password(s) confidential. Do not use another individual's account without written permission from that individual. Attempts to log-on to the network as a system administrator will result in cancellation of user privileges. Any user identified as a security risk may be denied access to the networks.

**Vandalism** – Vandalism will result in cancellation of privileges and other disciplinary action. Vandalism is defined as any malicious attempt to harm or destroy data of another user, the Internet, or any other network. This includes, but is not limited to, the uploading or creation of malware, such as viruses and spyware.

**Telephone Charges** – The District assumes no responsibility for any unauthorized charges or fees, including telephone charges, texting or data use charges, long-distance charges, per-minute surcharges, and/or equipment or line costs.

**Copyright Web Publishing Rules** – Copyright law and District policy prohibit the re-publishing of text or graphics found on the Internet or on District websites or file servers/cloud storage without explicit written permission. For each re-publication (on a website or file server) of a graphic or a text file that was produced externally, there must be a notice at the bottom of the



page crediting the original producer and noting how and when permission was granted. If possible, the notice should also include the web address of the original source.

1. Students engaged in producing web pages must provide library media specialists with email or hard copy permissions before the web pages are published. Printed evidence of the status of *public domain* documents must be provided.
2. The absence of a copyright notice may not be interpreted as permission to copy the materials. Only the copyright owner may provide the permission. The manager of the website displaying the material may not be considered a source of permission.
3. The *fair use* rules governing student reports in classrooms are less stringent and permit limited use of graphics and text.
4. Student work may only be published if there is written permission from both the parent/guardian and student.

**Use of Email** – The District’s email system, and its constituent software, hardware, and data files, are owned and controlled by the District. The District provides email to aid students in fulfilling their duties and responsibilities, and as an education tool.

1. The District reserves the right to access and disclose the contents of any account on its system, without prior notice or permission from the account’s user. Unauthorized access by any student to an email account is strictly prohibited.
2. Each person should use the same degree of care in drafting an email message as would be put into a written memorandum or document. Nothing should be transmitted in an email message that would be inappropriate in a letter or memorandum.
3. Electronic messages transmitted via the District’s Internet gateway carry with them an identification of the user’s Internet *domain*. This domain is a registered name and identifies the author as being with the District. Great care should be taken, therefore, in the composition of such messages and how such messages might reflect on the name and reputation of the District. Users will be held personally responsible for the content of any and all email messages transmitted to external recipients.
4. Any message received from an unknown sender via the Internet, such as spam or potential phishing emails, should either be immediately deleted or forwarded to the system administrator. Downloading any file attached to any Internet-based message is prohibited unless the user is certain of that message’s authenticity and the nature of the file so transmitted.
5. Use of the District’s email system constitutes consent to these regulations.

### **Internet Safety**

Internet access is limited to only those *acceptable uses* as detailed in these procedures. Internet safety is supported if users will not engage in *unacceptable uses*, as detailed in these procedures, and otherwise follow these procedures.

Staff members will supervise students while students are using District Internet access to ensure that the students abide by the *Terms and Conditions* for Internet access contained in these procedures.

Each District computer with Internet access has a filtering device that blocks entry to visual depictions that are: (1) obscene, (2) pornographic, or (3) harmful or inappropriate for students,

as defined by the Children's Internet Protection Act and as determined by the Superintendent or designee.

The system administrator and Building Principals shall monitor student Internet access.

### **ANNUAL NOTICE TO PARENTS ABOUT EDUCATIONAL TECHNOLOGY**

School districts throughout the State of Illinois contract with different educational technology vendors for beneficial K-12 purposes such as providing personalized learning and innovative educational technologies, and increasing efficiency in school operations.

Under Illinois' Student Online Personal Protection Act, or SOPPA (105 ILCS 85/), educational technology vendors and other entities that operate Internet websites, online services, online applications, or mobile applications that are designed, marketed, and primarily used for K-12 school purposes are referred to in SOPPA as *operators*. SOPPA is intended to ensure that student data collected by operators is protected, and it requires those vendors, as well as school districts and the Ill. State Board of Education, to take a number of actions to protect online student data.

Depending upon the particular educational technology being used, our District may need to collect different types of student data, which is then shared with educational technology vendors through their online sites, services, and/or applications. Under SOPPA, educational technology vendors are prohibited from selling or renting a student's information or from engaging in targeted advertising using a student's information. Such vendors may only disclose student data for K-12 school purposes and other limited purposes permitted under the law. In general terms, the types of student data that may be collected and shared include personally identifiable information (PII) about students or information that can be linked to PII about students, such as:

- Basic identifying information, including student or parent/guardian name and student or parent/guardian contact information, username/password, student ID number
- Demographic information
- Enrollment information
- Assessment data, grades, and transcripts
- Attendance and class schedule
- Academic/extracurricular activities
- Special indicators (e.g., disability information, English language learner, free/reduced meals or homeless/foster care status)
- Conduct/behavioral data
- Health information
- Food purchases
- Transportation information
- In-application performance data
- Student-generated work
- Online communications
- Application metadata and application use statistics
- Permanent and temporary school student record information

Operators may collect and use student data only for K-12 purposes, which are purposes that aid in the administration of school activities, such as:

- Instruction in the classroom or at home (including remote learning)
- Administrative activities
- Collaboration between students, school personnel, and/or parents/guardians
- Other activities that are for the use and benefit of the school district

### **GOOGLE WORKSPACE FOR EDUCATION**

At Wesclin School District, we use Google Workspace for Education, and we are seeking your permission to provide and manage a Google Workspace for Education account for your child. Google Workspace for Education is a set of education productivity tools from Google, including Gmail, Calendar, Docs, Classroom, and more are used by tens of millions of students and teachers around the world. Students will use their Google Workspace for Education accounts to complete assignments, communicate with their teachers, sign into their Chromebook, and learn 21st-century digital citizenship skills.

Using their Google Workspace for Education accounts, students may access and use the following “Core Services” offered by Google (described at [https://workspace.google.com/terms/user\\_features.html](https://workspace.google.com/terms/user_features.html)):

- Assignments
- Calendar
- Classroom
- Cloud Search
- Drive and Docs
- Gmail
- Google Chat
- Google Chrome Sync
- Google Meet
- Google Vault
- Groups for Business
- Keep
- Migrate
- Sites
- Tasks

In addition, we also allow students to access certain other Google services with their Google Workspace for Education accounts. Further, we may allow students to access additional third-party services with their Google Workspace for Education accounts. Our school administrator enables access to these third-party services with your student’s Google Workspace for Education account, and authorizes the disclosure of data (such as their school-issued email address), as requested by the third-party services.

When a student uses Google core services, Google also collects information based on the use of

those services. This includes:

- account information, which includes things like name and email address.
- activity while using the core services, which includes things like viewing and interacting with content, people with whom your student communicates or shares content, and other
- details about their usage of the services.
- settings, apps, browsers & amp; devices. Google collects information about your students' settings and the apps, browsers, and devices they use to access Google services. This information includes browser and device type, settings configuration, unique identifiers, operating system, mobile network information, and application version number. Google also collects information about the interaction of your students' apps, browsers, and devices with Google services, including IP address, crash reports, system activity, and the date and time of a request.
- location information. Google collects information about your student's location as
- determined by various technologies such as IP address and GPS.
- direct communications. Google keeps records of communications when your student provides feedback, asks questions, or seeks technical support.

In Google Workspace for Education Core Services, Google uses student personal information primarily to provide the core services that schools and students use, but it's also used to maintain and improve the services and make recommendations to optimize the use of the services. provide and improve other services your student requests; provide support; protect Google's users, customers, the public, and Google; and comply with legal obligations. There are no ads shown in Google Workspace for Education core services. Also, none of the personal information collected in the core services is used for advertising purposes.

Google will not share personal information with companies, organizations, and individuals outside of Google except in the following cases:

With our school: Our school administrator (and resellers who manage your or your organization's Workspace account) will have access to your student's information. For example, they may be able to:

- View account information, activity, and statistics;
- Change your student's account password.
- Suspend or terminate your student's account access;
- Access your student's account information in order to satisfy applicable law, regulation, legal process, or enforceable governmental request;
- Restrict your students' ability to delete or edit their information or privacy settings.

For legal reasons, Google will share personal information outside of Google if they have a good-faith belief that access, use, preservation, or disclosure of the information is reasonably necessary for legal reasons, including complying with enforceable governmental requests and

protecting you and Google.

If you have questions about our use of Google's Google Workspace for Education accounts or the choices available to you, please contact your building principal, who will get you in contact with our IT staff.

## **CHAPTER 8: SEARCH AND SEIZURE**

In order to maintain order, safety, and security in the schools, school authorities are authorized to conduct reasonable searches of school property and equipment, as well as of students and their personal effects. "School authorities" include school liaison police officers.

### **School Property and Equipment as well as Personal Effects Left There by Students**

School authorities may inspect and search school property and equipment owned or controlled by the school (such as lockers, desks, and parking lots), as well as personal effects left there by a student, without notice to or the consent of the student. Students have no reasonable expectation of privacy in these places or areas or in their personal effects left there.

The building principal may request the assistance of law enforcement officials to conduct inspections and searches of lockers, desks, parking lots, and other school property and equipment for illegal drugs, weapons, or other illegal or dangerous substances or materials, including searches conducted through the use of specially trained dogs.

### **Students Searches**

School authorities may search a student and/or the student's personal effects in the student's possession (such as, purses, wallets, knapsacks, book bags, lunch boxes, etc.) when there is a reasonable ground for suspecting that the search will produce evidence the particular student has violated or is violating either the law or the school or district's student rules and policies. The search will be conducted in a manner that is reasonably related to its objective of the search and not excessively intrusive in light of the student's age and sex, and the nature of the infraction.

School officials may require a student to cooperate in an investigation if there is specific information about activity on the student's account on a social networking website that violates the school's disciplinary rules or school district policy. In the course of the investigation, the student may be required to share the content that is reported in order for the school to make a factual determination. School officials may not request or require a student or his or her parent/guardian to provide a password or other related account information to gain access to the student's account or profile on a social networking website.

### **Seizure of Property**

If a search produces evidence that the student has violated or is violating either the law or the school or district's policies or rules, evidence may be seized and impounded by school authorities, and disciplinary action may be taken. When appropriate, evidence may be transferred to law enforcement authorities.

### **Questioning of Students Suspected of Committing Criminal Activity**

Before a law enforcement officer, school resource officer, or other school security person detains and questions on school grounds a student under 18 years of age who is suspected of committing a criminal act, the building principal or designee will: (a) Notify or attempt to notify the student's parent/guardian and document the time and manner in writing; (b) Make reasonable efforts to ensure the student's parent/guardian is present during questioning or, if they are not present, ensure that a school employee (including, but not limited to, a social worker, psychologist, nurse, guidance counselor, or any other mental health professional) is present during the questioning; and (c) If practicable, make reasonable efforts to ensure that a law enforcement officer trained in promoting safe interactions and communications with youth is present during the questioning.

## **CHAPTER 9: ATHLETICS AND EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES**

Participants must be full-time Wesclin students to participate in Wesclin Athletics and/or Extra-Curricular Activities.

### **ATHLETICS**

Wesclin High School has a reputation for high standards of sportsmanship and outstanding athletes. Everyone connected with the school is expected to refrain from any action that would lower that reputation. Wesclin is a member of the Cahokia Conference and the IHSA. Wesclin is governed by the rules and regulations of these organizations. Wesclin offers the following athletics: baseball, basketball (boys and girls), bowling (boys and girls), football cheerleading, basketball competitive cheerleading, dance, football, golf (boys and girls), soccer (boys and girls), softball, track (boys and girls), cross country (boys and girls), and volleyball.

Bass Fishing is offered as a club sport.

Wesclin CUSD #3 has an Athletic Handbook that includes a description of Code of Conduct, along with a more detailed description of procedures and descriptions for our Athletes. Please see our website for more information about the Athletic Handbook, or contact the High School Office, and we can make sure you receive a copy.

### **BIG TEAMS**

We will be using the Big Teams Website to communicate any immediate schedule changes.

Web Address: [wesclinhighschool.bigteams.com](http://wesclinhighschool.bigteams.com)

They will also go to the Wesclin Sports Twitter Feed (@WesclinSports)

Our coaches will also be communicating schedule changes to the student-athletes

### **REQUIREMENTS FOR PARTICIPATION IN ATHLETIC ACTIVITIES**

A student must have the following fully executed documents on file in the school office before being allowed to participate in any extracurricular athletic activity.

1. A current certificate of physical fitness issued by a licensed physician, an advanced practice nurse, or a physician assistant.

2. A permission slip to participate in the specific sport or activity signed by the student's parent/guardian; and
3. Proof the student is covered by medical insurance; and
4. A signed agreement by the student not to use any drugs on the IHSA's most current banned drug classes list and an agreement to take part in random testing for these substances.
5. A signed agreement by the student's parent/guardian authorizing random performance-enhancing substance testing and recognizing the dangers of drug use.

### **ELIGIBILITY**

Participation in extra/co-curricular activities is dependent upon course selection and successful progress in those courses. In order to be eligible to participate in any school-sponsored athletic or extracurricular activity, the student may not have more than one failing grade, or the student will be ineligible for the following week. If a student receives more than one failing grade for the semester, that student will be ineligible for the entire following semester. They must pass a physical examination and must be covered with school insurance, or their parent/guardian must have sufficient insurance coverage at home for an injury occurring in an athletic event. Attendance and conduct are also factoring in maintaining eligibility.

### **EXTRA-CURRICULAR / ATHLETIC RULES**

Wesclin High School supports a well-rounded athletic/extra-curricular program for the students of the District. We desire that our students have a healthy body to complement a healthy mind. Also, we believe that athletics/extra-curricular will teach sportsmanship, fair play, competitiveness, and qualities of good leadership. We feel that the athletic/extra-curricular program is a privilege and not an absolute right of the student; therefore, it is necessary to have certain rules and regulations in order to achieve our overall goals. The coaches and/or sponsors of the various athletic teams and organizations will have their own training rules and regulations; however, certain rules apply to all students, and failure to comply may mean suspension from the athletic team and/or organization, and/or from all athletic competition and membership for one calendar year.

### **Please refer to Policy #7.240-AP1.**

These rules are in effect for the entire calendar year. These rules shall be in effect for **all extra-curricular activities and athletic squads (excluding band and choir, because band and choir are co-curricular classes)**

An extra-curricular rule violation by a Wesclin student who is observed and identified by a Wesclin coach, administrator, or faculty member, or by credible evidence, or admits a violation of the rules shall be disciplined as specified in these rules. Disciplinary action will be taken as soon as an investigation has been concluded.

### **STUDENT ATHLETE CONCUSSIONS AND HEAD INJURIES**

Student athletes must comply with Illinois' Youth Sports Concussion Safety Act and all protocols, policies, and bylaws of the Illinois High School Association before being allowed to participate in any athletic activity, including practice or competition.

A student who was removed from practice or competition because of a suspected concussion shall be allowed to return only after all statutory prerequisites are completed, including, without limitation, the School District's return-to-play and return-to-learn protocols.

A student athlete who exhibits signs, symptoms, or behaviors consistent with a concussion in a practice or game will be removed from participation or competition at that time. A student athlete who has been removed from an interscholastic contest for a possible concussion or head injury may not return to that contest unless cleared to do so by a physician licensed to practice medicine in all its branches in Illinois/Missouri, or a certified athletic trainer.

### **ATHLETIC TRANSPORTATION**

All athletes and extracurricular participants will ride school transportation to all events. The same students will ride the bus back home unless they obtain permission from their coach or principal to ride home with their parents. No athlete or extracurricular participant may ride home with another student's parents unless they have written prior approval.

### **IHSA**

Eligibility for most athletics is also governed by the rules of the Illinois High School Association, and, if applicable, these rules will apply in addition to this Extracurricular Athletic Code. In the case of a conflict between IHSA and this Extracurricular Athletic Code, the most stringent rule will be enforced.

### **ABSENCE FROM SCHOOL ON DAY OF SPORT OR ACTIVITY**

A student who is absent from school after 11:20 a.m. is ineligible for any sport or activity on that day unless the absence has been approved by the principal. Exceptions may be made by the designated teacher, sponsor, or coach: 1) for a pre-arranged medical absence; or 2) for a death in the student's family. A student who has one or more truantries or who has been suspended from school may be suspended from participation in athletic activities by school officials.

### **ATHLETIC STUDY HALL**

Athletic study hall may be available to students who are participating in athletics during the appropriate sports season. The students may choose to report to study hall instead of Physical Education only during the season in which they are participating in athletics. Students must choose one or the other and maintain that choice during the season. If a student quits the sport in which they are participating, they must return to Physical Education the following day. If a student chooses not to utilize Athletic Study Hall, they will have to return to Physical Education class. If a student already has a study hall in his/her schedule, they are not eligible for Athletic Study Hall.



### **EXTRA-CURRICULAR ORGANIZATIONS**

Our extracurricular program is designed to make available as many different types of organizations and activities as possible to meet the interests of the student body. The plans, activities, and functions of each organization are decided upon and carried out by the members and their elected officers with the help of an advisor. The success of each activity depends upon the loyalty and work of the members and the capabilities of the officers. An organization is only as good as its members make it. Help make your organization and your time fruitful by participating actively.

### **PARTICIPATION FEES**

In order to help defray the rising costs of athletics, the following fee schedule has been adopted for the school year. This schedule applies to all athletes. High School students will pay \$60 per sport with a \$135 per year maximum. There will also be a family maximum of \$200.

#### **Information concerning fees**

1. There will be no fee to try out for a team. Fees will be assessed after the team has been selected.
2. The athlete must pay the fee before the first game of the season. An athlete will not be allowed to play in games until the fee is paid.
3. Payment of the fee does not guarantee playing time.
4. No refunds will be given should an athlete quit the squad or become ineligible to participate.

### **NO PASS / NO PLAY**

Selection of members or participants is at the discretion of the teachers, sponsors, or coaches, provided that the selection criteria conform to District policies. Participation in co-curricular activities is dependent upon course selection and successful progress in those courses. In order to be eligible to participate in any school-sponsored athletic or extracurricular activity, the student may not have more than one failing grade; or, the student will be ineligible for the following week. If a student receives more than one failing grade for the semester, that person will be ineligible for the entire following semester.

### **SCHOOL DANCES**

Attendance at school-sponsored dances is a privilege. If the dance falls on a Saturday, a student must be present at school on the day before to be allowed to attend the dance. This shall include Homecoming and Prom Dances for the attendance requirement. An exception can be made for students that have a medical situation with the approval of the Principal.

Only students who attend Wesclin High School may attend school-sponsored dances, unless the principal or designee approves a student's guest in advance of the event. A guest must be "age appropriate," defined as "under the age of 21." Non-WHS students are permitted with a completed guest request form. If the guest is a current high school student from another school, the form must be signed by administrators at BOTH schools and parents. The form must be turned in to the WHS administrator before buying a ticket. The secretarial staff will give you

a receipt for your guest that allows you to purchase a guest ticket. Parents or relatives cannot be dance dates. If a WHS junior or senior is buying prom tickets for someone other than their guest, that individual's privilege to attend prom will be denied.

All school rules, including the school's discipline code and dress code, are in effect during school-sponsored dances. If a student is currently serving an Out of School Suspension on the day of the dance, that student is not allowed to attend the dance or activity. Students have to remain in the dance area until they are ready to leave.

Students who violate the school's discipline code will be required to leave the dance immediately, and the student's parent/guardian will be contacted. The school may also impose other disciplines as outlined in the school's discipline code.

### **PROM**

The Prom will be scheduled annually in the spring. It is a formal dance presented by the Junior Class for the Seniors. It is an open prom for Juniors, Seniors, and their dates.

### **SPORTSMANSHIP**

Students should always cheer for their team with school spirit and show respect for their school's reputation. Students should strive to maintain favorable relations with opposing teams and schools. Students should cooperate with the cheerleaders at pep sessions and at games.

### **ATHLETIC CODE OF CONDUCT**

This Code of Conduct applies to all school-sponsored activities that are neither part of an academic class nor otherwise carry credit or a grade. This Code of Conduct will be enforced 365 days a year, 24 hours a day.

This Code does not contain a complete list of inappropriate behaviors for students in extracurricular athletic activities. Violations will be treated cumulatively, with disciplinary penalties increasing with subsequent violations, and a student may be excluded from sports or activities while the school is investigating regarding that student's conduct.

Students and their parents/guardians are encouraged to seek assistance regarding alcohol or other drug problems. Family referrals or self-referrals will be taken into consideration in determining consequences for Code of Conduct violations.

#### **The student shall not:**

1. Violate the school rules and district policies on student discipline.
2. Use a beverage containing alcohol (except for religious purposes).
3. Use tobacco in any form, including vaping or a vape device.
4. Use, possess, buy, sell, barter, or distribute any illegal substance (including mood-altering and performance-enhancing drugs or chemicals) or paraphernalia;

5. Use, possess, buy, sell, barter, or distribute any object that is or could be considered a weapon or any item that is a look-alike weapon. This prohibition does not prohibit legal use of weapons in cooking and in sports, such as archery, martial arts practice, target shooting, hunting, and skeet.
6. Attend a party or other gathering and/or ride in a vehicle where alcoholic beverages and/or controlled substances are being consumed by minors.
7. Act in an unsportsmanlike manner.
8. Vandalize or steal.
9. Haze or bully other students.
10. Violate the written rules for the activity or sport.
11. Behave in a manner that is detrimental to the good of the group or school.
12. Be insubordinate or disrespectful toward the activity's sponsors or the team's coaching staff.
13. Falsify any information contained on any permit or permission form required by the activity or sport.

**Hazing** is any humiliating or dangerous activity expected of a student to belong to a team or group, regardless of his or her willingness to participate. ***Bullying*** is any physical or verbal act or conduct that has or can be reasonably predicted to place a student in reasonable fear of harm; cause a detrimental effect on a student's physical or mental health; interfere with a student's academic performance; or interfere with a student's ability to participate in or benefit from school activities.

### **DUE PROCESS PROCEDURES**

Students who are accused of violating the Athletic Code of Conduct are entitled to the following due process:

1. The student should be advised of the disciplinary infraction with which he or she is being charged.
2. The student shall be entitled to a hearing before an appropriate administrator.
3. The student will be able to respond to any charges leveled against him or her.
4. The student may provide any additional information he or she wishes for the administrator to consider.
5. The administrator, with the help of other staff members if needed, may interview material witnesses or others with evidence concerning the case.
6. If the administrator finds, after reviewing the evidence, that the violation occurred, he or she will impose sanctions on the student, as follows:
  - a) Sanctions for violations other than drug and alcohol will be based on the nature of the offense and the number of offenses, and may include suspension from all sports or activities for one of the time periods described below:
    - A specified period of time or percentage of events, competitions, or practices;
    - The remainder of the season or for the next season; or
    - The remainder of the student's career.
  - b) Sanctions for alcohol and other drug violations will follow policy #7.190.
7. The student may appeal the decision to the building principal.

All students remain subject to the district's student discipline policy and/or the school's student handbook and the disciplinary measures listed in them.

## **CHAPTER 10: SPECIAL EDUCATION**

### **EDUCATION OF CHILDREN WITH DISABILITIES**

Education of Children with Disabilities 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 or the Individuals with 56 Disabilities Education Act are identified, evaluated, and provided with appropriate educational services.

These services are provided in conjunction with Belleville Area Special Services Cooperative (BASSC).

The School provides a free, appropriate public education in the least restrictive environment and necessary related services to all children with disabilities enrolled in the school. The term "children with disabilities" means children between the ages of 3 and the day before their 22<sup>nd</sup> birthday for whom it is determined that special education services are needed. It is the intent of the school to ensure that students with disabilities are identified, evaluated, and provided with appropriate educational services.

A copy of the publication "Explanation of Procedural Safeguards Available to Parents of Students with Disabilities" may be obtained from the school district office.

Students with disabilities who do not qualify for an individualized education program, as required by the federal Individuals with Disabilities Education Act and implementing provisions of this Illinois law, may qualify for services under Section 504 of the federal Rehabilitation Act of 1973 if the student (i) has a physical or mental impairment that substantially limits one or more major life activities, (ii) has a record of a physical or mental impairment, or (iii) is regarded as having a physical or mental impairment.

For further information, please contact:

Mrs. Jaime Bonsall

618/224-7583 ext. 5613

Wesclin High School Office

### **DISCIPLINE OF STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES**

Behavioral interventions shall be used with students with disabilities to promote and strengthen desirable behaviors and reduce identified inappropriate behaviors. The School Board, or their designee, will establish and maintain a committee to develop, implement, and monitor procedures on the use of behavioral interventions for children with disabilities. Additional information can be found in a student's IEP and Procedural Safeguards.

The District shall comply with the Individuals with Disabilities Education Improvement Act of 2004 and the Illinois State Board of Education's Special Education rules when disciplining special

education students. No special education student shall be expelled if the student's particular act of gross disobedience or misconduct is a manifestation of his or her disability.

Isolated time out, time out, and physical restraint shall only be used if the student's behavior presents an imminent danger of serious physical harm to the student or others, and other less restrictive and intrusive measures were tried and proven ineffective in stopping it. The school may not use isolated time out, time out, or physical restraint as discipline or punishment, convenience for staff, retaliation, as a substitute for appropriate educational or behavioral support, a routine safety matter, or to prevent property damage in the absence of imminent danger of serious physical harm to the student or others. The use of prone restraint is prohibited.

#### **EXEMPTION FROM PHYSICAL EDUCATION REQUIREMENT**

A student who is eligible for special education may be excused from physical education courses in either of the following situations:

1. He or she (a) is in grades 3-12, (b) his or her IEP requires that special education support and services be provided during physical education time, and (c) the parent/guardian agrees or the IEP team makes the determination; or
2. He or she (a) has an IEP, (b) is participating in an adaptive athletic program outside of the school setting, and (c) the parent/guardian documents the student's participation as required by the Superintendent or designee.
3. A student requiring adapted physical education will receive that service in accordance with the student's Individualized Education Program.

#### **CERTIFICATE OF HIGH SCHOOL COMPLETION**

A student with a disability who has an Individualized Education Program prescribing special education, transition planning, transition services, or related services beyond the student's 4 years of high school, qualifies for a certificate of completion after the student has completed 4 years of high school. The student is encouraged to participate in the graduation ceremony with their high school graduation class.

#### **Related Service Logs**

For a child with an individualized education program (IEP), the school district must create related service logs that record the type of related services administered under the child's IEP and the minutes of each type of related service that has been administered. The school will provide a child's parent/guardian a copy of the related service log at the annual review of the child's IEP and at any other time upon request.

#### **REQUEST TO ACCESS CLASSROOM OR PERSONNEL FOR SPECIAL EDUCATION EVALUATION OR OBSERVATION**

The parent/guardian of a student receiving special education services, or being evaluated for eligibility, is afforded reasonable access to educational facilities, personnel, classrooms, and

buildings. This same right of access is afforded to an independent educational evaluator or a qualified professional retained by or on behalf of a parent or child.

For further information, please contact Mrs. Jaime Bonsall, Wesclin Special Services Coordinator/School Psychologist.

### **PUNS (PRIORITIZATION OF URGENCY OF NEED FOR SERVICES) - Database Information for Students and Parents or Guardians**

The Illinois Department of Human Services (IDHS) maintains a statewide database known as the PUNS database (Prioritization of Urgency of Need for Services) that records information about individuals with intellectual disabilities or developmental disabilities who are potentially in need of services. IDHS uses the data on PUNS to select individuals for services as funding becomes available, to develop proposals and materials for budgeting, and to plan for future needs. The PUNS database is available for children with intellectual disabilities or developmental disabilities with unmet service needs. Registration to be included on the PUNS database is the first step toward receiving developmental disabilities services in this State. A child who is not on the PUNS database will not be in the queue for State developmental disabilities services. For more information and to sign up for PUNS, see the Illinois Department of Human Services PUNS information page at <https://www.dhs.state.il.us/page.aspx?item=41131> . You may also contact the Superintendent, Mrs. Jennifer Filyaw, for assistance.

## **CHAPTER 11: STUDENT RECORDS**

### **CUSTODIAN OF RECORDS**

The Principal will be the custodian of student records.

### **STUDENT RECORDS**

A school student record is any writing or other recorded information concerning a student and by which a student may be identified individually that is maintained by a school or at its direction or by a school employee, regardless of how or where the information is stored, except for certain records kept in a staff member's sole possession; records maintained by law enforcement officers working in the school; video and other electronic recordings (including electronic recordings made on school busses) that are created in part for law enforcement, security, or safety reasons or purposes, though such electronic recordings may become a student record if the content is used for disciplinary or special education purposes regarding a particular student.

The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) and the Illinois Student Records Act afford parents/guardians and students over 18 years of age ("eligible students") certain rights with respect to the student's school records. They are:

1. **The right to inspect and copy the student's education records within 10 business days of the day the District receives a request for access.**

The degree of access a student has to his or her records depends on the student's

age. Students less than 18 years of age have the right to inspect and copy only their permanent record. Students 18 years of age or older have access to and copyright to both permanent and temporary records. A parent/guardian or student should submit to the building principal a written request that identifies the record(s) he or she wishes to inspect. Within 10 business days, the building principal will make arrangements for access and notify the parent/guardian or student of the time and place where the records may be inspected. In certain circumstances, the District may request an additional 5 business days in which to grant access. The District charges \$.35 per page for copying, but no one will be denied their right to copies of their records for inability to pay this cost. These rights are denied to any person against whom an order of protection has been entered concerning the student.

2. **The right to have one or more scores received on college entrance examinations included on the student's academic transcript.**

Parents/guardians or eligible students may have one or more scores on college entrance examinations included on the student's academic transcript. The District will include scores on college entrance examinations upon the written request of the parent/guardian or eligible student stating the name of each college entrance examination that is the subject of the request and the dates of the scores that are to be included.

3. **The right to request the amendment of the student's education records that the parent/ guardian or eligible student believes are inaccurate, irrelevant, or improper.**

A parent/guardian or eligible student may ask the District to amend a record that is believed to be inaccurate, irrelevant, or improper. Requests should be sent to the building principal and should clearly identify the record the parent/guardian or eligible student wants changed and the specific reason a change is being sought. If the District decides not to amend the record, the District will notify the parent/guardian or eligible student of the decision and advise him or her of their right to a hearing regarding the request for amendment. Additional information regarding the hearing procedures will be provided to the parent/guardian or eligible student when notified of the right to a hearing.

4. **The right to permit disclosure of personally identifiable information contained in the student's education records, except to the extent that the FERPA or Illinois School Student Records Act authorizes disclosure without consent.**

Disclosure without consent is permitted to school officials with legitimate educational or administrative interests. A school official is a person employed by the District as an administrator, supervisor, instructor, or support staff member (including health or medical staff and law enforcement unit personnel); a person serving on the School Board. A school official may also include a volunteer, contractor, or consultant who, while not employed by the school, performs an institutional service or function for which the school would otherwise use its own employees and who is under the direct control of the school with respect to the use and maintenance of personally identifiable information from education records (such as an attorney, auditor, medical consultant, therapist, or educational

technology vendor); or any parent/guardian or student serving on an official committee, such as a disciplinary or grievance committee, or assisting another school official in performing his or her tasks. A school official has a legitimate educational interest if the official needs to review an education record in order to fulfill his or her professional responsibility or contractual obligation with the district. Upon request, the District discloses education records without consent to officials of another school district in which a student has enrolled or intends to enroll, as well as to any person as specifically required by State or federal law. Before information is released to these individuals, the parents/guardians or eligible student will receive prior written notice of the nature and substance of the information, and an opportunity to inspect, copy, and challenge such records. Academic grades and references to expulsions or out-of-school suspensions cannot be challenged at the time a student's records are being forwarded to another school to which the student is transferring.

Disclosure is also permitted without consent to: any person for research, statistical reporting or planning, provided that no student or parent/guardian can be identified; any person named in a court order; appropriate persons if the knowledge of such information is necessary to protect the health or safety of the student or other persons; and juvenile authorities when necessary for the discharge of their official duties who request information before adjudication of the student.

5. **The right to a copy of any school student record proposed to be destroyed or deleted.**

The permanent record is maintained for at least 60 years after the student transfers, graduates, or permanently withdraws. The temporary record is maintained for at least 5 years after the student transfers, graduates, or permanently withdraws. Temporary records that may be of assistance to a student with a disability who graduates or permanently withdraws, may, after 5 years, be transferred to the parent/guardian or to the student, if the student has succeeded to the rights of the parent/guardian. Student temporary records are reviewed every 4 years or upon a student's change in attendance centers, whichever occurs first.

6. **The right to prohibit the release of directory information.**

Throughout the school year, the District may release directory information regarding students, limited to:

7. • Name  
• Address  
• Grade level  
• Birth date and place  
• Parent/guardian names, addresses, electronic mail addresses, and telephone numbers  
• Photographs, videos, or digital images used for informational or news-related purposes (whether by a media outlet or by the school) of a student participating in



school or school-sponsored activities, organizations, and athletics that have appeared in school publications, such as yearbooks, newspapers, or sporting or fine arts programs

- Academic awards, degrees, and honors
- Information in relation to school-sponsored activities, organizations, and athletics
- Major field of study
- Period of attendance in school. Any parent/guardian or eligible student may prohibit the release of any or all of the above information by delivering a written objection to the building principal within 30 days of the date of this notice.

**8. The right to request that military recruiters or institutions of higher learning not be granted access to your student's information without your prior written consent.**

Federal law requires a secondary school to grant military recruiters and institutions of higher learning, upon their request, access to secondary school students' names, addresses, and telephone numbers, unless the student's parent/guardian, or student who is 18 years of age or older, submits a written request that the information not be released without the prior written consent of the parent/guardian or eligible student. If you wish to exercise this option, notify the building principal.

9. The right contained in this statement: No person may condition the granting or withholding of any right, privilege or benefits or make as a condition of employment, credit, or insurance the securing by any individual of any information from a student's temporary record which such individual may obtain through the exercise of any right secured under State law.
10. The right to file a complaint with the U.S. Department of Education concerning alleged failures by the District to comply with the requirements of FERPA.

The name and address of the Office that administers FERPA is:

U.S. Department of Education  
Student Privacy Policy Office  
400 Maryland Avenue, SW  
Washington DC 20202-8520

## **STUDENT PRIVACY PROTECTIONS**

### **Surveys by Third Parties**

Before a school official or staff member administers or distributes a survey or evaluation created by a third party to a student, the student's parent/guardian may inspect the survey or evaluation, upon their request and within a reasonable time of their request. This applies to every survey: (1) that is created by a person or entity other than a district official, staff member, or student, (2) regardless of whether the student answering the questions can be identified, and (3) regardless of the subject matter of the questions.

Parents who object to disclosure of information concerning their child to a third party may do so in writing to the building principal.

### **Surveys Requesting Personal Information**

School officials and staff members will not request, nor disclose, the identity of any student who completes any survey or evaluation (created by any person or entity, including the school or district) containing one or more of the following items:

- Political affiliations or beliefs of the student or the student's parent/guardian.
- Mental or psychological problems of the student or the student's family.
- Sexual behaviors or attitudes.
- Illegal, anti-social, self-incriminating, or demeaning behavior.
- Critical appraisals of other individuals with whom students have close family relationships.
- Legally recognized privileged or analogous relationships, such as those with lawyers, physicians, and ministers.
- Religious practices, affiliations, or beliefs of the student or the student's parent/guardian.
- Income other than that required by law to determine program eligibility.

The student's parent/guardian may inspect the survey or evaluation upon request and refuse to allow their child to participate in the survey. The school will not penalize any student whose parent/guardian exercises this option.

### **REQUESTS FROM MILITARY OR INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER LEARNING**

Upon their request, military recruiters and institutions of higher learning will be given access to students' names, addresses, and telephone numbers. Parents who do not want their child's name to be released (or students over the age of 18 who do not want their name released) should complete the form at registration.

## **CHAPTER 12: PARENTAL RIGHTS/NOTIFICATIONS**

### **TEACHER QUALIFICATIONS**

Parents/guardians may request information about the qualifications of their child's teachers and paraprofessionals, including:

- Whether the teacher has met state requirements.
- Whether the teacher is teaching under an emergency permit or other provisional status by which State licensing criteria have been waived.
- The teacher's college major.
- Whether the teacher has any advanced degrees and, if so, the subject of the degrees.
- Whether any instructional aides or paraprofessionals provide services to your child and, if so, their qualifications.

If you would like to receive any of this information, please contact the school office.

## **STANDARDIZED TESTING**

Students and parents/guardians should be aware that students will take standardized tests during the school year. Parents are encouraged to cooperate in preparing students for the standardized testing, because the quality of the education the school can provide is partially dependent upon the school's ability to continue to prove its success in the state's standardized tests. Parents can assist their students to achieve their best performance by doing the following:

1. Encourage students to work hard and study throughout the year.
2. Ensure students get a good night's sleep the night before exams.
3. Ensure students eat well on the morning of the exam, particularly ensuring they eat sufficient protein.
4. Remind and emphasize to students the importance of good performance on standardized testing.
5. Ensure students are on time and prepared for tests, with appropriate materials, including number 2 pencils if needed, and/or a charged Chromebook.
6. Teach students the importance of honesty and ethics during the performance of these and other tests.
7. Encourage students to relax on testing day.

Assistance and support for homeless families include:

- Educational organizations and schools
- Food bank and meal programs
- Local service organizations (Goodwill, Salvation Army, etc.
- Family shelters
- Medical services

## **HOMELESS STUDENTS (McKinney-Vento Homeless Education Program)**

If you are currently homeless and need information on enrolling in school and the services provided under the McKinney–Vento Act, please contact Katie Wilke, school social worker, at 618-588-3535 or 618-224-9411.

Assistance and support for homeless families include:

- Educational organizations and schools
- Food bank and meal programs
- Local service organizations (Goodwill, Salvation Army, etc.
- Family shelters
- Medical services

## **ENGLISH LEARNERS**

The school offers opportunities for resident English Learners to achieve at high levels in academic subjects and to meet the same challenging State standards that all children are expected to meet.

Parents/Guardians of English Learners will be informed how they can: (1) be involved in the education of their children; (2) be active participants in assisting their children to attain English proficiency, achieve at high levels within a well-rounded education, and meet the challenging

State academic standards expected of all students; and (3) participate and serve on the District's Transitional Bilingual Education Programs Parent Advisory Committee.

For questions related to this program or to express input in the school's English Language Learners program, contact the building principal.

#### **ACCIDENT INSURANCE INFORMATION**

The school will make available to each student a low-cost accident insurance program. The school cannot legally assume any responsibility for medical/dental expenses due to student injuries sustained in regular school activities. The purchase of the accident insurance is on an optional basis, but it is highly recommended that those parents without similar family protection consider the school accident insurance.

Premiums vary year by year and according to plan selected. Insurance coverage commences only if and when premiums are paid by the parent or student.

#### **PESTICIDE APPLICATION NOTICE**

Integrated Pest Management (IPM) is the practice of determining and implementing the most appropriate and least hazardous techniques for controlling pests. It controls pests by emphasizing prevention and by employing physical, cultural, biological, and only as a last resort, least hazardous chemical controls.

IPM is the best approach to pest control. Every effort is made to help protect the health and safety of students and staff. Although we have no intention of spraying or fogging with pesticides, in the unlikely event that it is found necessary, we are creating a voluntary registration. By putting your name on this list, you are asking to be notified two days before an airborne pesticide application. In the event of an extreme emergency where pesticides must be used immediately, we will notify you as soon as possible. Please contact the main office if you wish to be added to the registry.

#### **MANDATED REPORTERS**

All school personnel, including teachers and administrators, are required by law to immediately report any and all suspected cases of child abuse or neglect to the Illinois Department of Children and Family Services.

#### **INTERVIEW OF STUDENTS BY LAW ENFORCEMENT**

In the event that a law enforcement official wishes to talk to a student at Wesclin High School, parents will be contacted before any meeting takes place.

#### **GUIDELINES FOR STUDENT DISTRIBUTION OF NON-SCHOOL-SPONSORED PUBLICATIONS**

A student or group of students seeking to distribute more than 10 copies of the same material on one or more days to students must comply with the following guidelines:

1. The student(s) must notify the building principal of the intent to distribute, in writing, at least 24 hours before distributing the material. No prior approval of the material is required.
2. The material may be distributed at times and locations selected by the building principal, such as, before the beginning or ending of classes at a central location inside the building.
3. The building principal may impose additional requirements whenever necessary to prevent disruption, congestion, or the perception that the material is school-endorsed.
4. Distribution must be done in an orderly and peaceful manner, and may not be coercive.
5. The distribution must be conducted in a manner that does not cause additional work for school personnel. Students who distribute material are responsible for cleaning up any materials left on school grounds.
6. Students must not distribute material that:
  - a. Will cause substantial disruption of the proper and orderly operation and discipline of the school or school activities;
  - b. Violates the rights of others, including but not limited to, material that is libelous, invades the privacy of others, or infringes on a copyright;
  - c. Is socially inappropriate or inappropriate due to the students' maturity level, including but not limited to, material that is obscene, pornographic, or pervasively lewd and vulgar, contains indecent and vulgar language, or sexting as defined by School Board policy and Student Handbook;
  - d. Is reasonably viewed as promoting illegal drug use; or
  - e. Is primarily prepared by non-students.
7. A student may use the School District's Uniform Grievance Procedure to resolve a complaint.
8. Whenever these guidelines require written notification, the appropriate administrator may assist the student in preparing such notification.

A student or group of students seeking to distribute 10 or fewer copies of the same publication on one or more days to students must distribute such material at times and places and in a manner that will not cause substantial disruption of the proper and orderly operation and discipline of the school or school activities and in compliance with paragraphs 4, 5, 6, and 7.

Students are prohibited from accessing and/or distributing at school any pictures, written material, or electronic material, including material from the Internet or from social media, that:

1. Will cause substantial disruption of the proper and orderly operation and discipline of the school or school activities;
2. Violates the rights of others, including but not limited to material that is libelous, invades the privacy of others, or infringes on a copyright;
3. Is socially inappropriate or inappropriate due to maturity level of the students, including but not limited to material that is obscene, pornographic, or pervasively lewd and vulgar, or contains indecent and vulgar language;
4. Is primarily intended for the immediate solicitation of funds; or
5. Is primarily prepared by non-students, unless it is being used for school purposes. Nothing herein shall be interpreted to prevent the inclusion of material from outside sources or

the citation to such sources as long as the material to be distributed or accessed is primarily prepared by students.

The distribution of non-school-sponsored written material must occur at a time and place and in a manner that will not cause disruption, be coercive, or result in the perception that the distribution or the material is endorsed by the school district.

### **SEX OFFENDER NOTIFICATION LAW**

State law prohibits a convicted child sex offender from being present on school property when children under the age of 18 are present, except for in the following circumstances as they relate to the individual's child(ren):

1. To attend a conference at the school with school personnel to discuss the progress of their child.
2. To participate in a conference in which evaluation and placement decisions may be made with respect to their child's special education services.
3. To attend conferences to discuss issues concerning their child, such as retention or promotion.

In all other cases, convicted child sex offenders are prohibited from being present on school property unless they obtain written permission from the superintendent or school board.

Anytime that a convicted child sex offender is present on school property – including the three reasons above - he/she is responsible for notifying the principal's office upon arrival on school property and upon departure from school property. It is the responsibility of the convicted child sex offender to remain under the direct supervision of a school official at all times he/she is in the presence or vicinity of children.

A violation of this law is a Class 4 felony.

Information about sex offenders or violent offenders against youth is available to the public on the Illinois State Police (ISP) website. The ISP website contains the following:

Illinois Sex Offender Registry, <https://isp.illinois.gov/Sor/Disclaimer>

Illinois Murderer and Violent Offender Against Youth Registry,

<https://isp.illinois.gov/MVOAY/Disclaimer>

Frequently Asked Questions Concerning Sex Offenders, <https://isp.illinois.gov/Sor/FAQs>.

### **CLOSING**

Thank you for taking the time to review the procedures and guidelines associated with Wesclin High School. It is our hope that your student will have a wonderful educational experience. If at any time you need assistance, have questions, or have concerns, please do not hesitate to call the building office.