

# Kalkaska Middle School

*Home of the Blue Blazers*



## Student/Parent Handbook

Kalkaska Middle School  
1700 W. Kalkaska Rd  
Kalkaska, MI 49646  
231-258-4040

Laura Gehman	Principal	lgehman@kpschools.com
Matt Price	Counselor	mprice@kpschools.com
Daryl Dimon	Dean of Students	ddimon@kpschools.com
Jeremy Guggemos	District Athletic Director	athletics@kpschools.com

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

### SECTION 1: ABOUT KALKASKA MIDDLE SCHOOL 1

Welcome 1

School Mission 1

School Vision 1

School Day 1

### SECTION 2: GENERAL INFORMATION 2

Parent Involvement\* 2

Equal Education Opportunity\* 3

Student rights and Responsibilities 3

Enrolling in the School 4

Transfer Out of the District 4

Withdrawal From School 5

Student Fees, Fines, And Supplies 5

Early Dismissal 5

Visitors 5

Use of the Library 6

Lost and Found 6

Lockers 6

Student Valuables 6

Use of Telephones 6

Emergency Closings and Delays 7

Leaving The Building 7

Parking Lot And Vehicle Regulations 7

### SECTION 3: ACADEMICS 8

Scheduling and Assignment 8

Course Offerings 8

[Course Description 10](#)

[Grades 13](#)

[Grading Periods 13](#)

[Monitoring Student Progress 13](#)

[Textbooks 14](#)

[Summer School 14](#)

[Guidance And Counseling Services 14](#)

[Postsecondary Enrollment Options\\* 14](#)

[Online/Blended Learning Program 14](#)

[Recognition of Student Achievement 15](#)

[Homework 15](#)

[Field Trips 15](#)

[Lunch Lab 16](#)

[Computer Technology and Networks 16](#)

[Student Assessment 16](#)

[SECTION 4: STUDENT ACTIVITIES 17](#)

[Athletics 17](#)

[School Sponsored Clubs and Activities 24](#)

[Non-School Sponsored Clubs and Activities 25](#)

[SECTION 5: STUDENT ATTENDANCE AND CONDUCT 25](#)

[Attendance Policy 25](#)

[Truancy 25](#)

[Notification of Absence 26](#)

[Suspension from School 26](#)

[Make-Up of School Work 26](#)

[Tardies 27](#)

[Classroom Passes 27](#)

[Food or Beverages in Class 27](#)

[Vacations During the School Year 28](#)

[After School Activities 28](#)

[School Bus/KPTA Bus Conduct 28](#)

[School Bus/KPTA as an extension of school grounds 29](#)

## [SECTION 6: HEALTH AND SAFETY 30](#)

[Student Well-Being 30](#)

[Injury and Illness 30](#)

[Immunizations 31](#)

[Emergency Medical Authorization 31](#)

[Use of Medications 31](#)

[Asthma Inhalers and Epi-Pens 32](#)

[Non-prescribed \(Over-the-Counter\)](#)

[Medications 32](#)

## [SECTION 7: CODE OF CONDUCT 33](#)

[Expected Behaviors 33](#)

[Dress Code 33](#)

[Cell Phones And Other Electronic Communication Devices 34](#)

[Use of Technology 35](#)

[Care of Property 35 Gangs 35](#)

[Interviews Of Students By Police Or Other Public Agencies 36](#)

## [SECTION 8: DISCIPLINE 36](#)

[Student Discipline Code 36](#)

[Explanation Of Terms Applying To The Student Discipline Code 36](#)

[Informal Discipline 47](#)

[Minor Violations 47](#)

[Detentions 48](#)

[Suspension - Major Violations 48](#)

[Search and Seizure 49](#)

[Student Rights of Expression\\* 50](#)

## [SECTION 9: NOTIFICATIONS 51](#)

[Control of Casual-Contact Communicable Diseases and Pests\\* 51](#)

[Control of Non-casual-Contact Communicable Diseases\\* 51](#)

[Individuals with Disabilities\\* 52](#)

[Limited English Proficiency\\* 52](#)

[Student Records\\* 52](#)

[Armed Forces Recruiting\\* 53](#)

[Student Fundraising 54](#)

[Review of Instructional Materials and Activities\\* 54](#)

[Meal Service 54](#)

[Fire, Lockdown and Tornado 55](#)

[Advertising Outside Activities 55](#)

[Preparedness for Toxic and Asbestos Hazards 55](#)

[Pesticide Application Advisory to Parents 56](#)

## ***SECTION 1: ABOUT KALKASKA MIDDLE SCHOOL***

### ***WELCOME***

This student handbook was developed to answer many of the commonly asked questions that you and your parents may have during the school year and to provide specific information about certain Board policies and procedures. This handbook contains important information that you should know. Become familiar with the following information and keep the handbook available for frequent reference by you and your parents. If you have any questions that are not addressed in this handbook, you are encouraged to talk to your teachers or the building principal.

This handbook summarizes many of the official policies and administrative guidelines of the Board of Education and the District. To the extent that the handbook is ambiguous or conflicts with these policies and guidelines, the policies and guidelines shall control. This handbook is effective immediately and supersedes any prior handbook and other written material on the same subjects.

This handbook does not equate to an irrevocable contractual commitment to the student but only reflects the current status of the Board's policies and the School's rules as of July 28, 2025. If any of the policies or administrative guidelines referenced herein are revised after July 28, 2025, the language in the most current policy or administrative guideline prevails.

### ***SCHOOL MISSION***

Creating and Developing Internationally Minded Community Leaders for Today and Tomorrow

### ***SCHOOL VISION***

Kalkaska Public Schools will be a model of excellence in education and a source of community pride.

1 <sup>st</sup> Hour	8:00 a.m. - 9:00 a.m.
2 <sup>nd</sup> Hour	9:05 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.
3 <sup>rd</sup> Hour	10:05 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.
4 <sup>th</sup> Hour A	11:05a.m. – 12:00 a.m.
Adv/Lunch/Noon Rec A	11:05-12:00
Lunch/Noon Rec/Adv B	12:00-1:00
4 <sup>th</sup> Hour B	12:05 p.m.- 1:00 p.m.
5 <sup>th</sup> Hour	1:05 p.m.- 2:00 p.m.
6 <sup>th</sup> Hour	2:05 p.m. - 3:05 p.m.

The office entrance opens at 7:00 a.m. for early drop offs and students must stay in the cafeteria until 7:30. Adult supervision provided from 7:30 a. m. to 3:30 p. m.

Classes start at 8:00 a. m., and dismissal is at 3:05 p. m.

Half-Days start at 8:00 a.m., and dismissal is at 11:35 a.m.

## ***SECTION 2: GENERAL INFORMATION***

### ***PARENT INVOLVEMENT\****

The District has established a Parental Involvement Plan by which a school partnership can be established. The Parental Involvement Plan shall reflect the District's commitment to the following:

#### ***Relationships with Families***

- cultivating school environments that are welcoming, supportive, and student-centered;
- providing professional development for school staff that helps build partnerships between families and schools;
- providing family activities that relate to various cultures, languages, practices, and customs, and that bridge economic and cultural barriers;
- providing coordination, technical support and other support to assist schools in planning and implementing family involvement activities.

#### ***Effective Communication***

- providing information to families to support the proper health, safety, and well-being of their children;
- providing information to families about school policies, procedures, programs, and activities;
- promoting regular and open communication between school personnel and students' family members;
- communicating with families in a format and language that is understandable to the extent practicable;
- providing information and involving families in monitoring student progress;
- providing families with timely and meaningful information regarding Michigan's academic standards, State and local assessments, and pertinent legal provisions;
- preparing families to be involved in meaningful discussions and meetings with school staff.

#### ***Volunteer Opportunities***

- providing volunteer opportunities for families to support their children's school activities;
- supporting other needs, such as transportation and child care, to enable families to participate in school-sponsored family involvement events.

#### ***Learning at Home***

- offering training and resources to help families learn strategies and skills to support at-home learning and success in school;
- working with families to establish learning goals and help their children accomplish these goals;
- helping families to provide a school and home environment that encourages learning and extends learning at home

*\*Provide annually - 2112*

### ***EQUAL EDUCATION OPPORTUNITY\****

It is the policy of this District to provide an equal education opportunity for all students.

Any person who believes that s/he has been discriminated against on the basis of his/her race, color, disability, religion, gender, or national origin while at school or a school activity should immediately contact the School District's Compliance Officer listed below:

Laura Gehman,  
Principal 231-258-4040  
1700 W Kalkaska Rd  
Kalkaska, MI 49646  
[lgehmanl@kpschools.com](mailto:lgehmanl@kpschools.com)

Ryan Moore,  
Principal  
231-258-8629  
309 N. Birch St.  
Kalkaska, MI 49646  
[rmoore@kpschools.com](mailto:rmoore@kpschools.com)

Complaints will be investigated in accordance with the procedures as described in Board Policy 2260\*. Any student making a complaint or participating in a school investigation will be protected from any threat or retaliation. The Compliance Officer can provide additional information concerning equal access to educational opportunity.

*\*Provide annually - 2260*

### ***STUDENT RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES***

The rules and procedures of the school are designed to allow each student to obtain a safe, orderly, and appropriate education. Students can expect their rights to freedom of expression and association and to fair treatment as long as they respect those rights for their fellow students and the staff. Students will be expected to follow teachers' directions and to obey all school rules. Disciplinary procedures are designed to ensure due process (a fair hearing) before a student is removed because of his/her behavior.

Parents have the right to know how their child is succeeding in school and will be provided information on a regular basis and as needed when concerns arise. Many times it will be the student's responsibility to deliver that information. If necessary, the mail or hand delivery may be used to ensure contact. Parents are encouraged to build a two-way link with their child's teachers and support staff by informing the staff of suggestions or concerns that may help their child better accomplish his/her educational goals.

Students must arrive at school on time, prepared to learn and participate in the educational program. If for some reason this is not possible, the student should seek help from the principal or counselor.

PowerSchool at <https://powerschool.kpschools.com/public/> is always available to assist students and parents to keep track of grades and attendance.

*Reference 5780*



### ***ENROLLING IN THE SCHOOL***

In general, State law requires students to enroll in the school district in which their parent or legal guardian resides, unless enrolling under the District's open enrollment policy.

New students under the age of eighteen (18) must be enrolled by their parent or legal guardian. When enrolling, parents/guardians must provide the following (office staff will make copies):

- A. original birth certificate or similar document,
- B. court papers allocating parental rights and responsibilities, or custody (if appropriate),
- C. proof of residency,
- D. proof of immunizations.

Under certain circumstances, temporary enrollment may be permitted. In such cases, parents will be notified about documentation required to establish permanent enrollment.

Kalkaska Middle School will request records from prior school upon receipt of completed enrollment packet.

Homeless students who meet the Federal definition of homeless may enroll and will be under the direction of the District Liaison for Homeless Children with regard to enrollment procedures.

A student who has been suspended or expelled by another public school in Michigan may be temporarily denied admission to the District's schools during the period of suspension or expulsion even if that student would otherwise be entitled to attend school in the District. Likewise, a student who has been expelled or otherwise removed for disciplinary purposes from a public school in another state and the period of expulsion or removal has not expired may be temporarily denied admission to the District's schools during the period of expulsion or removal or until the expiration of the period of expulsion or removal which the student would have received in the District had the student committed the offense while enrolled in the District. Prior to denying admission, however, the Superintendent shall offer the student an opportunity for a hearing to review the circumstances of the suspension or expulsion and any other factors the Superintendent determines to be relevant.

*Reference 5111*

### ***TRANSFER OUT OF THE DISTRICT***

Parents must notify the principal about plans to transfer their child to another school. If a student plans to transfer from Kalkaska Middle School, the parent must notify the principal. Transfer will be authorized only after the student has completed the arrangements, returned all school materials, and paid any fees or fines that are due. School records may not be released if the transfer is not properly completed. Parents are encouraged to contact the counselor for specific details.

School officials, when transferring student records, are required to transmit disciplinary records including suspension and expulsion actions against the student.

### ***WITHDRAWAL FROM SCHOOL***

No student under the age of eighteen (18) will be allowed to withdraw from school without the written consent of his/her parents.

*Reference 5130*

### ***STUDENT FEES, FINES, AND SUPPLIES***

Kalkaska Middle School may charge specific fees for the non-curricular activities and programs. Such fees or charges are determined by the cost of materials, freight/handling fees, and add-on fees for loss or damage to school property.

The District will provide all basic supplies needed to complete the required course curriculum. The student and/or his/her family may choose to purchase their own supplies if they desire to have a greater quantity or quality of supplies, or desire to help conserve the limited resources for use by others. The teacher or appropriate administrator may recommend useful supplies for these purposes.

- Fees may be waived in situations where there is financial hardship.
- Students using school property and equipment can be fined for excessive wear and abuse of the property and equipment. The fine will be used to pay for the damage, not to make a profit.
- Late fines can be avoided when students return borrowed materials promptly.
- Failure to pay fines, fees, or charges may result in the withholding of grades and credits.

*Reference 6152*

### ***EARLY DISMISSAL***

No student will be allowed to leave school prior to dismissal time without contact by verbal or written from the parent or legal guardian. Students may also be released to a properly identified person authorized to act on the parent's behalf. No student will be released to a person other than a custodial parent(s) without written permission signed by the custodial parent(s) or guardian.

*Reference 5230*

### ***VISITORS***

Visitors, particularly parents, are welcome at the school. To properly monitor the safety of students and staff, each visitor must report to the office upon entering the school to obtain a pass. Any visitor found in the building without a pass shall be reported to the principal. If a person wishes to confer with a member of the staff, s/he should call for an appointment prior to coming to the School in order to schedule a mutually convenient time. Students may not bring visitors to school without prior written permission from the Principal.

*Reference 9150*

### ***USE OF THE LIBRARY***

The library is available to students throughout the school day. The library is for the benefit of the students and provides many educational materials. The library reserves the right to hold report cards for overdue books and/or unpaid fines.

### ***LOST AND FOUND***

The lost and found area is in the cafeteria. Students who have lost items should check there and may retrieve their items if they give a proper description. Unclaimed items will be given to charity at the close of each quarter of the school year.

### ***LOCKERS***

All students will be assigned a locker at the beginning of the school year. Students are responsible for the cleanliness and condition of the locker they are assigned to throughout the school year. If the student wishes to trade/change lockers at any time, s/he may only do so with the permission of the school secretary. Students are encouraged to keep their lockers locked at all times. Locks can be rented from the office for a \$5.00 deposit, which will be refunded at the end of the school year if the lock is returned in good condition. Students may use their own locks but understand that if keys are lost, combinations are forgotten, or other circumstances arise, the lock may be cut from the locker with bolt cutters at no cost to school.

### ***STUDENT VALUABLES***

Students are encouraged not to bring items of value to school. Items such as jewelry, expensive clothing, electronic equipment, and the like are tempting targets for theft and extortion. The School cannot be responsible for their safe-keeping and will not be liable for loss or damage to personal valuables.

### ***USE OF TELEPHONES***

Students who need to contact a parent/guardian may do so from the phone in the office, or their own cell phone in the office. This phone will be limited to emergency or unexpected circumstances such as illness. Except in an emergency, students will not be called to the office to receive a phone call. Unavoidable messages will be delivered to the students prior to the end of the school day.

## **Emergency Closings and Delays**

If the school must be closed or the opening delayed because of inclement weather or other conditions, the School will notify parents through School Messenger and the following radio and television stations:

- *School Messenger– This system is set up through PowerSchool to call the phone number you have provided the school. Please note: On your caller ID this call MAY come up as a toll-free number (i.e. an 866, 800, 888, etc.)*
- *TV 9 & 10, WWTV, WWUP, FOX 32*
- *TV 7 & 4, WPBN, TV 29 & 8*
- *The Bear, Rock 105, Big Country, Big Country Gold*
- *News-Talk 1240, Light 96, The Ticket, WKHQ, WMKT-The Talk Station*

Parents and students are responsible for knowing about emergency closings and delays.

### ***LEAVING THE BUILDING***

Kalkaska Middle School has a closed campus policy. Students will not be allowed to leave during lunch, or during the school day, without a parent or written permission from the parent.

### ***PARKING LOT AND VEHICLE REGULATIONS***

Parking on school property is a privilege which can be revoked at any time. The school district retains the authority to conduct routine patrols of the parking lot and inspections of the exterior of automobiles on school property. The interiors of student vehicles may be inspected whenever a school authority has reasonable suspicion to believe that illegal or unauthorized materials are contained inside. Such patrols may be conducted without notice, without consent, and without a search warrant.

*Reference 5514.01/5514 F1*

## **SECTION 3: ACADEMICS**

### ***SCHEDULING AND ASSIGNMENT***

Schedules are provided to each student at the beginning of the school year or upon enrollment. Schedules are based on the student's needs and available class space. Any changes in a student's schedule should be handled through the counselor's office. Class/Schedule changes are to be made prior to the beginning of each quarter.

### ***COURSE OFFERINGS***

Each course is taught by a highly qualified Kalkaska Middle School teacher. \* Indicates High School credit with qualifying passing grade.

#### **English**

ELA 6  
ELA 7  
ELA 8

#### **Electives**

Career and Life Skills Current Events  
Digital Skills  
Drama  
Music Appreciation STEAM

#### **Fine Arts**

Band 6  
Band 7  
Band 8  
Visual Arts 6  
Visual Arts 7  
Visual Arts 8

#### **Mathematics**

Algebra 1\*  
Math 6  
Math 7  
Math 8

#### **Physical Education & Health Education** PE & Health

PE & Health 7  
PE & Health 8

#### **Science**

Science 6  
Science 7  
Science 8

#### **Social Studies/US History**

Social Studies 6  
Social Studies 7  
Social Studies 8/U.S. History 8

## **COURSE DESCRIPTION**

### **ENGLISH**

#### **ELA 6, 7, 8**

Students will use MyPerspectives as their resource in a student-centered learning environment where they will analyze text, cite evidence, and respond critically to their learning. Students will take ownership of their learning through goal-setting, reflection, independent text selection, and collaborative activities. MyPerspectives ELA offers a variety of ways to interact directly with the text. Students can annotate in a workbook or in their digital Student Edition and communicate using online discussion boards.

### **ELECTIVES**

**Career and Life Skills:** Students will explore skills relevant to life, career, and beyond. Topics will be student driven while also covering things like: building, creating, wood working, mechanical drawing, etc.

**Current Events:** Current Events focuses on an investigation of current happenings at the local, state, national, and worldwide levels. Students will engage in informational texts by using reading strategies to help them focus on main ideas, supporting details, claims, and forming personal responses

**Digital Skills:** Teaching students to learn new technologies and skills. Students will learn self-direction, problem solving, collaboration and creative production using a variety of computer software/types of technology. Students will explore a variety of technologies such as: Photoshop, Video editing/production, Google (Sheets, Docs, Slides, Drive, etc.), Keyboarding Skills, email etiquette, etc.

**Drama:** - This is an elective where students will need to be ready and willing to be in front of a group of people and interact with them to accomplish the goal of performing skits and short plays. We will do some research into the history of drama, write and perform skits, sing songs, juggle, learn about different cultures and popular culture, and become more at ease in front of a group of people. We will create characters and take on roles as amateur actors. We will create costumes and do some set design. Excellent opportunity to become more at ease with public speaking and a stepping stone to future performances.

**Music Appreciation-** Students will learn about the development of music from a historical and cultural perspective, using film, recorded music, instruments to both engage and further their interest.

**STEAM-** STEAM: Students will engage students in real world, hands-on, collaborative learning while mastering skills in math, science, engineering, and computer science concepts. Students will learn to apply those skills to solve problems, communicate with others, locate information, etc. Students will learn science and engineering concepts with an introduction to computer science.

### **FINE ARTS**

### Art 6, 7, 8

An exploratory class designed to help improve students' basic art skills; drawing, painting, and sculpting. Design artwork using a variety of media and techniques, develop students' creativity and self-expression, while recognizing and using the art elements, and principles of design.

### Band 6

Concert Band is a full year course of study that provides a wide range of musical genres, history, technique theory and performance of traditional and contemporary repertoire. Concerts, District Festivals and Marching Performances occur throughout the year and attendance is required.

### Band 7 & 8

Concert Band is a full year course of study that provides a wide range of musical genres, history, technique theory and performance of traditional and contemporary repertoire. Concerts, District Festivals and Marching Performances occur throughout the year and attendance is required.

Additionally, Solo and Ensemble Festivals are encouraged and available for intermediate students during their second semester.

## **INTERVENTION**

### Resource Intervention Grades 6,7, 8

The focus of this course is to provide students with learning techniques, organizational and social/emotional skills that address IEP objectives. The overall goal of the resource room is to help develop students the skills needed to become independent self-directed learners. Placement in this course is based on student data, IEP Goals, and administration discretion.

## **MATHEMATICS**

### Algebra 1\*

#### Grade 8

Students that are serious about following the Honors Math Curriculum at the High School will have the opportunity to take Algebra 1 in 8th Grade. To enroll, students must score 235 or higher on the NWEA 6+, pass all Math 8 and Algebra 1 readiness standards in Delta Math, and have the recommendation of their Math 7 teacher. To remain in Algebra 1, students must maintain a "B" or better each quarter, and exhibit positive and appropriate behavior. Students wishing to take Algebra 1 in the 8th grade that have not met all of the above criteria may take the class as an elective concurrently with Math 8 if they scored a 225 or higher on the NWEA and are approved by their Math 7 teacher. High School Credit for Algebra 1 will be granted by high school staff upon review of class performance, after the subsequent Math course is passed.

The course begins with a review of the four basic operations on fractional and decimal numbers. The student will learn the rules for adding, multiplying, and dividing single numbers. This information will be

used to evaluate simple equations and solving equations of one or more variables. Additional topics

include sets, graphing equations, distribution properties, factoring, addition of like terms, ratios, inequalities, percentages, and functions.

### Math 6

Students will use problem-solving strategies, questioning, investigating, analyzing critically, gathering and constructing evidence, and communicating rigorous arguments justifying their thinking. Under teacher guidance students learn in collaboration with others while sharing information, expertise, and ideas. The course helps students to develop multiple strategies to solve problems and to recognize the connections between concepts.

### Math 7

Math curriculum includes ratios and proportional relationships including rates, percents, and unit rates. Integers and rational numbers are covered, as well as algebraic expressions, equations and inequalities. In the topic of Geometry, geometric figures and measuring of figures are covered. Finally, probability and simple statistics are included.

### Math 8

Will introduce students to many of the big ideas you will explore and the ways in which you will be working. You will apply your current mathematical knowledge to solve problems, some of which you will revisit later on in the course using new algebraic tools. Students will develop methods for solving problems that involve proportional relationships. Studies will include: Simplifying with Variables, Graphs and Equations, Multiple Representations, Systems of Equations, Transformations & Similarity, Slope & Association, Exponents & Functions, Angles & the Pythagorean Theorem and Surface Area & Volume.

## **PHYSICAL EDUCATION & HEALTH EDUCATION**

### PE & Health 6

Physical Fitness testing (fall & spring), Team Sports (basketball, volleyball, soccer & badminton), a variety of other activities including fleeing & eluding games, dodgeball, kickball, wiffle ball, etc. Health Education will discuss No Tobacco Education and Project Healthy School Education.

### PE & Health 7

Physical Fitness testing (fall & spring), Team Sports (basketball, volleyball, soccer & badminton), a variety of other activities including fleeing & eluding games, dodgeball, kickball, wiffle ball, etc. Health Education will discuss Anatomy and Physiology, Nutrition, Social and Emotional Health.

### PE & Health 8



Physical Fitness Testing both fall and spring. Team Sports basics in Volleyball, Soccer, and Badminton. Activities included: fleeing and eluding games, dodgeball games, kickball, wiffle ball, weight training and Archery. Health Education regarding: Alcohol, Tobacco and other drug use. HIV/AIDS education.

## **SCIENCE**

### Science 6

Students begin to grapple with Earth's processes and systems that have operated over geologic time. Planetary Science focuses on the anchor phenomenon of Earth as an object in space. Populations and Ecosystems focus on ecosystems as an organizational unit of life on Earth, defined by a physical environment and the organisms that live there.

### Science 7

Studies include: Waves, Weather, Heredity & Adaptation and the Diversity of Life.

### Science 8

This course is a hands-on approach to physics and chemistry topics. Students will be required to problem solve and work collaboratively with their peers on a daily basis. Work will include near-daily quizzes, daily reading and writing assignments, hands-on tasks, projects and homework connected to the topic.

## **SOCIAL STUDIES & U.S. HISTORY**

### Social Studies 6

Students will explore the tools and mental constructs used by geographers as they study contemporary world geography (human and physical geography). Contemporary civics/government and economics content is integrated throughout the year.

### Social Studies 7

World Civilizations Beginning with Early History. Focus on Early History and the Agricultural Revolution as well as Civilizations from Mesopotamia through the Classical Civilizations like Greece, Rome, China, etc. World Religions and Expanding Interactions across the Globe

### US History 8

American History will provide students with an understanding of people, events, ideas, and documents important to the development of the United States. Through historical evidence, students will analyze and evaluate historical events and personalities and how they impact our nation. The textbook will be supplemented by discussion, informational reading, lecture, audio-visual presentations, and hands-on

activities. Students will explore our nation's history from the period of time before the American

Revolution to Reconstruction after the Civil War.

### ***GRADES***

Kalkaska Middle School has a standard grading procedure, as well as additional notations that may indicate work in progress or incomplete work. The purpose of a grade is to indicate the extent to which the student has acquired the necessary learning. In general, students are assigned grades based upon test results, homework, projects, and classroom participation. Each teacher may place a different emphasis on these areas in determining a grade and will inform the students at the beginning of the course work. If a student is not sure how his/her grade will be determined, s/he should ask the teacher.

The school uses the following grading system:

93 to 100% = A	73 to 76% = C
90 to 92% = A-	70 to 72% = C
87 to 89% = B+	67 to 69% = D+
83 to 86% = B	63 to 66% = D
80 to 82% = B	60 to 62% = D
77 to 79% = C+	59 to 0% = F

### ***GRADING PERIODS***

Students shall receive a report card at the end of each 9-week period indicating their grades for each course of study for that portion of the academic term. Grades are determined quarterly.

Powerschool is a great resource for parents to check their students' grades often, and four to five weeks into each quarter, progress reports will be provided to the parents so parents can arrange a conference with the teacher about what actions can be taken to improve poor grades.

### ***MONITORING STUDENT PROGRESS***

Parents can monitor their child's progress through PowerSchool. Parental passwords are sent home at the start of the school year, on schedules, and on report cards. Parents may also call the school's office for passwords.

If questions about students arise (student progress/accommodations/discipline), the parent may inquire in the following order:

1. Classroom Teacher
2. Special Education Teacher/504 personnel (if applicable).
3. School Counselor

4. Principal (if the problem continues)

## 5. Superintendent

### ***TEXTBOOKS***

Each teacher will provide his/her students with the textbooks needed for their classes at the beginning of the school year. Students are responsible for keeping textbooks in good repair. Students will be charged for lost or damaged textbooks. Unpaid charges will follow the student throughout the district, and ultimately be attached to their Senior Bill, or require payment prior to a record transfer.

### ***SUMMER SCHOOL***

The Middle School Principal will recommend summer school to students who fail two or more quarters of core classes. Kalkaska Middle School provides summer school as an opportunity for remedial learning in Math and English Language Arts. The goal of our Summer School program is to ensure that students have the core skills they need to be successful at the next grade level.

*Reference 5410*

### ***GUIDANCE AND COUNSELING SERVICES***

Guidance and counseling are available to all students. The counselors assist all students to:

- Acquire an adequate and satisfying understanding of themselves.
- Be able to make realistic choices and decisions so they will become self-directed.
- Progress and persist in school achievement according to abilities.
- Explore vocational opportunities.
- Achieve satisfying relationships with others.
- Resolve personal/social problems which affect educational growth.
- Make plans for a post high school education.
- The counselors are available to parents and students as a resource.

### ***POSTSECONDARY ENROLLMENT OPTIONS\****

Any student in 9<sup>th</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup>, or 12<sup>th</sup> grade may enroll in a postsecondary (dual) enrollment program providing s/he meets the requirements established by law and by the District. Any interested student should contact the counselor to obtain the necessary information.

*\*Provide annual notification by March 1; Reference 2771*

### ***ONLINE/BLENDED LEARNING PROGRAM***

Students can take up to two online classes in place of two regular classes with parent consent. Students in grades 6<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> are eligible for these classes.

Students may be required to access these classes outside of school.

Notification of interest to participate in online classes must be provided to the counselor by June 1 for fall semester and December 1 for spring semester. *Reference 2370.01*

### ***RECOGNITION OF STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT***

Students who have displayed significant achievements during the course of the year are recognized for their accomplishments. Areas that may merit recognition include but are not limited to academics, athletics, performing arts, citizenship, and volunteerism. Recognition for such activities is initiated by the staff and coordinated by the Student Council. Rewards may include:

- P.R.I.D.E. – Core values drawings and prizes
- VIP
- Fun Friday (In October and December, all students participate. To participate in all other Fun Friday events, or “work” at the events, students must be passing all classes and have no major discipline for that month)
- Awards Assemblies

### **Honor Roll(s)**

At the end of each quarter, an honor roll will be compiled for filing, posting, and publication. The purpose of Honor Roll is to give recognition to those students of Kalkaska Middle School who have done outstanding work during that marking period. To be on the Honor Roll, a student must have a 3.0 GPA.

### **Athletic Awards**

Requirements for athletic awards are developed by each head coach with the approval of the Athletic Director. These requirements will be reviewed with interested students by the appropriate coach.

*Reference 5451A*

### ***HOMEWORK***

The assignment of homework can be expected. Student grades will reflect the completion of all work, including outside assignments. Homework is also part of the student's preparation for the State mandated test and graduation.

*Reference 2330*

### ***FIELD TRIPS***

Field trips are academic activities that are held off school grounds. There are also other trips that are part of the school's co-curricular and extracurricular program. No student may participate in any school-sponsored trip without parental consent. Field trip participation may be tied to

trips.

*Reference 2340/2340A*

### ***LUNCH LAB***

Lunch Lab is required for students with missing assignments. They will report to an assigned teacher and be sent to eat lunch at the appropriate time. Students who skip the lunch lab will be assigned a lunch detention. Students who continue to skip lunch lab will be assigned in-school suspension.

### ***COMPUTER TECHNOLOGY AND NETWORKS***

Before any student may take advantage of the School's computer network and the internet, s/he and his/her parents must sign an agreement which defines the conditions under which the student may participate. Failure to abide by all of the terms of the agreement may lead to termination of the student's computer account and possible disciplinary action as outlined in the Student Code of Conduct or referral to law enforcement authorities. Copies of the School District's *Student Network and Internet Acceptable Use and Safety Policy* and the requisite student and parent agreement will be distributed upon enrollment. This form is also available on the District's website. Students must complete a training session/program regarding the appropriate use of technology and online safety and security as specified in Policy 7540.03 – Student Network and Internet Acceptable Use and Safety before being permitted to access the Network and/or being assigned an email address.

*Reference 7540/7540.03 F1*

### ***STUDENT ASSESSMENT***

An important part of an education is learning about oneself. Students can learn more about themselves by taking part in the testing program made available to them. These tests assist students in evaluating progress and planning for their futures. We recommend testing to students interested in self-evaluation, college entrance, or scholarships.

Month	Grade(s)	Assessment
September	6,7,8	AimsWeb Plus – Math, Reading, Writing NWEA – Math, Reading, Language Use, and Science
May	6,7,8	NWEA – Math, Reading, Language Use, and Science
Fall and Spring	8	PSAT8
April/May	6,7,8	MSTEP – State Mandated Testing
May	6,7,8	AimsWeb Plus – Math, Reading, Writing

Additional group tests are given to students to monitor progress and determine educational mastery levels. These tests are used to help the staff determine instructional needs. Classroom tests will be used to assess student progress and assign grades. These are selected or prepared by teachers to assess how well the students have achieved specific objectives. *Reference 2623*

Students are encouraged to participate in clubs, organizations, and sports available for entertainment and enlightenment. The faculty and Student Council welcome suggestions from the student body that promote the established activities, and for developing new ideas by students with common interests.

### **ATHLETICS**

Kalkaska Middle School provides a variety of athletic activities in which students may participate provided they meet all eligibility requirements that may apply.

The following sports are offered based on participation/interest:	
Football currently 7 <sup>th</sup> & 8 <sup>th</sup>	Basketball currently 7 <sup>th</sup> & 8 <sup>th</sup>
Cross Country 6 <sup>th</sup> , 7 <sup>th</sup> & 8 <sup>th</sup>	Wrestling (club)
Girls Volleyball currently 7 <sup>th</sup> & 8 <sup>th</sup>	Track & Field 6 <sup>th</sup> , 7 <sup>th</sup> & 8 <sup>th</sup>
Soccer (club)	Girls Softball 6 <sup>th</sup> , 7 <sup>th</sup> & 8 <sup>th</sup>

### **Philosophy of Athletics**

Athletics are an important part of the total educational program of Kalkaska Public Schools. The benefits from athletic competition are invaluable to the future development of our youth. At the middle school level, we encourage participation and experiences in a variety of activities, with success built on positive experiences beyond winning Athletic participation is a privilege granted to our students, and as with any privilege, certain obligations and responsibilities must be accepted. Our athletic program provides an opportunity for students to grow physically, emotionally, and socially.

All athletic programs of the District shall comply with the policies and protocols of the Michigan High School Athletic Association, the requirements of state law, and Department of Community Health guidelines regarding concussion awareness training and protection of youth athletes. *Reference 2431*

For further information you may contact the Kalkaska Public Schools Athletics Office at (231) 258-9167.

### **Sportsmanship**

Kalkaska Public Schools, along with partnering schools in the Michigan High School Athletic Association, is committed to sportsmanship. We understand this to include respect, responsibility, and restraint. It is citizenship in action. It is important to both our school and our community that KPS athletes, teams, and spectators (adults as well as students) show good sportsmanship at all times. KPS encourages everyone to keep interscholastic athletics in perspective and reserves the right to take necessary action to ensure a safe, respectful, fan-friendly experience for all involved.

Student-athletes at Kalkaska Public Schools, and their families, will experience many rewarding moments. There may also be times of controversy. An open line of communication between all parties is essential. Any concerns should be addressed as follows:

1. Athlete and coach
2. Parent and coach - Please call to set up an appointment
3. Parent and Director of Athletics

The concern(s) should be addressed no sooner than the day following the situation causing concern, unless the situation is one of emergency health or safety. This “24-hour Rule” allows for all parties to have time to reflect on the events in question, and fosters a more productive and respectful interaction between all parties involved.

### **Michigan High School Athletic Association**

Kalkaska Public Schools is a voluntary member of the MHSAA, the governing body of high school and middle school sports in the state of Michigan. Kalkaska Middle School agrees to abide by, and enforce all rules and regulations promulgated by the MHSAA.

#### ***MHSAA ESSENTIAL ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS***

**Enrollment-** A student may only play for the school they are enrolled in. To be eligible for interscholastic athletics, a student must:

1. For the first semester of the school year, be enrolled at Kalkaska Middle School no later than the 4th Friday after Labor Day.
2. For the second semester of the school year, be enrolled at Kalkaska Middle School no later than the 4th Friday of February.
3. Unless a specific exemption is approved, a student must be enrolled in and receiving current credit (courses awaiting grades for credit) in at least 50 percent of his/her current course load in the school for which they participate.

**Transfer Students-** Please contact the Athletic Director immediately to determine eligibility status for Kalkaska Middle School sports.

**Physical Exams-** Prior to participation in a tryout, practice, or competition in any MHSAA-sanctioned sport, every student must submit a statement from an MD, DO, Nurse Practitioner, or Physician's Assistant that they are physically able to compete in athletic tryouts, practices, and contests, and also provide consent to disclosure of information otherwise prohibited by HIPAA and FERPA laws. These statements must be on file in the appropriate school and must be for the current school year, not necessarily in conjunction with the insurance year. The earliest date that a physical can be dated for use in the coming school year is April 15th. The physical must be on file before a student-athlete can participate.

**Limited Team Membership-** A student who participates in an interscholastic scrimmage or contest as a

member of a school-sponsored team and then participates in any athletic competition not sponsored by his or her school in the same sport during the same season, shall become ineligible for a minimum of the next two (2) days of competition and a maximum of the remainder of that season in that school year.

1. Football shall apply the limited team membership rule from the point of a student's first participation in a practice with the school team.
2. In all sports except football, during the middle school season (from a student's first participation in a contest or scrimmage until the last day of competition for that student), a member of the school team in that sport may participate in a maximum of two (2) events not sponsored by his or her school in that sport while not representing his or her school. An event held on not more than three (3) consecutive calendar days is considered a single event (for the purposes of this subsection only).
3. All questions about participation in so-called "All-Star" teams, USA National Teams, an Olympic Development Program, or teams competing in so-called "national championships" for middle school should be directed to the Athletic Director for further information and clarification.

#### ***PARTICIPATION***

1. **Daily Attendance-** Any student who participates in any activity or event must be in school by 8:00 a.m. on the day of the event in order to participate. Any student who is absent during the entire school day is not eligible to participate in, or attend any school activities that evening. Exceptions include a doctor's appointment with a note, or family bereavement. Exceptions must be pre arranged with the Athletic Department.
2. **Saturday Events-** Students must be fully in attendance at school from 8:00 a.m. onward on the scheduled school day before a Saturday event to be eligible to participate.
3. **Return of Previously Issued Gear-** Athletes who have not turned in all school-issued equipment and/or apparel from a previous sports season will not be eligible for any further sports participation, either practice or games, until the missing gear has been turned in.
4. **Suspended Athletes-** Students who have been issued an In-School or Out-of-School suspension from school for disciplinary reasons are not to attend practice, or attend athletic competitions of any kind until they are reinstated in school. Those suspended on Friday may not participate in weekend events.
5. **School Team Membership and Cuts-** At the middle school level we encourage participation in sports and activities, and will avoid cutting prospective athletes from a team. Teams are formed in grade-level cohort groups, or mixed-grade groups at the middle school level. If the number of athletes participating on a team supports the creation of an additional team, the Athletic Director will determine the feasibility and take steps to form teams if feasible and viable.
6. **Switching Sports Teams-** An athlete may switch from one sport to another by mutual consent of both coaches involved, and with parental consent, prior to any competitions being held.

7. **Returning from Injury-** When an athlete sustains an injury requiring medical attention from a



health care provider, a signed statement from the doctor allowing the athlete to return to participation must be presented to the Athletic Director. If the injury is concussion-related, it must also be accompanied by the requisite MHSAA Return to Activity & Post-Concussion Consent Form following successful completion of the concussion protocol.

8. **Pay to Participate-** Kalkaska Athletics has Pay-to-Participate in middle school sports to help defray the costs of uniforms, equipment, tournament fees, facilities, game workers, and sports officials. All middle school athletes must pay \$25 per season, per sport. This fee must be **paid in full** before the first competition of the season. Athletes will remain ineligible until this fee is paid. Athletes who are unable to pay this fee due to financial concerns should contact the Athletics Office to discuss alternative arrangements.

### ***ACADEMIC ELIGIBILITY***

Each student participating in a school sponsored athletic program will be evaluated in regard to academic eligibility.

1. **Previous Academic Record-** Prior to the season beginning, eligibility will be checked based on the previous semester's grades (except for incoming 6th graders). Students must have passed 4 of 6 classes in the previous semester in order to be eligible to participate on a sports team. Students who failed 3 or more classes in the previous semester, must sit out of participation for the next 60 scheduled school days.
2. **Current Academic Record-** During the sports season, students' grades will be checked every other Monday morning, beginning with the second full week of each sports season. All students with any "F" letter grade will be placed on a warning list and the Athletic Department will make contact with the student, parent, and coach to advise of a plan for grade improvement.
3. **Grace Period and Eligibility-** The student will have a one week "grace period" to restore academic standing. If the student is not passing all classes after the "grace period", that student will be immediately ineligible until they are passing all classes. Students are only allowed one "grace period" per sport season; any additional failing grades on the bi-weekly check will result in immediate ineligibility until all grades are passing.
4. **Eligibility and Team Travel-** Ineligible students may not leave during school hours to travel with the team or group.

### ***ATHLETE CODE OF CONDUCT***

As mentioned in our Philosophy of Athletics, interscholastic athletic participation is a privilege granted to our students. As with any privilege, certain obligations and responsibilities must be accepted.

1. **Code of Conduct Agreement-** All students who participate in extracurricular activities will be required to sign a Code of Conduct Agreement prior to each season. Any athlete found in violation of the agreement will be penalized as follows:

- a. **First Violation-** Loss of the privilege to participate on the next regularly scheduled date

of competition, or be on school property during the event;

b. **Additional Violation(s)**- Disqualification from all remaining participation during that competitive season.

**2. Training Rules and Regulations-** Student athletes are subject to the following, which are in effect year around, on a twelve-month basis:

a. **Substance Abuse-** Use, possession, concealment, paraphernalia related to, or being under the influence of the following (but not limited to) is forbidden:

- Alcohol
- Tobacco (any substance containing nicotine)
- Marijuana (any substance containing THC)
- Any controlled substance not prescribed to the athlete
- Illegal drugs
- Performance-enhancing substances (steroids, human growth hormones, etc.)
- Inhalants/electronic cigarettes or vaping devices

b. **Confirmation of Substance Abuse-** Any of the following is considered confirmation:

i. Athlete admits the offense to a coach, administrator, or staff member.

ii. Notification received from any one of the following sources:

- (1) law enforcement agency,
- (2) court,
- (3) KPS staff member,
- (4) adult with a signed complaint.

iii. When the school investigates an accusation and determines evidence to confirm (all due process has occurred including the right to confront the accuser).

c. **Penalties for Substance Abuse-** The following disciplinary guidelines will be used whenever a student athlete has been confirmed of engaging in substance abuse

i. **First Violation-** After confirmation of the first violation (admission, evidence discovered upon investigation, notification by law enforcement, court) the student athlete will be suspended for 30% of the regularly scheduled athletic competition dates. If not enough time remains in the activity to satisfy the penalty, it will carry over to the next sport season as determined by the Athletic Director.

ii. **Second Violation-** After confirmation of the second violation, the student athlete will be suspended from one (1) complete sport season the athlete is involved in (Fall, Winter, Spring). If not enough time remains in the activity to satisfy the penalty, it will carry over to the next sport season as determined by the Athletic Director.

iii. **Third Violation-** After confirmation of the third violation, the student athlete will be suspended from athletic competition for the remainder of his/her middle school career, and it will carry over to the high school as determined by the Athletic Director.

**d. Team-specific Training Rules-** Head coaches have the authority to develop additional

rules and regulations for their team, provided they are approved by the Athletic Director prior to the start of the season. Rules are to be given to athletes and parents in written form, along with penalties for violations. Penalties are to be imposed at the discretion of the head coach and may include a form of suspension.

**3. Conduct Unbecoming of an Athlete-** Any illegal or disgraceful behavior that results in arrest or conviction, or behavior that reflects in a seriously degrading fashion against our athletic program and accepted standards of conduct.

**a. Ineligible to Compete-** After investigation, a student athlete cited for engaging in Conduct Unbecoming of an Athlete will receive a suspension of 30 percent of the total number of regularly scheduled competition dates of a sport in which the athlete participates.

The school may impose a longer suspension depending on individual circumstances. The technicality of having charges dropped or reduced by a civil authority does not automatically clear the student-athlete from these rules; school investigation and findings will prevail over legal findings.

**b. Permanent Suspension-** Disgraceful behavior that may result in permanent suspension from athletics shall include, but not be limited to a serious violation by an athlete when in uniform, or going to/coming from a game. Serious illegal activities or felonies that result in arrest or conviction will result in a suspension from athletics for twelve calendar months from the suspension decision, meaning that the athlete cannot participate in Kalkaska Athletics in any form for the duration of the suspension. A longer suspension from athletics may be imposed by the athletic director and/or building principal.

**c. Ability to Practice-** Athletes will be expected to participate in practice sessions during any disciplinary suspension involving the above training rules, except in suspensions of one calendar year. All discipline involving an athlete for violation of these training rules or practice expectations will be handled by the coach in communication with the athletic director and building principal.

**4. Athletic Appeal Process and Athletic Council-** The athlete or parents of the athlete can make an appeal of a suspension, by contacting the Director of Athletics **within two business days of notification**. An appeal will consist of a meeting with the Athletic Council, the athlete and the athlete's parents or guardian. If the athlete is not satisfied with the Athletic Council's decision, he/she shall have the right to appeal to the Board of Education.

The Athletic Council shall consist of the Superintendent, Middle School Principal, Middle School Guidance Counselor, and two Kalkaska athletic coaches. The Principal will be the chairperson of the Council and will conduct the meeting. A quorum shall consist of a simple majority of the members present. The Council may:

- a) Uphold penalties imposed by the training rules.
- b) Uphold penalties with reduced length of suspension time.
- c) Grant probation, if warranted.

- d) Grant immediate reinstatement of all privileges.

Note - In cases where there is no written rule to cover a specific situation, the Athletic Director/or middle school administrator will act in his/her own best judgment in light of the circumstance involved.

### **Transportation for Athletic Events**

Interscholastic sports are an extra commitment outside of traditional school time and may, at times, require parental commitment of time and transportation for a child to successfully participate. Kalkaska Public Schools will provide team transit to sports competitions when possible. Athletes are required to ride with their team to all events when district-provided transportation is available. When unavailable, the following guidelines apply to the private transport of student athletes:

1. Any such transportation must be approved in advance and in writing (see Form 8660 F1).
2. The parent of the participating student must provide consent for their student to be transported by a private vehicle. (see Form 8660 F2)
3. The parent of the participating student will be given, upon request, the name of the driver and the description of the vehicle (see Form 8660 F2).
4. The driver of the private vehicle must be:
  - a. A Kalkaska Public Schools employee, or...
  - b. An approved volunteer, or...
  - c. The parent of a student enrolled in this district, and...
  - d. The holder of a currently-valid license to operate a motor vehicle in the State of Michigan, and the holder of automobile liability and personal injury insurance in the amount required by District administrative guidelines.
5. Any private vehicle used for the transportation of students must be owned by the approved driver (or their spouse) and must conform to registration requirements of the State.
6. The head coach must verify with the driver that the private vehicle:
  - a) Has a safety belt for each passenger.
  - b) The driver has a valid operator's license in this state.
  - c) Each student's parent has provided written consent.
  - d) The vehicle is in proper operating condition.
  - e) No hazardous road conditions on the itinerary are forecast.
  - f) Proper transportation has been arranged for each student upon return to the school.
  - g) No person other than the driver will be driving the vehicle during the trip.
7. For the parent(s) wishing to transport their own student athlete back from an away competition in which the district provided transportation to the venue, they must notify the head coach prior to the event and sign their student out on a "Transportation Variance Form" (see Form 8660 F3).

This insurance program is through First Agency, Inc. in Kalamazoo, Michigan. The program is intended to pay medical expenses incurred within one (1) year from the date of incident. Payment of all medical bills incurred from accidents is made **ONLY IN EXCESS** over any other family or employer group coverage or plan that must contribute its maximum before this program has any liability. This means your personal policy pays, and then the school policy makes up the difference. Insurance will only pay 70% with no deductible.

Procedures for all claims must be addressed as follows:

- The athlete must notify his / her coach of ALL injuries ASAP.
- The athlete, coach, & parent **MUST** fill out an accident form within 90 days and submit to the athletic office or the claim will be denied by the insurance company.
- After the athlete has gone to the doctor of his/her choice, the family's personal insurance company is to be billed first.
- All bills unpaid by the family's personal insurance policy are to be submitted to the First Agency, Inc. by the parent / guardian.

### **Section 5: SCHOOL SPONSORED CLUBS AND ACTIVITIES**

Kalkaska Middle School provides students the opportunity to broaden their learning through curricular related activities. The purpose of these clubs is to establish and promote cooperation and mutual respect among students, faculty, and administration through the implementation of democratic principles and procedures. It also strives to strengthen school spirit and to keep open the lines of communication among anyone interested in the operations of the school. The Board authorizes many student groups that are sponsored by a staff member.

Authorized groups include:

Student Council – Elections are held in the fall and spring. Good leadership skills are stressed for the elections. All school activities run through the Student Council. Character is an important consideration in the Student Council, and candidates and members must demonstrate integrity and honesty.

National Junior Honor Society – Applications are made to NJHS each spring, and students are accepted based on their GPA (3.25 or higher), community service, and citizenship. Character is an important consideration in the NJHS, and candidates and members must demonstrate integrity and honesty.

Other middle school clubs include, but are not limited to: Chess Club, Robotics, Fuel Up to Play 60, and Peer to Peer.

Extra-curricular activities do not reflect the School curriculum but are made available to students to allow them to pursue additional worthwhile activities such as recreational sports, drama, and the like.

All students are permitted to participate in the activities of their choosing, as long as they meet the eligibility requirements. *Reference 2430*

### **NON-SCHOOL SPONSORED CLUBS AND ACTIVITIES**

Non-school sponsored student groups organized for religious, political, or philosophical reasons may meet during non-instructional hours. The application for permission can be obtained from the Principal. The applicant must verify that the activity is being initiated by students, that attendance is voluntary, that no school staff person is actively involved in the event, that the event will not interfere with school activities and that non-school persons do not play a regular role in the event. All school rules will still apply regarding behavior and equal opportunity to participate.

No non-district sponsored organization may use the name of the school or school mascot.

## **SECTION 5: STUDENT ATTENDANCE AND CONDUCT**

### ***ATTENDANCE POLICY***

It is imperative that students be in attendance each school day in order not to miss a significant portion of their education. Important learning results from active participation in classroom and other school activities which cannot be replaced by individual study.

Attendance is important in the development of a high quality work ethic which will be a significant factor in a student's success with future employers. One of the most important work habits that employers look for in hiring and promoting a worker is his/her dependability in coming to work every day and being on time. This is a habit the School wants to help students develop as early as possible in their school careers.

*Reference 5200*

### ***TRUANCY***

Excessive absences from school (truancy) are not acceptable. Students who are truant are required to make up any school work that is missed, at the discretion of the classroom teacher. After 10 days of any type of absence, a student will be considered a "habitual truant" which may result in:

- a poor work-ethic grade which will become a part of the student's permanent record;
- a letter being sent to parent(s)/guardian(s)
- a report to local authorities;
- a hearing before a judge in a court of law.

### ***NOTIFICATION OF ABSENCE***

Students absent from school for one or more of the following reasons and will be provided an opportunity to make-up missed school work and/or tests:

- illness
- recovery from accident
- required court attendance
- professional appointments

- death in the immediate family
- observation or celebration of a bona fide religious holiday
- such other good cause as may be acceptable to the Principal

Students with a health condition that causes repeated absence are to provide the school office with an explanation of the condition from a registered physician. Any consecutive or non-consecutive absence after ten (10) days due to illness will require a physician's note.

If a student is going to be absent, the parents must contact the school at (231)258-4040 by 8:00 a.m. and provide an explanation. If prior contact is not possible, the parents should provide a written note as soon as possible. Parent contact will be noted in their child's attendance record. If the absence of a student appears to be questionable or excessive, the school staff will try to help parents improve their child's attendance. The skipping of classes or any part of the school day is considered an unexcused absence and no make-up of class work will be permitted. Disciplinary action will follow.

#### ***SUSPENSION FROM SCHOOL***

Absence from school due to suspension shall be considered an authorized absence, neither excused nor unexcused. A suspended student will be responsible for making up school work lost due to suspension.

*Reference 5610*

#### ***MAKE-UP OF SCHOOL WORK***

It is the responsibility of the student to obtain missed assignments upon their return to school. **It is possible that certain kinds of school work such as labs or skill practice sessions cannot be made up and, as a result, may negatively impact a student's grade.** The time a student has to complete the make-up work will be determined by the teacher, but may not exceed one week after his/her return. **Students who have unexcused absences forfeit their right to make up their missed work.**

Teachers are not required to give assignments prior to or during an absence. If a student is absent, or scheduled to be absent for 3 or more school days, parents can request that teachers send the student's make-up work to the office. If such a request is made, parents must pick the work up by 3:30 p.m. of the agreed upon day, and the student must complete the work and hand it in upon their return to school. Failure to pick up, complete, and hand in "gathered" work may result in zeros for those assignments.

Missed tests and quizzes can be made up upon the student's return.

It is recommended that students who are absent attend after school tutoring upon their return for help with making up work and instruction they missed.

Each student is expected to be in his/her assigned location throughout the school day. If a student is late in arriving at school, s/he is to report to the school office before proceeding to his/her first assigned location. **Any student who is 5 minutes or less late shall be considered Tardy, and will be addressed by the teacher.** Students who are more than 10 minutes late for 1st hour, or 5 minutes late for any other class, without an excused slip from the office will be considered absent for that instructional period.

**Parents should call the office or give their student a note if the tardy is to be excused. Each student will be allowed three excused tardies per semester.** Parents will be notified by phone daily if their student has an unexcused tardy. Punctuality is imperative for academic success. Consequences for students with excessive tardies will be addressed by staff and administration with a continuum of responses including, but not limited to: tardy sweeps, loss of free time, detention, restorative practices, short or long term loss of pass privileges, etc.

### ***CLASSROOM PASSES***

All classrooms will use the Smart Pass digital hall pass system:

- Only one student is allowed to leave a classroom with the pass at a time.
- No passes will be given in the first or last 10 minutes of class.
- Students must carry a pass when in the hallway during the class. Having no pass will result in being sent back to class.
- Students with recorded health issues ON FILE may be exempt. Parents should make sure staff is properly notified of health conditions.
- Teachers may limit the number of passes that are issued throughout the class period, quarter, or semester.

### ***FOOD OR BEVERAGES IN CLASS***

Food is not permitted in the classrooms unless permission is given by the classroom teacher.

Beverages (with teacher permission) are permitted in the classroom:

- WATER only (no additives).
- Screw-on tops only for the container.
- Students cannot bring pop, coffee, cappuccino, lattes, Gatorade, Powerade, etc. to drink in the hallways, classrooms, or lobby. They may drink these items in the cafeteria or outside.
- Consequence for violation of Drinks = Drink will be taken away and dumped out.
- No Energy Drinks (i.e. Monster, Rock Star, etc.) will be allowed at any time.

### ***VACATIONS DURING THE SCHOOL YEAR***

Parents are encouraged not to take their child out of school for vacations. When a family vacation must be scheduled during the school year, the student should pick up a family vacation form from the office. This should be filled out by the parent, taken to each teacher, and then to the principal for approval. It



may be possible for the student to receive certain assignments that are to be completed during the trip. Approved vacations will not count toward truancy, and students will be allowed to make up missed work.

### ***AFTER SCHOOL ACTIVITIES***

The school encourages students to attend as many school events held after school as possible without interfering with their school work and home activities. Enthusiastic spectators help to build school spirit and encourage those students who are participating in the event.

To ensure that students attending evening events as nonparticipants are properly supervised, they must attend the events with an adult. Students are not allowed in the building after school hours without adult supervision.

The school will continue to provide adequate supervision for all students who are participants in a School activity. Students must comply with the Code of Conduct at school events, regardless of the location.

### ***SCHOOL BUS/KPTA BUS CONDUCT***

Students who are riding to and from school on transportation provided by the school or KPTA are required to follow all basic safety rules. This applies to school-owned buses as well as any contracted transportation.

Students that are 10 years of age or younger cannot be left alone at a bus stop without a parent or guardian. If you are not able to meet the bus at the appropriate time, other arrangements should be made through the school and the student can be kept off the bus to allow for a different mode of transportation home. Always plan on being at the bus stop ten (10) minutes before the normal time. This will ensure that you will be there in the case that the bus may be arriving early.

Most of our buses are at capacity and have waiting lists. After seven (7) consecutive school days of not riding the bus, students will lose their spot on the bus and be removed from the roster. If a student wants to get back on the roster, please notify the Transportation Department and the student will be put on a waiting list. If a student is sick or has circumstances that may prevent them from riding the bus for seven (7) consecutive school days, please call the Transportation Department and let us know the circumstances and the student's seat on the bus will be reserved.

It is the parent's responsibility to inform the bus driver when their child will not be aboard school or KPTA transportation. Drivers will not wait for students who are not at their designated stops on time.

**If your student is not a regularly scheduled bus rider, you must contact the bus garage or KPTA to arrange for your child to ride as a guest.**

- Students should be at the bus stop early. Waiting for students to come from inside the house adds more time to the route. The bus driver may not see you running for the bus if you are late and you could slip and fall under the wheels.
- Wait for the bus in a safe place, away from the road. A car could hit you if you are too close to the road. Wait until the bus stops and for the driver's signal before walking to the bus.
- No student is to enter or leave the bus until it has come to a complete stop.

- Students should enter and leave the bus carefully, using the handrail to avoid slipping and falling.
- Each student shall be seated immediately upon entering the bus. Students are not to stand or move from place to place. Students are to stay seated at all times and face forward with your legs out of the aisle.
- Indecent conduct, disruptive behavior, loud, or profane language will not be permitted.
- Students should sit quietly in their seats and speak quietly to others near them. Do NOT jump up and down, fight or tease other passengers, yell, or shout on the bus.
- Students are not to behave in any manner that infringes upon the rights of any other student, which includes threats or any form or type of bullying.
- Students are not to throw objects of any kind on the bus or out the windows. All parts of the body shall remain inside the bus at all times.
- Absolutely no tobacco, alcohol, or illegal drugs will be allowed on the bus.
- Students should gather their belongings and be ready to depart before the bus arrives at their stop.
- Stay away from the bus if you drop or forget something. NEVER go back to pick up something in the road; get an adult to get it for you. If you forget something on the bus, you can always get it later.
- Before riding a bus other than the assigned bus, parent/guardian should call the Transportation Department to be sure there is room on the bus. Students must have a signed note from their parent/guardian stating their destination. Students in grades K-8 should have their parent/guardian contact their school office for dismissal purposes. When students arrive at the bus they should identify themselves and give the note to the driver.
- Students will not be permitted to bring such items as skateboards, radios, jam boxes, balloons, sleds, or glass objects on the bus. No object can be in the aisle; it must be on the students lap or under their seat. Any other object deemed to be unsafe cargo on the bus will be denied. The driver will have authority to deny transportation of a student with such articles in his/her possession. The driver and/or the school bear no responsibility for lost, stolen, or damaged items brought onto the bus.
- There is no eating allowed on the bus.
- The privilege of riding the school bus may be denied to any student who does not conduct himself or herself in a safe and orderly fashion. School bus drivers and administration will determine what is safe and orderly. See above. The bus driver reserves the right to assign seats for any or all students on the bus.
- The driver will not discharge students at places other than their regular stop unless he/she has proper authorization.

## **VIDEOTAPES ON BUSES**

The Board of Education has installed video cameras on school buses to monitor student behavior. Actual videotaping of the students on any particular bus will be done on a random-selection basis.

If a student misbehaves on a bus and his/her actions are recorded on a videotape, the tape will be submitted to the principal and may be used as evidence of the misbehavior. Since these tapes are considered part of a student's record, they can be viewed only in accordance with Federal law.

## **PENALTIES FOR INFRACTIONS**

A student who misbehaves on the bus shall be disciplined in accordance with the Student Discipline Code and may lose the privilege of riding on the bus.

### ***SCHOOL BUS/KPTA AS AN EXTENSION OF SCHOOL GROUNDS***

Any bus (KPTA, School Owned, or otherwise) assigned to a school and in transit to or from the school shall be considered an extension of the grounds of the school. The principal may take such action with reference to any misconduct upon the bus, or any violation of the driver's instructions, as a principal might take if the misconduct or violation had occurred upon the grounds of the school.

## **SECTION 6: HEALTH AND SAFETY**

### ***STUDENT WELL-BEING***

Student safety is a responsibility of the staff. All staff members are familiar with emergency procedures such as fire, lockdown and tornado drills and accident reporting procedures. Should a student be aware of any dangerous situation or accident, s/he must notify any staff person immediately.

State law requires that all students must have an emergency medical card completed, signed by a parent or guardian, and filed in the School office. A student may be excluded from school until this requirement has been fulfilled. Students with specific health care needs should deliver written notice about such needs along with proper documentation by a physician to the School Office.

### ***INJURY AND ILLNESS***

All injuries must be reported to a teacher or the office. If minor, the student will be treated and may return to class. If the office determines medical attention is required, the office will follow the School's emergency procedures. A student who becomes ill during the school day should request permission to go to the office. An appropriate adult in the office will determine whether or not the student should remain in school or go home. No student will be released from school without proper parental permission.

*Reference 5340A*

### ***IMMUNIZATIONS***

Students must be current with all immunizations required by law or have an authorized waiver from State immunization requirements. If a student does not have the necessary shots or waivers, the principal may remove the student or require compliance with a set deadline. This is for the safety of all students and in accordance with State law. Any questions about immunizations or waivers should be directed to the Kalkaska Health Department.

*Reference 5320*

### ***EMERGENCY MEDICAL AUTHORIZATION***

The Board has established a policy that every student must have an Emergency Medical Authorization Form completed and signed by his/her parent/guardian in order to participate in any activity off school grounds. This includes field trips, spectator trips, athletic and other extracurricular activities, and co curricular activities.

The Emergency Medical Authorization Form is provided at the time of enrollment and at the beginning of each year. Failure to return the completed form to the school will jeopardize a student's educational program.

*Reference 5341*

### ***USE OF MEDICATIONS***

In those circumstances where a student must take prescribed medication during the school day, the following guidelines are to be observed:

- A. Parents should, with their physician's counsel, determine whether the medication schedule can be adjusted to avoid administering medication during school hours.
- B. The Medication Request and Authorization Form 5330 F1, F1a, F1b, and F1c must be filed with the respective building principal before the student will be allowed to begin taking any medication during school hours.
- C. All medications must be registered with the principal's office.
- D. Medication that is brought to the office will be properly secured.
  - 1. Medication may be conveyed to school directly by the parent or transported by transportation personnel (bus driver and/or bus aide) at parental request. This should be arranged in advance. A two to four (2-4) week supply of medication is recommended.
  - 2. Medication **MAY NOT** be sent to school in a student's lunch box, pocket, or other means on or about his/her person, except for emergency medications for allergies and/or reactions.
- E. Any unused medication unclaimed by the parent will be destroyed by school personnel when a prescription is no longer to be administered or at the end of a school year.
- F. The parents shall have sole responsibility to instruct their child to take the medication at the scheduled time, and the child has the responsibility for both presenting himself/herself on time and for taking the prescribed medication.
- G. A log for each prescribed medication shall be maintained which will note the personnel giving the medication, the date, and the time of day. This log will be maintained along with the physician's written instructions and the parent's written permission release.

*Reference 5330/5330 F1/5330 F1a/5330 F1b/5330 F1c*

### ***ASTHMA INHALERS AND EPI-PENS***

Students, with appropriate written permission from the physician and parent, may possess and use a metered dose inhaler or dry powder inhaler to alleviate asthmatic symptoms. Epinephrine (Epi-pen) is administered only in accordance with a written medication administration plan developed by the school principal and updated annually.

*Reference 5330*

### ***NON-PRESCRIBED (OVER-THE-COUNTER) MEDICATIONS***

Parents may authorize the school to administer a non-prescribed medication using a form which is available at the school office. A physician does not have to authorize such medication but all of the other conditions described above under prescribed medications will also apply to non-prescribed medications. The student may be authorized on the request form by his/her parent to self-administer the medication in the presence of a school staff member. No other exceptions will be made to these requirements. If a student is found using or possessing a non-prescribed medication without parent authorization, s/he will be brought to the school office and the parents will be contacted for authorization. The medication will be confiscated until authorization is received.

Any student who distributes a medication of any kind to another student or is found to possess a medication other than the one authorized is in violation of the school's Code of Conduct and will be disciplined in accordance with the drug-use provision of the Code.

Before any prescribed medication or treatment may be administered to any student during school hours, the Board shall require the written prescription and instructions from the child's physician accompanied by the written authorization of the parent. Both must also authorize any self-medication by the student. Before any non prescribed medication or treatment may be administered, the Board shall require the prior written consent of the parent along with a waiver of any liability of the District for the administration of the medication. The parent must also authorize any self-medication by his/her child. *Reference 5330*

## **SECTION 7: CODE OF CONDUCT**

A major component of the educational program of Kalkaska Middle School is to prepare students to become responsible workers and citizens by learning how to conduct themselves properly and in accordance with established standards.

*Reference 5600*Expected Behaviors

Each student shall be expected to:

- abide by national, State, and local laws as well as the rules of the school;
- respect the civil rights of others;

- act courteously to adults and fellow students;

32

- be prompt to school and attentive in class;
- work cooperatively with others when involved in accomplishing a common goal, regardless of the other's ability, gender, race, religion, height, weight, disability, or ethnic background;
- complete assigned tasks on time and as directed;
- help maintain a school environment that is safe, friendly, and productive;
- act at all times in a manner that reflects pride in self, family, and in the school.

### ***DRESS CODE***

Students are encouraged to wear clothing that represents themselves and shares messages in a positive light. While fashions change, the reason for being in school does not. The focus should always be on creating a positive and safe environment in which students are in school focused on academics and citizenship. Students are to use discretion in their dress and are not permitted to wear items that cause a substantial disruption in the school environment

- Hats, bulky winter coats, sunglasses, blankets, other outdoor apparel, bags, backpacks, and purses should be stored in lockers during the school day.
- Hoods on sweatshirts, shirts, or cover ups must be worn down during school day hours.
- Student dress (including accessories) may not advertise, promote, or depict alcoholic beverages, tobacco, illegal substances, racially charged symbols, violent behavior, weapons, or other inappropriate images.
- Undergarment waistbands and straps acceptable.
- Clothing must be in good taste for the school setting.

Our Basic Principles:

Certain body parts must be covered for all students at all times. Clothes must be worn in a way such that buttocks, pelvic region, midriff and chest are fully covered with opaque fabric.

Students **MUST** wear:

- A shirt (with fabric in the front, back, and on the sides under the arms) AND
- Pants/Jeans or the equivalent (shirt, sweatpants, leggings, dress, shorts, etc) AND
- Shoes

The following clothing **DOES NOT** violate dress expectations:

Religious headwear \* Hoodie sweatshirts as long as the hood is off \* Leggings, yoga pants and "skinny jeans" \* Pajama pants \* Ripped jeans \* Tank tops with straps \* Athletic attire \* Visible waistbands on undergarments or visible straps on undergarments worn under other clothing.

The following clothing **VIOLATES** dress expectations:

\*Hats, hoods, bandanas, or other head coverings that are not religious in nature \* Racist messaging, images, or symbols (e.g. swastika, Confederate flag, etc) on all clothing and accessories \* Violent language, non-sportsman weapons or graphic images \* Images or language depicting/suggesting drugs, alcohol, vaping or paraphernalia (or an illegal item or activity) \* Bullet proof vest, body armor,

tactical gear, or facsimile \* Hate speech, profanity, pornography \* Images or language that create a

33

hostile or intimidating environment including but not limited to any protected classes as defined by board policy \* Any clothing that reveals visible undergarments (visible waistbands and visible straps are allowed) \* Swimsuits

Students with clothing, accessories, or hair that detract from the learning experience will be provided the opportunity to change or call home and have someone bring them suitable clothing. Repeated violation of the dress expectations can result in consequences. Exceptions exist and will be made on a case by case basis.

Students who are representing Kalkaska Middle School at an official function or public event may be required to follow specific dress requirements.

*Reference 5511*

#### ***CELL PHONES AND OTHER ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATION DEVICES***

- A student may possess a cellular telephone or other electronic communication devices (ECD) and electronic storage devices (ESD), including smart watches, in school, on school property, at after school activities, and at school-related functions. This is allowed, provided (that during school hours, school events, and on a school vehicle) its use is not disruptive or distracting to the educational process, the scheduled activity, or other participants. Cell phones and other ECD/ESD shall be turned off and locked in a locker during school hours from 8:00 a.m. - 3:05 p.m.

Cellular phones, smart watches, and ECD/ESD are prohibited:

- In the hallways between classes.
- Anytime a teacher, coach, or administrator directs devices to be turned off and stored out of sight.
- In locker rooms or restrooms
- For the viewing of movies, videos, etc.
- For Social Media use
- For playing non-school appropriate video games (Rated T, M, A, RP, or not rated)
- For videotaping and photographing, which are not permitted unless permission is given from an adult.

Violations of this policy may result in confiscation of the cellular telephone or communication device and/or disciplinary action up to suspension.

#### ***USE OF TECHNOLOGY***

Use of devices on the Kalkaska Public Schools network is a privilege that supports school appropriate learning. The consistent operation and maintenance of the computer network and equipment relies on users adhering to established guidelines. All students and parents must review the 1:1 Technology User Agreement found on the Kalkaska Public Schools website, and sign consent to that agreement on the

demographic page that is sent home at the beginning of each school year.

34

#### ***CARE OF PROPERTY***

Students are responsible for the care of their own personal property. The school will not be responsible for personal property. Valuables such as jewelry or irreplaceable items should not be brought to school. The school may confiscate such items and return them to the student's parents.

Damage to or loss of school equipment and facilities wastes taxpayers' money and undermines the school program. Therefore, if a student does damage to or loses school property, the student or his/her parents will be required to pay for the replacement or damage. If the damage or loss was intentional, the student will also be subject to discipline according to the Student Discipline Code.

*Reference 5513*

#### ***GANGS***

Gangs which initiate, advocate or promote activities which threaten the safety or well-being of persons or which are disruptive to the school environment are not tolerated.

Incidents involving initiations, hazing, intimidations or related activities which are likely to cause harm or personal degradation are prohibited.

Students wearing, carrying or displaying gang paraphernalia or exhibiting behaviors or gestures which symbolize gang membership or causing and/or participating in activities which are designed to intimidate another student will be disciplined. Prohibited gang paraphernalia will be specifically identified and posted by the building principal.

#### ***INTERVIEWS OF STUDENTS BY POLICE OR OTHER PUBLIC AGENCIES***

Police or other authorities should investigate alleged violations outside of school if at all possible. If an interview must occur and the principal concurs, the principal will attempt to notify the student's parents prior to any questioning, except in the case of child abuse. If the situation involves an alleged law violation, the parents are to be contacted before any questioning takes place. The principal may remain in the room during questioning. Should a student be taken into custody or removed from school, the principal will make every effort to contact the student's parents.

### **SECTION 8: DISCIPLINE**

It is important to remember that the school's rules apply going to and from school, at school, on school property, at school-sponsored events, and on school transportation. In some cases, a student can be suspended from school transportation for infractions of school bus rules.

Ultimately, it is the principal's responsibility to keep things orderly. In all cases, the School shall attempt to make discipline prompt and equitable and to have the consequence match the severity of the incident.



There may be school or class rules not mentioned in this handbook. The principal will have the right to use his or her discretion concerning discipline. If you need clarification, you may contact the principal.

### ***STUDENT DISCIPLINE CODE***

The Board of Education has adopted the following Student Discipline Code. The Code includes the types of misconduct that will subject a student to disciplinary action. The Board has also adopted the list of behaviors and the terms contained in the list.

It is the responsibility of the school staff and administration to provide a safe and orderly learning environment. History has shown that certain student actions are not compatible with a "safe" and "orderly" environment. Discipline is within the sound discretion of the School's staff and administration. Due process ensures that disciplinary action is imposed only after review of the facts and/or special circumstances of the situation. *Reference 5600A*

### ***EXPLANATION OF TERMS APPLYING TO THE STUDENT DISCIPLINE CODE***

(Organized by Rule Number)

Each of the behaviors described below may subject the student to disciplinary action including suspension and/or recommendation for an expulsion hearing from school.

#### **1. Use of drugs\***

A student's use or sale of a performance-enhancing substance is a violation that will affect the student's athletic eligibility and extracurricular participation.

The Department of Community Health periodically distributes to the District the list of banned drugs based on bylaw 31.2.3.1 of the National Collegiate Athletic Association. Use of any drugs or substances appearing on this list will affect the student's athletic and extracurricular participation.

- The school has a "Drug Free" zone that extends 1000 feet beyond the school boundaries as well as to any school activity and transportation. This means that any activity, possession, sale, distribution, or use of drugs, alcohol, fake drugs, steroids, inhalants, nicotine, marijuana, vapes, or look-alike drugs is prohibited. Attempted sale or distribution is also prohibited. If caught, law enforcement officials may be contacted. Sale also includes the possession or sale of over-the-counter medication to another student.
- The sale, distribution, possession, or use of drugs, alcohol, fake drugs, steroids, inhalants, nicotine, marijuana, vapes, or look-alike drugs that have a negative effect on the school environment is prohibited. Attempted sale or distribution is also prohibited. This includes nonalcoholic beers and wines and the like. Many drug abuse offenses are also felonies. Sale also includes the possession or sale of over-the-counter medication to another student. *\*Provide annually – 5330/5530F*

It is against school policy to have “look-alikes” or drug paraphernalia on school property. Look-alikes – a non-controlled substance which the person represents to be a controlled substance or represents to be of a nature, appearance or effect that will allow the recipient to display, sell, distribute, or use the substance as a controlled substance.

## **2. Use of Breath-Test Instruments**

The principal may arrange for a breath test for blood-alcohol to be conducted on a student whenever s/he has individualized reasonable suspicion to believe that a student has consumed an alcoholic beverage.

The student will be taken to a private administrative or instructional area on school property with at least one (1) other member of the teaching or administrative staff present as a witness to the test.

The purpose of the test is to determine whether or not the student has consumed an alcoholic beverage. The amount of consumption is not relevant, except where the student may need medical attention.

If the result indicates a violation of school rules as described in this handbook, the student will be disciplined in accordance with disciplinary procedures described in this handbook. If a student refuses to take the test, s/he will be advised that such denial will be considered an admission of alcohol use with the consequent discipline invoked. The student will then be given a second opportunity to take the test.

## **3. Use of tobacco, Nicotine, and Marijuana**

Smoking and other tobacco uses are a danger to a student's health and to the health of others. The school prohibits the sale, distribution, use, or possession of any form of tobacco, nicotine, marijuana, Juul, vaping products or electronic cigarettes or similar devices during school time or at any school activity. This prohibition also applies when going to and from school and at school bus stops. "Use of tobacco, etc." shall mean all uses of tobacco, nicotine, marijuana, including cigars, cigarettes, or pipe tobacco, chewing tobacco, snuff, vaping or any other matter or substance that contains tobacco, nicotine, or marijuana, in addition to papers used to roll cigarettes and lighters. The display of unlighted cigars, cigarettes, pipes, other "smoking" paraphernalia or tobacco products on one's person is also prohibited by this policy

## **4. Student disorder/demonstration**

Students will not be denied their rights to freedom of expression, but the expression may not infringe on the rights of others. Disruption of any school activity will not be allowed. If a student (or students) feels there is a need to organize some form of demonstration, s/he is encouraged to contact the Principal to discuss the proper way to plan such an activity

## **5. Possession of a weapon**

A weapon includes, but is not limited to, firearms, guns of any type whatsoever including air and gas

powered guns (whether loaded or unloaded), knives, razors, clubs, electric weapons, metallic knuckles, martial arts weapons, and explosives. It may also include any toy that is presented as a real weapon or reacted to as a real weapon. Criminal charges may be filed for this violation. Possession of a weapon may

37

subject a student to expulsion and possible permanent exclusion. It makes no difference whether or not the weapon belongs to someone else, unless the student can provide convincing evidence that the weapon was placed in the student's possession without his/her knowledge. If it can be confirmed that a weapon was brought on District property by a student other than the one who possessed the weapon, that student shall also be subject to the same disciplinary action.

State law may require that a student be permanently expelled from school, subject to a petition for possible reinstatement if s/he brings onto or has in his/her possession on school property or at a school related activity any of the following:

- any explosive, incendiary, or poison gas including bombs, grenades, rockets, missiles, mines, or device that can be converted into such a destructive item
- any cutting instrument consisting of a sharp blade over three (3) inches long fastened to a handle
- any similar object that is intended to invoke bodily harm or fear of bodily harm (e.g. air gun, blow-gun, toy gun, etc.)

#### **6. Use of an object as a weapon**

Any object that is used to threaten, harm, or harass another may be considered a weapon. This includes but is not limited to padlocks, pens, pencils, laser pointers, jewelry and so on. Intentional injury to another can be a felony and/or a cause for civil action.

#### **7. Knowledge of Dangerous Weapons or Threats of Violence**

Because the Board believes that students, staff members, and visitors are entitled to function in a safe school environment, students are required to report knowledge of dangerous weapons or threats of violence to the principal.

#### **8. Purposely setting a fire**

Anything, such as fire, that endangers school property and its occupants will not be tolerated. Arson is a felony.

#### **9. Physically assaulting a staff member/student/person associated with the District**

Physical assault at school against a District employee, volunteer, or contractor which may or may not cause injury may result in charges being filed. Physical assault is defined as "intentionally causing or attempting to cause physical harm to another through force or violence."

#### **10. Verbally threatening a staff member/student/person associated with the District**

Verbal assault at school against a District employee, volunteer, or contractor or making bomb threats or similar threats directed at a school building, property, or a school-related activity will be considered verbal assault. Verbal assault is a communicated intent to inflict physical or other harm on another person, with a present intent and ability to act on the threat.

## **11. Extortion**

38

Extortion is the use of threat, intimidation, force, or deception to take or receive something from someone else. Extortion is against the law.

## **12. Gambling**

Gambling includes casual betting, betting pools, organized-sports betting, and any other form of wagering. Students who bet on an activity in which they are involved may also be banned from that activity.

## **13. Falsification of school work, identification, forgery**

Forgery of hall/bus passes and excuses as well as false I.D.'s are forms of lying and are not acceptable. Plagiarism and cheating are also forms of falsification and subject the student to academic penalties as well as disciplinary action. Students who cheat or plagiarize will receive a zero (0) for that work.

## **14. False alarms, false reports, and bomb threats**

A false emergency alarm, report, or bomb threat endangers the safety forces that are responding, the citizens of the community, and persons in the building. What may seem like a prank is a dangerous stunt.

## **15. Explosives**

Explosives, fireworks, and chemical-reaction objects such as smoke bombs, pipe bombs, bottle bombs, small firecrackers, and poppers are forbidden and dangerous.

## **16. Trespassing**

Although schools are public facilities, the law does allow the school to restrict access on school property. If a student has been removed, suspended, or expelled, the student is not allowed on school property without authorization of the Principal. In addition, students may not trespass onto school property at unauthorized times or into areas of the school determined to be inappropriate.

## **17. Theft**

When a student is caught stealing school or someone's property, s/he will be disciplined and may be reported to law enforcement officials. Students are encouraged not to bring anything of value to school that is not needed for learning without prior authorization from the principal. The school is not responsible for personal property.

## **18. Disobedience/Disrespect/Insubordination**

School staff is acting "in loco parentis," which means they are allowed, by law, to direct a student as would a parent. This applies to all staff, not just teachers assigned to a student. If given a reasonable direction by a staff member, the student is expected to comply.

## **19. Damaging property**

Vandalism and disregard for school property will not be tolerated.

## **20. Persistent absence or tardiness**

39

Attendance laws require students to be in school all day or have a legitimate excuse. It is also important to establish consistent attendance habits in order to succeed in school and in the world-of-work. Excessive absence or tardiness will be reported to a truancy officer.

## **21. Unauthorized use of school or private property**

Students are expected to obtain permission to use any school property or any private property located on school premises. Any unauthorized use shall be subject to disciplinary action. This includes use of the internet and communication networks in a manner not sanctioned by policy and administrative guidelines.

## **22. Refusing to accept discipline**

The school may use informal discipline to prevent the student from being removed from school. When a student refuses to accept the usual discipline for an infraction, the refusal can result in an additional action.

## **23. Aiding or abetting violation of school rules**

If a student assists another student in violating any school rule, they will be disciplined and may be subject to suspension or expulsion, depending on severity. Students are expected to resist peer pressure and exercise sound decision-making regarding their behavior.

## **24. Displays of affection**

Students demonstrating affection between each other is personal and not meant for public display. This includes touching, petting, or any other contact that may be considered sexual in nature.

## **25. Violation of individual school/classroom rules**

Each learning environment has different rules for students. Individual rules are for the safe and orderly operation of that environment. Students will be oriented to specific rules, all of which will be consistent with the policy of the school.

## **26. Disruption of the educational process**

Any actions or manner of dress that interferes with school activities or disrupts the educational process is unacceptable. Such disruptions also include delay or prevention of lessons, assemblies, field trips, athletic, and performing arts events.

## **27. Harassment\***

Harassment of students is prohibited and will not be tolerated. This includes inappropriate conduct by other students as well as any other person in the school environment, including employees, Board members, parents, guests, contractors, vendors, and volunteers. It is the policy of the District to provide a safe and nurturing educational environment for all of its students. This policy applies to all activities on school property and to all school-sponsored activities whether on or off school property.

Harassment is defined as inappropriate conduct that is repeated enough or serious enough to negatively impact a student's educational, physical, or emotional well-being. This would include harassment based on any of the legally protected characteristics such as sex, race, color, national origin, religion, height, weight, marital status or disability. This policy, however, is not limited to these legal categories and includes any harassment that would negatively impact students.

*Harassment through any means, including electronically transmitted methods (e.g., internet, telephone or cell phone, personal digital assistant (PDA), computer or wireless handheld device), may be subject to District disciplinary procedures. Such behavior is considered harassment whether it takes place on or off school property, at any school-sponsored function, or in a school vehicle if it is considered to have a negative impact on the school environment.*

Any student who believes s/he has been/or is the victim of harassment should immediately report the situation to the teacher, the principal, or assistant principal. Complaints will be investigated in accordance with AG 5517.

Every student should and every staff member **must** report any situation that they believe to be improper harassment of a student. Reports may be made to those identified above.

If the investigation finds harassment occurred, it will result in prompt and appropriate remedial action. This may include expulsion for students, up to discharge for employees, exclusion for parents, guests, volunteers, and contractors, and removal from any officer position and/or a request to resign for Board members.

Retaliation against any person for complaining about harassment or participating in a harassment investigation is prohibited. Suspected retaliation should be reported in the same manner as harassment. Intentionally false harassment reports made to get someone in trouble are also prohibited. Retaliation and intentionally false reports may result in disciplinary action as indicated above.

The following definitions are provided for guidance only. If a student or other individual believes there has been harassment, regardless of whether it fits a particular definition, s/he should report it and allow the administration to determine the appropriate course of action.

### **Harassment**

- A. submission to such unwelcome conduct or communication is made either an explicit or implicit condition of utilizing or benefiting from the services, activities, or programs of the School District;
- B. submission to, or rejection of, the unwelcomed conduct or communication is used as the basis for a decision to exclude, expel, or limit the harassed student in the terms, conditions, or privileges of the School District;
- C. the unwelcomed conduct or communication interferes with the student's education, creates an intimidating, hostile, or offensive environment, or otherwise adversely affects the student's educational opportunities. This may include racial slurs, mocking behavior, or other demeaning comments.

**Sexual Harassment** may include but is not limited to:

- A. verbal harassment or abuse;
- B. pressure for sexual activity;
- C. repeated remarks with sexual or demeaning implications;
- D. unwelcome touching;
- E. sexual jokes, posters, cartoons, etc.;
- F. suggesting or demanding sexual involvement, accompanied by implied or explicit threats concerning one's grades or safety;
- G. a pattern of conduct, which can be subtle in nature, that has sexual overtones and is intended to create or has the effect of creating discomfort and/or humiliation to another;
- H. remarks speculating about a person's sexual activities or sexual history or remarks about one's own sexual activities or sexual history.

*Reference 5517*

## **27a. Hazing**

The Board of Education believes that hazing activities of any type are inconsistent with the educational process and prohibits all such activities at any time in school facilities, on school property, and at any District-sponsored event.

Hazing shall be defined for purposes of this policy as performing any act or coercing another, including the victim, to perform any act of initiation into any class, group, or organization that causes or creates a risk of causing mental, emotional, or physical harm. Permission, consent, or assumption of risk by an individual subjected to hazing shall not lessen the prohibitions contained in this policy.

Hazing – any type of initiation procedure for any school-related activity, which involves conduct such as but not limited to:

- A. illegal activity, such as drinking or drugs;
- B. physical punishment or infliction of pain
- C. intentional humiliation or embarrassment;
- D. dangerous activity;
- E. activity likely to cause mental or psychological stress;
- F. forced detention or kidnapping;
- G. undressing or otherwise exposing initiates.

### **27b. Bullying and Other Aggressive Behavior\***

It is the policy of the District to provide a safe and nurturing educational environment for all of its students.

This policy protects all students from bullying/aggressive behavior regardless of the subject matter or motivation for such impermissible behavior.

Bullying or other aggressive behavior toward a student, whether by other students, staff, or third parties, including Board members, parents, guests, contractors, vendors, and volunteers, is strictly prohibited. This prohibition includes written, cyber, physical, verbal, and psychological abuse, including hazing, gestures, comments, threats, or actions to a student, which cause or threaten to cause bodily harm, reasonable fear for personal safety, or personal degradation.

Demonstration of appropriate behavior, treating others with civility and respect, and refusing to tolerate harassment or bullying is expected of administrators, faculty, staff, and volunteers to provide positive examples for student behavior.

This policy applies to all "at-school" activities in the District, including activities on school property, in a school vehicle, and those occurring off school property if the student or employee is at any school sponsored, school-approved or school-related activity or function, such as field trips or athletic events where students are under the school's control, or where an employee is engaged in school business. Misconduct occurring outside of school may also be disciplined if it interferes with the school environment.

### **Procedure**



Any student who believes s/he has been or is the victim of bullying, hazing, or other aggressive behavior should immediately report the situation to the Principal or Assistant Principal. The student may also report concerns to a teacher or counselor who will be responsible for notifying the appropriate administrator or Board official. Complaints against the building principal should be filed with the Superintendent. Complaints against the Superintendent should be filed with the Board President.

43

Every student is encouraged and every staff member is required to report any situation that they believe to be aggressive behavior directed toward a student. Reports shall be made to those identified above. Reports may be made anonymously, but formal disciplinary action may not be taken solely on the basis of an anonymous report.

The Principal (or other administrator as designated) shall promptly investigate and document all complaints about bullying, aggressive, or other behavior that may violate this policy. The investigation must be completed as promptly as the circumstances permit and should be completed after a report or complaint is made.

If the investigation finds an instance of bullying or aggressive behavior has occurred, it will result in prompt and appropriate remedial action. This may include expulsion for students, up to discharge for employees, exclusion for parents, guests, volunteers, and contractors, and removal from any official position and/or a request to resign for Board members. Individuals may also be referred to law enforcement or other appropriate officials.

The individual responsible for conducting the investigation shall document all reported incidents and report all verified incidents of bullying, aggressive, or other prohibited behavior, as well as any remedial action taken, including disciplinary actions and referrals, to the Superintendent. The Superintendent shall submit a compiled report to the Board on an annual basis.

### **Non-Retaliation/False Reports**

Retaliation or false allegations against any person who reports, is thought to have reported, files a complaint, participates in an investigation or inquiry concerning allegations of bullying or aggressive behavior (as a witness or otherwise), or is the target of the bullying or aggressive behavior being investigated, is prohibited and will not be tolerated. Such retaliation shall be considered a serious violation of Board policy, independent of whether a complaint of bullying is substantiated. Suspected retaliation should be reported in the same manner as bullying/aggressive behavior.

Making intentionally false reports about bullying/aggressive behavior for the purpose of getting someone in trouble is similarly prohibited and will not be tolerated. Retaliation and intentionally false reports may result in disciplinary action as indicated above.

### **Definitions**

The following definitions are provided for guidance only. If a student or other individual believes there has been bullying, hazing, harassment, or other aggressive behavior, regardless of whether it fits a particular definition, s/he should report it immediately and allow the administration to determine the

appropriate course of action.

"Aggressive behavior" is defined as inappropriate conduct that is repeated enough or serious enough to negatively impact a student's educational, physical, or emotional well-being. Such behavior includes, for example, bullying, hazing, stalking, intimidation, menacing, coercion, name-calling, taunting, making threats, and hitting/pushing/shoving.

44

"At School" is defined as in a classroom, elsewhere on school premises, on a school bus or other school related vehicle, or at a school-sponsored activity or event whether or not it is held on school premises. It also includes conduct using a telecommunications access device or telecommunications service provider that occurs off school premises if either owned by or under the control of the District.

"Bullying" is defined as any gesture or written, verbal, graphic, or physical act (including electronically transmitted acts – i.e. internet, telephone or cell phone, personal digital assistant (PDA), or wireless handheld device) that, without regard to its subject matter or motivating animus, is intended or that a reasonable person would know is likely to harm one (1) or more students either directly or indirectly by doing any of the following:

- A. substantially interfering with educational opportunities, benefits, or programs of one (1) or more students;
- B. adversely affecting the ability of a student to participate in or benefit from the school district's educational programs or activities by placing the student in reasonable fear of physical harm or by causing substantial emotional distress;
- C. having an actual and substantial detrimental effect on a student's physical or mental health; and/or
- D. causing substantial disruption in, or substantial interference with, the orderly operation of the school.

Bullying can be physical, verbal, psychological, or a combination of all three. Some examples of bullying are:

- A. Physical – hitting, kicking, spitting, pushing, pulling; taking and/or damaging personal belongings or extorting money, blocking or impeding student movement, unwelcome physical contact.
- B. Verbal – taunting, malicious teasing, insulting, name calling, making threats.
- C. Psychological – spreading rumors, manipulating social relationships, coercion, or engaging in social exclusion/shunning, extortion, or intimidation. This may occur in a number of different ways, including but not limited to notes, emails, social media postings, and graffiti.

"Harassment" includes, but is not limited to, any act which subjects an individual or group to unwanted, abusive behavior of a nonverbal, verbal, written or physical nature, often on the basis of age, race, religion, color, national origin, marital status or disability, but may also include sexual orientation, physical characteristics (e.g., height, weight, complexion), cultural background, socioeconomic status, or geographic location (e.g., from rival school, different state, rural area, city, etc.).

"Intimidation/Menacing" includes, but is not limited to, any threat or act intended to: place a person in fear of physical injury or offensive physical contact; to substantially damage or interfere with a person's

property; or to intentionally interfere with or block a person's movement without good reason.

"Staff" includes all school employees and Board members.

"Third parties" include, but are not limited to, coaches, school volunteers, parents, school visitors, service contractors, vendors, or others engaged in District business, and others not directly subject to school control at inter-district or intra-district athletic competitions or other school events.

45

*\*Provide in handbook - 5517.01*

## **28. Possession of a Firearm, Arson, and Criminal Sexual Conduct**

In compliance with State law, the Board shall permanently expel any student who possesses a dangerous weapon in a weapon-free school zone or commits either arson or criminal sexual conduct in a District building or on District property, including school buses and other school transportation.

A dangerous weapon is defined as "a firearm, dagger, dirk, stiletto, knife with a blade over three (3) inches in length, pocket knife opened by a mechanical device, iron bar, or brass knuckles" or other devices designed to or likely to inflict bodily harm, including, but not limited to, air guns and explosive devices.

Students shall be subject to disciplinary action (Suspension/Expulsion) as required by statute for such specified offenses as physical and verbal assault (see Policy 5610.01).

Students with disabilities under IDEA or Section 504 shall be expelled only in accordance with Board Policy 2461 and Federal due process rights appropriate to students with disabilities. A student who has been expelled under this policy may apply for reinstatement in accordance with guidelines which are available in the principal's office.

## **29. Criminal acts**

Any student engaging in criminal acts at or related to the school will be reported to law enforcement officials as well as disciplined by the school. It is not considered double jeopardy (being tried twice for the same crime) when school rules and the law are violated.

Students should be aware that state law requires that school officials, teachers, and appropriate law enforcement officials be notified when a student of this District is involved in crimes related to physical violence, gang-related acts, illegal possession of a controlled substance, analogue or other intoxicants, trespassing, property crimes, including but not limited to theft and vandalism, occurring in the school as well as in the community.

## **30. Safety Concerns**

Students should not use roller blades, bicycles, skateboards, scooters, or any other form of personal transportation device in school hallways or District pedestrian traffic areas. Exceptions may be made to

reasonably accommodate students with mobility impairments. Use of any means of travel within buildings and on grounds by other than generally accepted practices where appropriate is prohibited.

### **31. Profanity**

Any behavior or language, which in the judgment of the staff or administration, is considered to be obscene, disrespectful, vulgar, profane, and/or violates community held standards of good taste will be subject to disciplinary action.

46

### **32. Sexting**

“Sexting” is the electronic transmission of sexual images or pictures, usually through cell phone text messaging. This behavior is prohibited at any time on school property, and at school functions. Such conduct will be subject to disciplinary action, and law enforcement may be involved.

### **33. Blood Borne Pathogens**

Piercing, tattooing, cutting, etc. is prohibited on school property at all times. Students performing such acts on school property will be subject to disciplinary action.

#### ***INFORMAL DISCIPLINE***

When informal discipline takes place within the school. It may include the following:

- writing assignments
- change of seating or location
- lunch-time or after-school detention
- in-school restriction
- lunch lab
- restorative circles and restitution

However, writing assignments and changes of seating or location should not be automatically construed as a form of discipline, and may occur as part of a normal classroom curriculum or improvement strategy.

#### ***MINOR VIOLATIONS***

Students may be assigned detention for any of the minor violations. Continued minor violations or failure to show for detention may result in the student being put in the **major** violation of the codes of conduct.

- Tardiness: failure to be in an assigned seat with proper materials ready for work when class begins.
- Visiting: consistent talking during class discussion, instruction, quiet work, testing time as designated by the teacher.
- Horseplay: running, jumping, throwing, spitting of objects, poking or other disruptive behavior as designated by the teacher.
- Distracting materials: anything that might distract other students.
- Late work: consistent failure to turn in assigned class work as it comes due.
- Lack of preparation: consistent failure to come to class with books, papers, pencils, or other

materials needed.

- Snowballs: snow and/or ice are not to be thrown on school grounds.
  - Noises: any noise that distracts others from the learning environment.
  - Disruptive behavior: Any behavior that distracts others from the learning environment. ●
- Other activities deemed potentially dangerous or distracting.

### ***DETENTIONS***

47

Below are guidelines for detentions:

- Detention is a mild to moderate form of discipline.
- Detention may be issued the same day of the offense.
- Students will report on-time (within 5 minutes of the bell) to the detention room. Students late to detention will serve another one.
- Students who fail to serve detention or misbehave during detention may serve in-school suspension (ISS).
- Students in Lunch Detention will be served the cold lunch choice for that day, or a cold lunch brought from home. Food delivery will *not* be allowed in lunch detention.

### ***SUSPENSION - MAJOR VIOLATIONS***

When a student is being considered for a suspension of ten (10) days or less, the administrator in charge will notify the student of the charges. The student will then be given an opportunity to explain his/her side, and the administrator will then provide the student the evidence supporting the charges. After that informal hearing, the principal will make a decision whether or not to suspend. If a student is suspended, s/he and his/her parents will be notified by phone, as well as send a written notification by email or regular mail. The written notice shall include the reasons for the suspension, the date(s) of the suspension, and the rights to appeal, enclosing policy 5610.

Suspensions and expulsions may carry over into the next school year.

Any learning that cannot be made up such as labs, field trips, skill-practices, or any learning that the student chooses not to make-up may be reflected in the grades earned.

Kalkaska Middle School makes a sincere effort to have disciplinary actions take place that will allow the student to remain in school. If a disciplinary action does not result in removal from school, it is not appealable. Should a student or parent have questions regarding the propriety of an in-school disciplinary action, they should contact the principal. *Reference 5610*

### **Out-of-School Suspension/OSS**

- A. Students suspended out of school for one or more days may serve a “reintegration” day upon their return to the middle school. The purpose of this day is to help the student make up their missing work, debrief about the action they were suspended for, and prepare to re-enter the normal school environment the next day.

- B. Students with only one day OSS will have twenty-four hours to complete their missing work upon return.
- C. Students with only two days OSS will have two days to complete their missing work upon return. D. Students with three or more days of OSS will have their work gathered for them and brought to the middle school office. Parents must make arrangements to pick the work up, and students must complete it and turn it in at the end of their “reintegration” day. Work not turned in may be given a zero.

48

- E. Students who are suspended out of school may not attend any after-school events on the day of the suspension unless given special permission by the principal or his/her designee.

### **In-School Suspension/ISS**

- A. When sent to the ISS room (or to the office) for discipline, the student will fill out a reflection sheet to be reviewed by a staff member. The reflection sheet must be completed and reviewed by a staff member before students may return to the classroom.
- B. Education-Enrichment packet
  - 1. Students in morning ISS will be given an education-enrichment packet, and will email their teachers to ask for school work. Students will work on the enrichment packet until they receive work from a teacher. The student will then work on assignments given by the teachers (due at the same time as all other students).
- C. Staff will provide work for the students in ISS by 3<sup>rd</sup> hour.
- D. Students who receive an afternoon ISS will automatically be given an Education-Enrichment Packet.
- E. Students must follow the expectations of the ISS room in order for the suspension to be considered served successfully. Failure to complete ISS “successfully” may result in further consequences. 1. Students placed in another teacher’s room for ISS will not interact with the other students.
- F. Students placed in ISS for ½ day or longer may not attend any after-school events on the day of the suspension unless given special permission by school personnel.

### ***SEARCH AND SEIZURE***

Search of a student and his/her possessions, including vehicles, may be conducted at any time the student is under the jurisdiction of the Board of Education if there is a reasonable suspicion that the student is in violation of law or school rules. A search may also be conducted to protect the health and safety of others. All searches may be conducted with or without a student's consent.

Students are provided lockers, desks, and other equipment in which to store materials. It should be clearly understood that this equipment is the property of the school and may be searched at any time if there is reasonable suspicion that a student has violated the law or school rules. Locks are to prevent theft, not to prevent searches. If student lockers require student-provided locks, each student must provide the lock’s combination or key to the principal.

Anything that is found in the course of a search that may be evidence of a violation of school rules or the law may be taken and held or turned over to the police. The school reserves the right not to return items which have been confiscated. In the course of any search, students' privacy rights will be respected regarding any items that are not illegal or against school policy.

All computers located in classrooms, labs and offices of the District are the District's property and are to be used by students, where appropriate, solely for educational purposes. The District retains the right to access and review all electronic, computer files, databases, and any other electronic transmissions

49

contained in or used in conjunction with the District's computer system, and electronic mail. Students should have no expectation that any information contained on such systems is confidential or private.

Review of such information may be done by the District with or without the student's knowledge or permission. The use of passwords does not guarantee confidentiality, and the District retains the right to access information in spite of a password. All passwords or security codes must be registered with the instructor. A student's refusal to permit such access may be grounds for disciplinary action.

*Reference 5610*

### ***STUDENT RIGHTS OF EXPRESSION\****

The School recognizes the right of students to express themselves. With the right of expression comes the responsibility to do it appropriately. Students may distribute or display, at appropriate times, non sponsored, noncommercial written material and petitions; buttons, badges, or other insignia; clothing, insignia, and banners; and audio and video materials. All items must meet the following school guidelines:

A. A material cannot be displayed if it:

- is obscene to minors, libelous, indecent and pervasively or vulgar,
- advertises any product or service not permitted to minors by law,
- intends to be insulting or harassing,
- intends to incite fighting or presents a likelihood of disrupting school or a school event. ● Presents a clear and present likelihood that, either because of its content or manner of distribution or display, it causes or is likely to cause a material and substantial disruption of school or school activities, a violation of school regulations, or the commission of an unlawful act.

B. Materials may not be displayed or distributed during class periods, or during passing times between classes. Permission may be granted for display or distribution during lunch periods and after school in designated locations, as long as exits are not blocked and there is proper access and egress to the building.

Students who are unsure whether or not materials they wish to display meet school guidelines may present them to the principal twenty-four (24) hours prior to display.

## **SECTION 9: NOTIFICATIONS**

### ***CONTROL OF CASUAL-CONTACT COMMUNICABLE DISEASES AND PESTS\****

50

Because a school has a high concentration of people, it is necessary to take specific measures when the health or safety of the group is at risk. The school's professional staff has the authority to remove or isolate a student who has been ill or has been exposed to a communicable disease or highly-transient pest, such as lice.

Specific diseases include: diphtheria, scarlet fever, strep infections, whooping cough, mumps, measles, rubella, and other conditions indicated by the Local and State Health Departments.

Any removal will only be for the contagious period as specified in the school's administrative guidelines.

*Reference 8450/8431A*

### ***CONTROL OF NON-CASUAL-CONTACT COMMUNICABLE DISEASES\****

In the case of non-casual contact, communicable-diseases, the school still has the obligation to protect the safety of the staff and students. In these cases, the person in question will have his/her status reviewed by a panel of resource people, including the County Health Department, to ensure that the rights of the person affected and those in contact with that person are respected. The school will seek to keep students and staff persons in school unless there is definitive evidence to warrant exclusion.

Non Casual-contact communicable diseases include sexually transmitted diseases, AIDS (Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome), ARC-AIDS Related Complex (condition), HIV (Human-immunodeficiency), HAV, HBV, HCV (Hepatitis A, B, C), and other diseases that may be specified by the State Board of Health.

*Reference 8453*

### ***INDIVIDUALS WITH DISABILITIES\****

The American's with Disabilities Act (ADA) and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act provide that no individual will be discriminated against on the basis of a disability. This protection applies not just to the student, but to all individuals who have access to the District's programs and facilities.

A student can access special education services through the proper evaluation procedures. Parent



involvement in this procedure is important and required by Federal (IDEA) and State law. Contact the building principal to inquire about evaluation procedures and programs.

Reference 9160 C

**LIMITED ENGLISH PROFICIENCY\***

Limited proficiency in the English language should not be a barrier to equal participation in the instructional or extra-curricular programs of the District. It is, therefore, the policy of this District that

51

those students identified as having limited English proficiency will be provided additional support and instruction to assist them in gaining English proficiency and in accessing the educational and extra curricular program offered by the District. Parents should contact the principal to inquire about evaluation procedures and programs offered by the District.

Reference 2225

**STUDENT RECORDS\***

The School District maintains many student records including both directory information and confidential information. Some common disclosures of directory information would include photographs or names in a yearbook, a name on an athletic program, honor roll lists, name on graduation program, student of the week/month, playbill, posting to a district’s website, and district or building social media sites, etc. Neither the Board nor its employee's shall permit the release of the social security number of a student, or other individual except as authorized by law (see AG 8350). Documents containing social security numbers shall be restricted to those employees who have a need to know that information or a need to access those documents. When documents containing social security numbers are no longer needed, they shall be shredded by an employee who has authorized access to such records. Directory information includes:

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| A. A student's name;                           | team;  |
| B. address;                                    | H. height and weight, if member of an athletic |
| C. telephone number;                           | team;  |
| D. date and place of birth;                    |  |
| E. major field of study;                       | I. weight, if member of an athletic team       |
| F. participation in officially recognized      | which requires disclosure to                   |
| activities and sports;                         | participate;                                   |
| G. height and weight, if member of an athletic |  |

Directory information can be provided upon request to any individual, other than a for-profit organization, even without the written consent of a parent. Parents may refuse to allow the Board to disclose any or all of such “directory information” upon written notification to the Board. For further information about the items included within the category of directory information and instructions on how to prohibit its release you may wish to consult the Board’s annual *Family Education Rights and*

*Privacy Act (FERPA) notice.*

Other than directory information, access to all other student records is protected by (FERPA) and Michigan law. Except in limited circumstances as specifically defined in State and Federal law, the School District is prohibited from releasing confidential education records to any outside individual or organization without the prior written consent of the parents or the adult student as well as those individuals who have matriculated and entered a postsecondary educational institution at any age.

52

The Family Policy Compliance Office in the U.S. Department of Education administers both FERPA and PPRA. Parents and/or eligible students who believe their rights have been violated may file a complaint with:

Family Policy Compliance Office  
U.S. Department of Education  
400 Maryland Avenue, SW 20202-4605  
Washington, D.C.  
[www.ed.gov/offices/OM/fpc](http://www.ed.gov/offices/OM/fpc)

***Informal inquiries may be sent to the Family Policy Compliance Office via the following email addresses:***

[FERPA@ED.Gov](mailto:FERPA@ED.Gov); and  
[PPRA@ED.Gov](mailto:PPRA@ED.Gov).

*\*Provide annually - 8330*

### ***STUDENT FUNDRAISING***

Students participating in school-sponsored groups and activities will be allowed to solicit funds from other students, staff members, and members of the community in accordance with school guidelines. The following general rules will apply to all fundraisers.

- Students involved in the fund-raiser must not interfere with students participating in other activities when soliciting funds.
- Students must not participate in a fund-raising activity for a group in which they are not members without the approval of the student's counselor.

53

- Students may not participate in fundraising activities off school property without proper supervision by approved staff or other adults.
- Students may not engage in house-to-house canvassing for any fundraising activity. ● Students who engage in fundraisers that require them to exert themselves physically beyond their normal pattern of activity, such as "runs for .....", will be monitored by a staff member in order to prevent a student from

over-extending himself/herself to the point of potential harm. • Students may not participate in a fundraising activity conducted by a parent group, booster club, or community organization on school property without the approval of the Principal. *Reference 5830*

### ***REVIEW OF INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS AND ACTIVITIES\****

Parents have the right to review any instructional materials being used in the school. They also may observe instruction in any class, particularly those dealing with instruction in health and sex education. Any parent who wishes to review materials or observe instruction must contact the principal prior to coming to the School. Parents' rights to review teaching materials and instructional activities are subject to reasonable restrictions and limits.

*\*Provide annually – 5780*

### ***MEAL SERVICE***

The Board believes the development of healthy behaviors and habits with regard to eating cannot be accomplished by the District alone. It will be necessary for the school staff, in addition to parents and the public at large, to be involved in a community-wide effort to promote, support, and model such healthy behaviors and habits. Parents interested in being involved should contact the Food Service Director. Both breakfast and lunch are served at school daily, with the exception of half days. On half days, the kitchen will serve breakfast only. Free and reduced meals are available to families with financial need. Forms to apply for free or reduced meals are available in the school office. Extra food items will be available at a cost to the student. Students may also bring their own lunch to school to be eaten in the school's cafeteria. No student shall be allowed to leave school premises during the lunch period without specific written permission granted by the principal.

#### **Charging Policy for Student Meals**

All students will receive a meal choice until his/her account reaches -\$8.00. After his/her account reaches -\$8.00, he/she will receive an alternate meal which will consist of a cheese sandwich, a fruit and milk. There is no charging for extra items. If you have questions, please call the KPS Food Service Director at 231-258-9167.

#### **Food Delivery**

Only food brought to the school by a parent or guardian will be given to students to eat for lunch. Lunchtime deliveries of food ordered by pizza, fast food, or other restaurants will not be allowed.

### ***FIRE, LOCKDOWN AND TORNADO***

The school complies with all fire safety laws and will conduct fire, tornado, and lockdown drills in accordance with State law. Specific instructions on how to proceed will be provided to students by their teachers who will be responsible for safe, prompt, and orderly conduct.

*Reference 8420*

### ***ADVERTISING OUTSIDE ACTIVITIES***

Students may not post announcements or advertisements for outside activities without receiving prior approval from the principal. The principal will try to respond to requests for approval within twenty-four (24) hours of their receipt. The school has a central bulletin board located near the library which may be used for posting notices after receiving permission from the principal.

*Reference 9700.01*

### ***PREPAREDNESS FOR TOXIC AND ASBESTOS HAZARDS***

The School is concerned for the safety of students and attempts to comply with all Federal and State Laws and Regulations to protect students from hazards that may result from industrial accidents beyond the control of school officials or from the presence of asbestos materials used in previous construction. A copy of the School District's *Preparedness for Toxic Hazard and Asbestos Hazard Policy* and asbestos management plan will be made available for inspection at the Board offices upon request.

*Reference 8431*

### ***PESTICIDE APPLICATION ADVISORY TO PARENTS***

State of Michigan law requires that schools and day care centers that may apply pesticides on school or daycare property must provide an annual advisory to parents or guardians of students attending the facility.

Please be advised that Kalkaska Public Schools utilizes an Integrated Pest Management (IPM) approach to control pests. IPM is a pest management system that utilizes all suitable techniques in a total pest management system with the intent of preventing pests from reaching unacceptable levels or to reduce an existing population to an acceptable level. Pest management techniques emphasize sanitation, pest exclusion, and biological controls. One of the objectives of using an IPM approach is to reduce or eliminate the need for chemical applications of pesticides. However, certain situations may require the need for pesticides to be utilized.

As required by State of Michigan law, you will receive advance notice regarding the non-emergency application of a pesticide such as an insecticide, fungicide or herbicide, other than a bait or gel

formulation, that is made to the school or daycare grounds or buildings during this school year. Please note that notification is not given for the use of sanitizers, germicides, disinfectants or anti-microbial cleaners. In certain emergencies, such as an infestation of stinging insects, pesticides may be applied without prior notice to prevent injury to students, but you will be notified following any such application.

Advance notification of pesticide applications, other than a bait or gel formulation, will be given by at least 2 methods. The first method will be by posting at the main entrance to the school / day-care center. The second method will be by one of the methods below:

- Posting in a public, common area of the school or day care center, other than an entrance.
- E-mail.
- A telephone call by which direct contact is made with a parent or guardian of a student of the school / day-care center or a message is recorded on an answering machine.
- Providing the students of the school or children of the day-care center with a written notice to be delivered to their parents or guardians.
- Posting information on the school or day-care center's web site.

Please be advised that parents or guardians of children attending the school or day care center are entitled to receive the advance notice of a pesticide application, other than a bait or gel formulation, by first class United States mail postmarked at least 3 days before the pesticide application, if they so request. If you prefer to receive the notification by first class mail, please complete the attached form and return it to our office.

Please be advised that parents or guardians of children attending the school may review the school's Integrated Pest Management program and records of any pesticide application upon request.