

**Elementary Student &
Parent Handbook
2022-2023**



Anchor Bay Elementary Schools

**Ashley Elementary
Dean A. Naldrett Elementary
Great Oaks Elementary
Lighthouse Elementary
Lottie M. Schmidt Elementary
Maconce Elementary
Sugarbush Early Childhood**

Elementary Student –Parent Handbook
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WELCOME TO ANCHOR BAY SCHOOL DISTRICT

ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS

Dear Parents:

The staff of the Anchor Bay School District extends a warm welcome to you and your family. The important task of educating your child has been entrusted to us. However, it is only with your assistance and support that we can truly be successful. With this in mind, we can all work together to provide the best possible learning experience for all of our students.

We have compiled this Student/Parent Handbook to explain school procedures and address commonly asked questions that may arise during the school year. We consider them important for order, safety, progress, and pride in our schools. 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.

Please feel free to contact your school principal for clarification about any information contained in this book.

Sincerely,

Anchor Bay Elementary Principals

EQUAL EDUCATION OPPORTUNITY

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

Any person who believes that he/she 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 Office listed below:

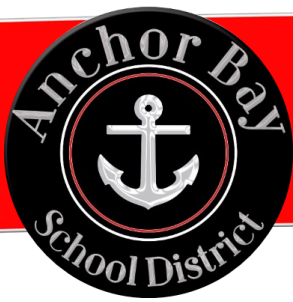
Lora Gonzales, Director of Human Resources
(586) 725-2861 ext. 1810

or

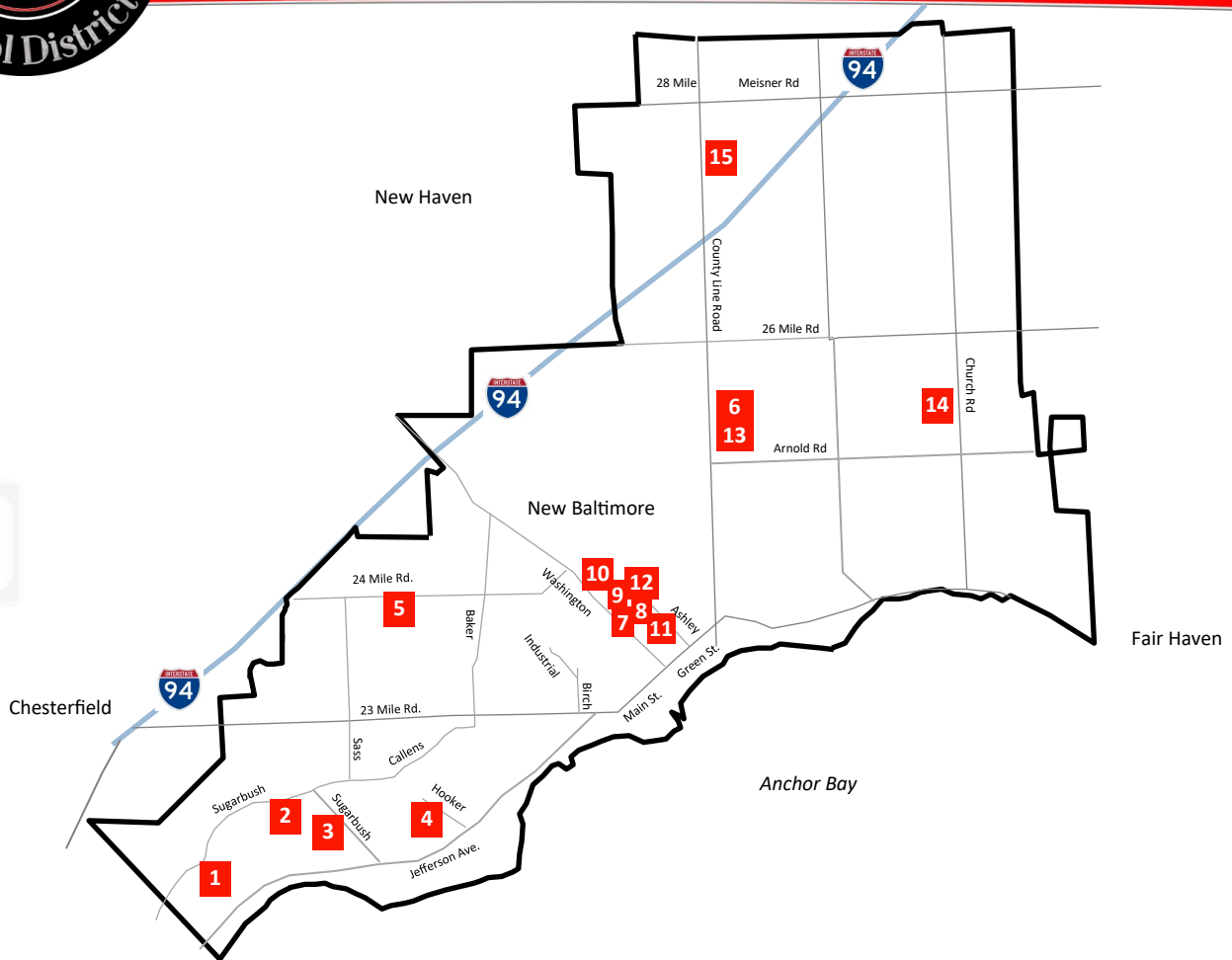
Joseph McDonald, Director of Education
(586) 725-2861 ext. 1819

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.

Anchor Bay School District is committed to providing students with disabilities a free and appropriate public education consistent with federal and state laws. Anchor Bay School District offers evaluations, programs, and services to individuals who are identified as having, or who are suspected of having, a disability as defined in either the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) or Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973. These services are available to eligible person's ages 0-26 who reside within, or attend a K-12 school program within the Anchor Bay School District attendance boundaries. For more information about services, parent/student rights or referral procedures, contact the Anchor Bay School District Office of Special Education at: Anchor Bay School District, Student Services Department, 5201 County Line Road, Casco, MI 48064. Phone: (586) 949-4513.



SCHOOL DISTRICT MAP



- 1 DEAN A. NALDRETT ELEMENTARY**
47800 Sugarbush, New Baltimore 48047
Ph: (586) 949-1212 / Fax: (586) 598-7666
- 2 SUGARBUSH EARLY CHILDHOOD**
48400 Sugarbush, New Baltimore 48047
Ph: (586) 598-7660 / Fax: (586) 598-7671
- 3 ANCHOR BAY MIDDLE SCHOOL SOUTH**
48650 Sugarbush, New Baltimore, MI 48047
Ph: (586) 949-4510 / Fax: (586) 949-4739
- 4 LOTTIE M. SCHMIDT ELEMENTARY**
33700 Hooker, New Baltimore 48047
Ph: (586) 725-7541 / Fax: (586) 725-7590
- 5 GREAT OAKS ELEMENTARY**
32900 24 Mile Rd., Chesterfield 48047
Ph: (586) 725-2038 / Fax: (586) 725-4014
- 6 COMPASS POINTE LEARNING CENTER**
6319 County Line Road, Fair Haven 48023
Ph: (586) 725-2205 / Fax: (586) 725-2257
- 7 LIGHTHOUSE ELEMENTARY**
51880 Washington, New Baltimore 48047
Ph: (586) 725-6404 / Fax: (586) 725-4016
- 8 AQUATIC / RECREATION CENTER**
52401 Ashley, New Baltimore 48047
Ph: (586) 716-4623 / Fax: (586) 716-1461
- 9 MAINTENANCE/TRANSPORTATION/
OPERATIONS/WAREHOUSE**
51890 Washington, New Baltimore 48047
Ph: (586) 716-3622 / Fax: (586) 716-0784
- 10 EARLY CHILDHOOD CENTER & SACC**
52680 Washington, New Baltimore 48047
Ph: (586) 716-7862 / Fax: (586) 716-7864
- 11 ASHLEY ELEMENTARY**
52347 Ashley Street, New Baltimore 48047
Ph: (586) 725-2801 / Fax: (586) 725-4426
- 12 ANCHOR BAY MIDDLE SCHOOL NORTH**
52805 Ashley, New Baltimore 48047
Ph: (586) 725-7373 / Fax: (586) 725-6760
- 13 ANCHOR BAY HIGH SCHOOL**
6319 County Line Road, Fair Haven 48023
Ph: (586) 648-2525 / Fax: (586) 716-8306
- 14 MACONCE ELEMENTARY**
6300 Church Road, Ira 48023
Ph: (586) 725-0284 / Fax: (586) 725-2037
- 15 ADMINISTRATION/SPECIAL EDUCATION/
MACDONALD ELEMENTARY**
5201 County Line Road, Casco, MI 48064
Ph: (586) 725-2861 Fax: (586) 727-9059

ANCHOR BAY SCHOOL DISTRICT ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS

Ashley Elementary

52347 Ashley
New Baltimore, MI 48047 Phone: (586)
725-2801
Fax: (586) 725 4426

Melissa VanHulle- Principal
Terry Koch - Office Manager

Dean A. Naldrett Elementary

47800 Sugarbush
New Baltimore, MI 48047
Phone: (586) 949-1212
Fax: (586) 598-7666

Heidi Stephenson - Principal
Diane Hamm - Office Manager

Great Oaks Elementary

32900 24 Mile Road
Chesterfield, MI 48047
Phone: (586) 725-2038
Fax: (586) 725-4014

Ron Medley - Principal
Rene Moses - Office Manager

Lighthouse Elementary

51880 Washington
New Baltimore, MI 48047
Phone: (586) 725-6404
Fax: (586) 725-4016

Sherri Milton-Hoffman - Principal
Tammy Menotti - Office Manager

Lottie M. Schmidt Elementary

33700 Hooker
New Baltimore, MI 48047
Phone: (586) 725-7541
Fax: (586) 725-7590

Yolanda White - Principal
Angela Coleman - Office Manager

Maconce Elementary

6300 Church Road
Ira, MI 48023
Phone: (586) 725-0284
Fax: (586) 725-2037

Jay Seletsky - Principal
Debbie Kolomjec - Office Manager

MacDonald Elementary Early Childhood

5201 County Line Road
Casco, MI 48064
Phone: (586) 949-4510
Fax: (586) 727-0967

Sugarbush Early Childhood

48400 Sugarbush Road
Chesterfield, MI 48047
Phone: (586) 598-7660
Fax: (586) 598-7671

Frank Cusimano-Supervisor, Special
Education
Yolanda Buric-Office Manager, Special.
Education

**Anchor Bay School District
Administrative Offices
5201 County Line Road, Suite 100
Casco MI 48064
(586) 725-2861 www.anchorbay.misd.net**

Central Office Administration

*Philip Jankowski
Superintendent*

*Todd Rathbun
Assistant Superintendent*

*Lora Gonzales
Director of Human Resources*

*Terry Wedge
Director of Elementary Education*

*Joseph McDonald
Director of Secondary Education*

*Frank Cusimano
Director of Special Education*

Board of Education

Lisa Birkmeier

Patrick Green

John DeRoo

Steve Mittelstadt

Jill Knox

Mike Moses

Dennis Richards

Accidents/ 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 medical attention is required, the parent is called. If the parent cannot be reached, the emergency numbers furnished by the parent are called. It is the parent's responsibility to see that the school has a current and valid emergency number to contact. Students will not be sent home with anyone other than those on the emergency card.

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 parent permission.

Homebound Instruction

The District shall arrange for individual instruction to students of legal school age who are not able to attend classes because of a physical or emotional disability.

Parents should contact the school administration regarding procedures for such instruction. Applications must be approved by the student services supervisor. The District will provide homebound instruction only for those confinements expected to last at least five (5) days.

Applications for individual instruction shall be made by a physician licensed to practice in this State, parent, student or other caregiver. A physician must: certify the nature and existence of a medical condition; state the probable duration of the confinement; request such instruction; present evidence of the student's ability to participate in an educational program.

Accident Insurance

An accident insurance policy is available to all students at a minimum cost. This insurance is not sold by the Anchor Bay School District. It is made available by the district for your convenience.

Anti-Bullying/Conflict Policy

The Anchor Bay School District Board of Education prohibits acts of harassment or bullying. The board of education has determined that a safe and civil environment is necessary for students to learn and achieve high academic standards. Harassment or bullying, like other disruptive or violent behaviors, is conduct that disrupts both a student's ability to learn and a school's ability to educate its students in a safe environment. Demonstration of appropriate behavior, treating other 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. Anytime something negative happens at schools, it is often blamed on "bullying". The number one reason this happens is because of a lack of education on what bullying really is and what bullying is not. Conflict is a disagreement of a difference of opinion or interests between equals. Conflict may be an inevitable part of school life, but bullying is not. In each, a different response is required.

Bullying

Anyone who repeatedly uses physical, verbal (includes spoken and /or written language) and/or cyber forces in a negative manner toward or in regard to another person.

Physical Bullying

The repeated use of force toward a person's body or personal belongings.

Verbal Bullying

Repeatedly using negative and/or damaging words (including both spoken and written) toward or in regard to another person (with malicious intent).

Cyber Bullying

Using social media, email or electronic devices in a negative manner toward or in regard to another person. **Cyber bullying becomes a school matter when the educational process is disrupted due to comments/texts/posts are made directly to a student or school.** Examples: Posting negative comments, fake profiles, making fun of photos, tagging photos, Twitter fights, posting negative videos, texting photos, negative status posts and texting rumors.

Attendance

The Board of Education recognizes that a student who attends class on time and regularly derives maximum benefit from instructional programs. Good attendance helps develop the habits of punctuality, self-discipline, and responsibility. The interactions, dialogues, and experiences which take place daily in the classroom provide an enriched environment for learning which cannot be experienced by “making up” missed assignments. There is no way to completely duplicate or replace the classroom experience for a student who is tardy or absent. Regular attendance has been proven to be a key factor in the attainment of good education. Active participation in class is an integral part of a student’s total education. A student’s success in the classroom, on proficiency examinations, in future activities and career performance can hinge on positive habits developed through good attendance patterns.

A new school year is beginning. Students are enthused about their classes and teachers are busy planning exciting lessons for their students. Please emphasize to your children the importance of being in school, as daily attendance is essential in order for a student to benefit from his/her educational experience. If a student is not in school on a regular basis, it is not possible for maximum learning to occur. Excessive tardies are a concern because important announcements and classroom instructions are given at the beginning of the day. Good attendance patterns, which include punctuality, are developed at an early age. They must be emphasized in kindergarten and reaffirmed at every grade level. It is the responsibility of the parent to instill in his/her child the importance of attending school. All students in the Anchor Bay School District are expected to be in school on a regular day-to-day basis. Absences should occur only for legitimate, excusable reasons, generally illness. It is the responsibility of school personnel, according to the State of Michigan Compulsory School Attendance Law, to monitor all students’ attendance. Parents will be notified in writing, following the seventh, fourteenth and twentieth absence/tardy accumulated within a school year. Excessive absences must be reported to the Macomb County Independent School District Attendance Office.

According to the Michigan Compulsory Attendance Law students are expected to be in school except in cases of emergency or for the following reasons:

- Personal illness – The school may require verification by a doctor.
- Illness in the family – Work with your child’s teacher to keep schoolwork current.
- Death of a relative – Absence arising from a family death. Please notify your child’s teacher should you feel your child might need support when they return to school.
- Religious holiday – Children will be excused from class if the absence is for the purpose of observing a religious holiday that is part of the child’s creed or belief.

- **Medical Appointments** – Parents are encouraged to schedule doctor and dentist appointments after school. Recognizing that this is not always possible, students will be allowed five (5) one hour windows at the beginning or end of the day for necessary doctor/dentist appointments. These absences will not be charged if the parent/guardian submits a medical statement or receipt from the doctor. Over five hours will result in a half-day absence for each occurrence over 30 minutes.

Vacations- Whenever possible, families should plan vacations when school is not in session. Since the Anchor Bay School District believes that there is no substitute for teacher instruction, classroom discussion, and the orderly progression of materials, it is the policy of the school that class work will not be sent home in advance of an absence due to a vacation, but will be assigned by the classroom teacher upon the child’s return to school.

Makeup Work – Makeup work should be requested from the teacher. It is the responsibility of the student to make sure it is completed. All makeup work should be completed within the same number of school days as the student was absent, unless special arrangements have been made with each teacher. After a child has been sick two days, parents can request homework. Parents are notified every 10 weeks about their child’s attendance as part of their report card.

Tardiness – Punctuality is a lifetime habit that students should develop. Students are expected to arrive on time each day and be prepared to learn. If a student is late in arriving to school, he/she must report to the office and check in. Elementary students late to school will be recorded as “tardy” for the first thirty (30) minutes of the day. Reporting more than thirty minutes late to school or leaving 30 minutes prior to dismissal will result in one-half day absence.

Bicycles, Skateboards, and Shoes with Wheels

Bike riders should observe all rules and regulations of the road. Bicycles are to be walked on school property and while crossing the street. Riders are to park and secure their bicycles with a lock in the designated location at the school. For safety reasons, skateboards, in-line skates, scooters, motorized scooters, and shoes with wheels are not permitted at school. The school is not responsible for lost, damaged, or stolen bikes.

Building Use

The buildings within our school district are available for community groups to use outside the regular school day. Reservations for building use must initially be made through the district webpage (Facility Use Permit Request in Quick Links) and are subject to a building use fee. All school activities take precedence over community activities. Each building principal has the discretion to revoke a community group’s use of the building if school policies are not followed.

Bus Transportation

The purpose of this information is to provide students, parents/guardians with information about the Anchor Bay School District Transportation System. State of Michigan Public Act 187 and along with the Pupil Transportation Act outlines the law that all school districts follow. A copy of P.A. 187 is available for review during regular office hours in the Transportation Department. Anchor Bay School’s transportation guidelines and safety rules are also included in this guide.

School bus transportation is provided only for eligible students and shall be considered a **PRIVILEGE**. Students are to accept responsibility for their own personal conduct. Law does not require transportation for general education students to and from school. Please take the time to read the following guidelines to protect your transportation privileges.

Bus Stop Etiquette:

- Students should be at the bus stop 10 minutes before scheduled pick up time. Earlier arrival may pose behavior problems as a result of lack of supervision.
- Parents are responsible for getting their student to and from the bus stop & their behavior.
- While waiting for the bus, students should remain in the assigned area. Congregating in unassigned areas, such as lawns or driveways or private property, may result in resident complaints.
- Please take care not to litter while waiting and be considerate of resident & business property.
- Please keep noise to a minimum so as not to disturb area residents
- For parents arriving to bus stops in cars, please do not block driveways or park in such a way to impede the bus as it continues on the route.

Bus Routes & Bus Stops:

Safety is the most important factor in transporting Anchor Bay Students. The following information will make pupil transportation legal, safe and successful.

- Bus stops and bus routes are established on the basis of safety, efficiency, and the age of students. State of Michigan law states, Buses shall be visible in both directions when stopped, (400 ft. visibility) and bus stops shall be at least 200 ft. apart. Not all stops are door to door. High School, Middle School and Elementary bus stops are centrally located. Exception is made with Main road stops, but it may be required that students combine a stop to keep in the 200 ft. legal requirement.
- Students should arrive at the bus stop ten (10) minutes prior to the scheduled arrival of the bus. Running for the bus as it is departing is extremely dangerous; this may place the student out of view of the driver's visibility
- The Transportation office reserves the right to change bus stops and routes when necessary. Students and parents will be notified of these changes.
- Parent cooperation is required to make sure the students ride the buses to which they are assigned. This will assure that the school and transportation office will have accurate counts and identification of students if an emergency situation arises.
- Walking distances and bus routes may be adjusted temporarily if necessary by reason of unsafe or impassable roads.

School Bus Safety:

- Wait in an orderly fashion at least ten (10) feet from the edge of the roadway.
- Cross only in front of the bus with driver instructions.
- Hang onto the handrail when entering or exiting the bus.
- Sit in assigned seat and remain seated until the bus stops completely.
- Observe the same conduct as in the classroom
- Cooperate with the driver; the driver has the right to assign seats accordingly.
- Fighting & horseplay will not be tolerated. **HANDS OFF POLICY.**
- Be courteous to all, no inappropriate language or gestures.
- Keep the bus clean.
- Students will be financially responsible for any damage they may cause to the bus.
- Keep head, hands, feet, or any objects in the seat, not in the aisle or out the window. No oversized objects may be transported. All items brought on the bus must be secured in the students lap.

- No live animals, sporting equipment must be kept in an appropriate bag, skateboards, roller-skates or blades, balloons may not be transported.
- Do not touch any bus mechanisms, switches, or supplies, this includes emergency windows, doors or hatches, unless instructed to by the driver.
- No eating or drinking on the bus. All buses are posted as a Peanut Allergy bus.
- Possession of illegal substances, weapons or obscene material is not permitted.
- Realize that any driver distraction is potentially hazardous to the safety of all passengers.
- Students must have written permission from a parent/guardian and endorsed by the school to ride home with another student or exit another bus stop that is not the student's assigned stop.

Bus Conduct Reports:

Bus conduct reports will be issued for infraction of bus rules or safety. Students must submit the Bus Conduct Report to parents/guardians when issued from the school. Student must have the form signed and financial restitutions if any must be made before bus riding privileges are reinstated.

Elementary Students:

This action is the level of response to a serious or chronic offense(s). The Transportation Department will submit the bus conduct report to the school. The Principal will assign the appropriate consequence.

- (1) Written warning, Depending on the severity of the incident, this step may be progressed to a suspension (2). One (1) day
- (3). Three (3) days
- (4). Five (5) days.
- (5). Ten (10) days.
- (6). Suspension of bus riding privileges for the remainder of the school year.

Additional:

All students are assigned to the bus stop based on home address. If you require a different stop, an "Alternate Bus Form" must be obtained either at the school, online or in the Transportation office.

The criteria are as listed;

- Child care arrangements must be within the same school's boundary
- Child care arrangement must be for all five (5) days.
- The alternate stop must be an existing stop on a bus run
- If the request is for a noon time kindergarten stop, the stop requested must be within the a.m./p.m. attendance area for that school.

You will be notified by the Transportation Office when your request has been filled. Do not change your stop location until that time.

Approved requests will result in your child's assignment to the alternate address. If your child should need to change back to the home address contact the Transportation Office and allow up to 3 days for the change to become effective, again you will be notified.

Bus Changes

In the event your child needs to ride a different bus home from school, **we must have a detailed note on the morning of the desired change.** Please indicate the reason for the change, and the person with whom your child will be riding home that day. **The office must sign this note the morning of the requested change.**

Closing of School / Emergency Situations

In the event of severe weather or some other emergency, school may be closed. As soon as the decision to close school is made, that information is called into the Michigan Law Enforcement Network of the State Police. Once confirmed, the local television and radio stations are notified of the closing. Parents may also consult the district webpage or Channel 6 in the local viewing area.

In any emergency situation, the safety of the children is our primary concern. We apologize in advance for any inconvenience that the school procedures may cause.

Lockdown- A lockdown is a procedure which will be used in the event that the school received information that may create a panic situation where it is best to keep students under control. A lockdown may also be used in the event of a possible physical threat. During a lockdown, parents/guardians must enter through the front door and present proper identification. Children will only be released to those listed on their emergency card.

Evacuation- If there is an emergency requiring the evacuation of students from the school building, students will be taken to the designated location listed below, where they will be supervised. Parents may pick up their children at the alternative location for their particular school and must present identification. Students will only be released to those listed on their emergency card. Buses will take any remaining students home at the regularly scheduled time.

- Sugarbush students will walk or be transported to Middle School South
- Naldrett students will walk or be transported to Sugarbush Elementary
- Lottie Schmidt students will walk or be transported to Grace United Methodist Church
- Ashley students will walk or be transported to the Middle School North
Maconce students will be transported to Middle School North
- MacDonald Head Start students will be transported to Maconce Elementary
- Lighthouse students will walk or be transported to Middle School North
- Great Oaks students will walk or be transported to Middle School South

Tornado and Severe Storm Procedures- A tornado warning means that a tornado has been sighted in the area. Parents should be aware of the following policy:

1. Every precaution is taken to ensure the safety of all children and adults in our buildings.
2. Students are not released during an emergency unless their parent picks them up at school.
3. Buses are not permitted to leave school grounds while a warning is in effect.
4. Out-going telephone calls are not allowed. We receive our instructions by telephone and Civil Defense monitor.

Fire, Tornado, and Lockdown Drills- The school complies with all fire safety laws and will conduct fire 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 evacuation of the building. Tornado and lockdown drills will be conducted using the procedures provided by the state.

Communicable Disease

Any student diagnosed by a physician or designated school personnel as having a contagious condition will be required to stay home from school for the duration of the illness to protect other students and staff. Students should not attend school if an elevated fever or diarrhea is present. Parents should refer to the following health department chart for guidelines on communicable diseases.

Disease & Incubation Period	Important Symptoms	Readmission to School
Chicken Pox 2-3 weeks	Fever, skin lesions in 3 stages, successive crops of eruptions, multiple small blister lesions	After no less than 7 days & when the skin is clear of lesions and the scabs are dry and crusted.
Impetigo 2-5 days	Itchy lesions, blistered at first but soon crusted and moist (often on existing insect bites) spreading rapidly to other areas and other children through discharge from lesions	When blisters are dried with treatment and note from doctor

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Pink Eye 2-5 days	Redness and irritation of the eyes, sensitivity to light, watery or yellow discharge; very communicable	When eyes are clear; after at least 24 hours treatment, and a doctor's note
Pediculosis (head lice)	Appearance of lice and eggs (nits) in the hair, commonly at the nape of the neck and/ or behind the ears (nits are firmly fastened to the hair, dandruff is loose)	When head is free of lice and nits; child will be checked by school personnel upon return
Common Cold 1 ½ - 3 days	Runny nose, watery eyes, slight fever, feels "bad" may have cough	1-3 days recovering, no fever
Ringworm of skin & scalp 10-14 days	Circular patches of dry skin on any part of the body and /or scalp that are slowly spreading	Doctor's note stating student is under care; areas need to be covered; may be excluded from PE if severe
Mononucleosis 30-50 days	Severe sore throat with marked enlargement of glands in neck; weakness and tiredness	Note from doctor
Scabies 7-14 days	Itchy red lesions commonly appear on the fingers and forearms, or around the waist	On recovery with a note from the doctor
Scarlet Fever, Scarlantina, and Streptococcal Infections 2-7 days	Sore throat and fever, may be a bright red rash on the neck, chest, and extremities	Note from the doctor, on antibiotics for 24 hours and no fever
Fifth's disease 4-15 days	An initial rash (slapped cheek appearance), may spread to extremities and trunk	Initial rash is clear (rash may come and go)

Measles and Rubella*	Generalized rash, may have fever	*rarely seen due to current immunizations requirements; notify the school and the County Health Department
Mumps*	Swelling around the ears and sides of neck	*rarely seen due to current immunizations requirements; notify the school and the County Health Department
Whooping Cough*	Persistent cough tending to come in paroxysms, perhaps with vomiting	*rarely seen due to current immunizations requirements; notify the school and the County Health Department

Control of Non-casual Contact Communicable Diseases

In the case of non-casual contact, communicable disease, 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 personal 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.

As required by Federal law, parents will be requested to have their child's blood checked for HIV, HBV, and other blood-borne pathogens when the child has bled at school and students or staff members have been exposed to the blood. Any testing is subject to laws protecting confidentiality.

Cell Phones/Electronic Communication Devices

The district recognizes that cell phones have become a part of daily life. Many students have them, however, we would discourage students from bringing them to school. In the event that students are instructed by parents to bring them, they must be turned off and stored in lockers during the day. The district assumes no responsibility for theft, loss, damage or vandalism to wireless communication devise brought onto district property.

Cell Phone Violation

Since use of such devise can contribute to disruptions and student misbehavior, students whose cell phones go off in class or who use cell phones or electronic communication devices with or without a camera or video capability will be subject to the following consequences:

- 1st offense-warning, parent contact
- 2nd offense-lunch detention
- 3rd offense-two lunch detentions
- 4th offense-one day suspension
- 5th offense-two-day suspension
- 6th offense-3-day suspension

Communication Between Home and School

Parents are encouraged to contact the school about any matter of concern. Staff and administration want to resolve your concerns promptly. Please follow the line of communication outlined below:

- The first essential step is to go to the immediate source and establish the facts.
- **If your concern is directly related to your child and the teacher, please call or arrange to meet with the teacher to discuss the matter.** If more information is then needed or if you have additional questions or concerns, please contact the school principal.
- If your concern is directly related to school bus transportation, please contact the Transportation Department at 725-4220.

Dressing for School / Dressing for Recess

Your child's clothing should not distract from the educational process. Reasonable standards for student dress and personal appearance are an essential requirement in the maintenance of an acceptable climate for effective conduct of instruction. Being neat and clean (good hygiene) is important to health as well as appearance. The following dress guidelines should be followed:

1. Clothing should be non-offensive and decent. Bare chests/midribs, tank tops with spaghetti straps, clothing with obscene language or symbols, and open-armed shirts are examples of inappropriate attire for school.
2. Sunglasses, sweatbands, and hats are inappropriate attire in school.
3. Appropriate footwear shall be worn at all times. (example: gym shoes for Physical Education)
4. Shorts, dresses and skirts should be mid-thigh/fingertip in length or longer. Shirts should cover shoulders.
5. Jewelry should be limited and may not be worn in Physical Education class. Expensive pieces of jewelry should not be worn to school.

Recess outdoors- Participating in recess can be an invigorating part of school. Fresh air and exercise are important. Students should wear warm clothes in winter months: coats, gloves, hats, and boots. Please be sure your child is dressed to enjoy recess. Children will go outside for recess unless the temperature (including the wind chill) is below 16 degrees. In addition, children will remain indoors for recess if the wind speed is above 26 MPH. If a child is well enough to attend school, he/she is well enough to go outside. A doctor's note is necessary to excuse your child from outdoor recess.

Early Dismissal

For the protection of your children, teachers are instructed that they are not to release children directly from their classrooms prior to the close of the school day unless notified by the office.

When a student has to leave school during the day, for any reason, the procedure is:

1. A parent or designated adult **must** come to the office and sign out the student.
2. Remember that leaving school 30 minutes or more prior to dismissal counts as a half-day absence.

Emergency Cards

Parents are responsible for completely filling out and signing an emergency card. These cards are kept on file in the office. Parents will be asked at the beginning of each school year to fill out an emergency card so that they can be contacted in case of an illness, accident, or injury at school. Information such as the home phone number, parent's place of employment and the phone number, and the name of a neighbor or friend who could pick up a child from school if the parents weren't available is important to have on file in case a child should need special care. **Keeping this information up-to-date is very important. Please let us know if names, addresses, e-mail addresses or phone numbers change. We must be able to reach you in the event of an emergency. Children will only be released to those listed on their emergency cards.**

Note on custody papers: Children will be released to either parent unless legal documentation is provided to the school that states otherwise.

Emergency Medical Authorization

The Board has established a policy that every student must have an Emergency Card with the medical authorization information completed and signed by his /her parent in order to participate in any activity on or off school grounds. This includes field trips, athletic and other extra-curricular activities and co-curricular activities.

The Emergency Medical Authorization Form is provided at the time of enrollment and at the beginning of each year.

Enrolling In 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
- Unless enrolling and paying tuition

New students under the age of eighteen (18) must be enrolled by their parent or legal guardian.

When enrolling, parents must provide copies of the following:

- a. a birth certificate
- b. court papers allocating parental rights and responsibilities, or custody (if appropriate)
- c. driver's license with district address
- d. proof of residency (2 items to verify this)
- e. proof of immunization

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

Students enrolling from another school must have an official transcript from their previous school in order to have credits transferred. The school office will assist in obtaining the transcript, if not presented at the time of enrollment.

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.

New students eighteen years of age or older are not required to be accompanied by a parent when enrolling. When residing with a parent, these students are encouraged to include the parents in the enrollment process. When conducting themselves in school, adult students have the same responsibilities of both student and parent.

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.

Field Trips

Whenever a field trip is scheduled, parental permission must be submitted in writing. A form with the details will be sent home with your child(ren) prior to the event. If the permission slip is not filled out and signed, the child will not be allowed to go on the trip with the group. All volunteers must complete a volunteer form prior to attending any school field trip or activity. Often students have the opportunity to go on field trips within our district. An in-district permission slip to cover all field trips of this type is on the bottom of the handbook acknowledgement page at the end of this handbook. Please sign this form.

Please note that the Student Code of Conduct and all school rules are in effect during field trips.

Grading

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 class work, test results, homework, projects, and classroom participation. Each teacher may place a different emphasis on these areas in determining a grade and will so inform the students at the beginning of the course work. If a student is not sure how his/her grade will be determined, he/she should ask the teacher. Grades may reflect a program that has been modified for a student with special needs, providing parent, teacher(s) and the appropriate administrator have approved the program in advance.

Grading Periods

Students shall receive a report card at the end of each quarter indicating their grades for each course of study for that portion of the academic term. In the middle of each marking period, interim progress reports may be sent home with the student. The **grading scale** used is as follows:

A=90-100% B=80-89% C=70-79% D=60-69% E=0-59%

Honor Roll

Fourth and fifth grade students qualify for the Honor Roll. Citizenship is included and the student must have all A's and B's in all subjects.

Homework

The assigning of homework is determined by each teacher. The amount and frequency of homework will vary from teacher to teacher as well as from time to time. All homework has a direct relationship to the classroom work.

Makeup of school work

If a student is absent due to illness, parents may request homework after two days of absence. When a student is absent from school he/she will be allowed an equal number of days to make up any work missed. Any exceptions to this policy will be at the discretion of the individual teachers with the approval of the Principal. Each teacher has his/her own policy on work not completed in class, and it is the student's responsibility to know and follow that policy.

HOW TO HELP YOUR CHILD AT HOME WITH HOMEWORK

This can be a unique time to share school with your child. You will become better informed about your child's progress in school while helping him/her establish study skills. Remember that homework is assigned to the child not to the parent. Offering encouragement and guidance will help build a positive attitude toward schoolwork.

- 1. Provide a regular time and a quiet, well-lit place to study*
- 2. Make reference materials available: dictionary, maps, etc...*
- 3. Keep supplies handy: paper, pencils, pens, crayons*
- 4. Encourage children to be responsible for getting homework done and turned in on time*

Immunizations

All kindergarten children (as well as any other student enrolling in a school for the first time) must be immunized as required by state law. Students will be excluded from school if they do not comply with the state's immunization law. A record of immunization with month, day, and year is to be given to the school. Parents must also submit a signed and dated statement by a county health department director or licensed vision specialist verifying that the child has been administered the department of public health preschool vision / hearing screening test. Check with your family doctor for further information regarding required immunizations.

State law requires that new students entering the district must provide a current immunization record and birth certificate. If immunization boosters are needed you will be notified by the school office. Students who have not completed the required immunizations will be excluded until requirements are met. The only exception that the State of Michigan will accept is if the parent or guardian obtains a waiver from the health department refusing the immunization on religious grounds or if there is other documented medical conditions to waive the immunization(s).

In order for the child to enter 6th grade, they must have had the Hepatitis B and Chicken Pox vaccinations. These records will be collected during the fifth grade to facilitate an easier transition of records to the middle school.

Individuals With Disabilities

The American's with Disabilities Act (A.D.A.) 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 Student Services Department at (586) 949-4513 to inquire about the evaluation procedures and programs.

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 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 school office or Debra Melody, Curriculum Office at (586) 725-2861 to inquire about evaluation procedures and programs offered by the District.

Lost and Found

Each school has a lost and found area. Students should check the lost and found area if they are missing any personal items. Items such as eyeglasses, jewelry, and watches are turned in to the school office. Unclaimed items will be given to charity on a periodic basis.

Lunch

Students who remain at school all day can purchase a nutritionally balanced lunch. Ala carte snacks, milk and juice are available on a daily basis. Lunch menus are sent home at the beginning of each month. Lunch money may be brought to school on a daily or weekly basis. Procedures for buying lunch will be explained in school. Anchor Bay School District also offers the opportunity for parents to pre-pay on line. The web site address is www.sendmoneytoschool.com.

The district participates in the Federal Free and Reduced Lunch Program. Applications are available on the district webpage or in the office. If at any time during a school year your household income changes, you are encouraged to call the Anchor Bay Food Services department at (586) 598-7663.

The school employs Lunch Aides to assist in maintaining a healthy and safe atmosphere. All students will comply with the requests of the aides at all times.

Charging Lunches

Charges are designed to cover a situation in which parents forget to send money for breakfast or lunch or milk. Students who have forgotten or lost money may charge meals.

- An email will be sent the day of the charge to parent/guardian's email on account notifying them of negative balance.
- After two lunch charges, the kitchen staff will contact the household to inform them of the balance owed.
- A reminder note will be sent home at end of week of any charges.
- Repayment is expected within the week for all charged meals.
- Kitchen staff will not discuss money owed or meal charging with students. The cashier will be pleasant and understanding as to not embarrass the student in front of his/her peers.

Medications/Medical Information

School personnel, as restricted by the State of Michigan, are not allowed to administer ANY medication unless it is under a doctor's order. When a student is in need of medication during the school day, the following procedure MUST be followed:

1. Medication must be accompanied by a doctor's written order and written authorization of the parent or guardian (forms available in the office).
2. The medication must be in the original container. The student's name, the physician's name, current date, the name and strength of the medication, and the specific directions as to the administration of the medication must be listed. The office staff cannot split pills that are in the container.
3. All medications must be delivered directly to the school office by a parent or guardian.
4. Liquid medication must be in a pre-measured form for each dosage that will be administered.
5. 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 the school year.
6. 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.

Under NO circumstances are children to bring ANY medication to school or on the bus. This includes aspirin, cough syrup, and all over-the-counter medications.

Students, with appropriate written permission from the physician and parent, may possess and use a metered dose inhaler or dry powder 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.*

Parent-Teacher Conferences

Formal parent-teacher conferences are scheduled during the year. Watch for information in the school newsletter and information from your child's teacher. Conferences offer the opportunity for face-to-face communication between you and the teacher with the objective of working together to provide the best possible educational experience for your child. You will discuss your child's report card and other materials during these conferences.

Teachers are also available between scheduled conferences to discuss problems that may arise or to update any concerns about your child's progress. Please call for an appointment before coming to school and make arrangements with your child's teacher. We request that parents do not come to school prior to the start of the school day for conferences unless this has been arranged with the teacher. We also request that parents do not interrupt classrooms for conferences while the children are being given instruction.

Personal Belongings

Students may not bring items of value to school. Items such as jewelry, electronic equipment and large amounts of money need to remain at home. The school cannot be responsible for their safekeeping and will not be liable for loss or damage to personal valuables. Students should not bring any personal items to school that would cause them to be upset if it should be lost or broken. If valuable items are needed for a special event, the parents/guardians can make arrangements to deliver and return the items to and from school. Please make certain that you place your youngster's name on all of his/her personal property, such as outdoor garments and lunch boxes. This will assist us greatly in returning misplaced items.

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 (Board policy 8431) will be made available for inspection at the Board offices upon request.

Registration

Students new to the Anchor Bay School District are asked to register as soon as possible. Those arriving during summer should register a week or two before classes begin. Children are eligible for kindergarten if they have reached their 5th birthday on or before September 1.

A parent or guardian must accompany each child and complete the necessary forms. All students entering school for the first time must present a valid birth certificate, parent/guardian driver's license showing a district address, proof of residency (2), and proof of immunizations. Schools will exclude students who do not comply with the state's immunization law. If the student is not living with both natural parents, custody papers may also be requested.

Students who are transferring to the Anchor Bay School District need to provide all of the information noted above and proof of residency in the district within 30 days of their initial enrollment. They may need to submit proof of achievement in the last grade they attended to insure proper grade placement. Parents will be asked to sign a form allowing the district to obtain school records from the previous school.

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. Parent's rights to review teaching materials, and instructional activities are subject to reasonable restrictions and limits.

School Supplies

Students are permitted to bring their personal school supplies with them to school. A list of suggested supplies for the next grade level will be provided to students at the end of the school year. All textbooks and related learning materials will be provided in reasonable quantities: pencils, paper, crayons, glue, rulers and scissors. Students need to bring their own gym shoes. Students who lose or damage textbooks will be held responsible for payment according to the degree of loss or damage.

Student Assessment

To measure student progress, students will be tested in accordance with State and District policy. Students in grades 3, 4, and 5 will participate in the state assessment which will take place in the spring of each school year.

Additional assessments are given to students throughout the year to monitor progress and determine educational mastery levels. These tests are used to help the staff determine instructional needs.

Student Council

The school has a Student Council Organization involving representatives and alternates from each upper elementary classroom. Elections are held each fall.

Student Placement / Class Assignment

The principal will assign each student to the appropriate classroom and program.

Student Records

In order to provide appropriate educational services and programming, the Board of Education must collect, retain, and use information about individual students. Simultaneously, the Board recognizes the need to safeguard student's privacy and restrict access to student's personal identifiable information.

The Board of Education is responsible for maintaining records of all students attending schools in this District. Only records mandated by the State or Federal government and /or necessary and relevant to the function of the School District or specifically permitted by this Board will be compiled by Board employees. The Board hereby authorizes collection of the following student records, in addition to the membership record required by law:

- A. observations and rating of individual students by professional staff members acting within their sphere of competency
- B. samples of student work
- C. information obtained from professionally acceptable standard instruments of measurement such as:
 - a. Interest inventories and aptitude tests
 - b. Vocational preference inventories
 - c. Achievement tests
 - d. Standardized intelligence tests
- D. verified reports of serious or recurrent behavior patterns
- E. rank in class and academic honors earned
- F. psychological tests
- G. attendance records
- H. health records
- I. custodial arrangements

In all cases, permitted, narrative information in student records shall be objectively-based on the personal observation or knowledge of the originator.

Student records shall be available only to students and their parents, adult students, and designated school officials and personnel, who have a legitimate educational interest in the information, or to other individuals or organizations as permitted by law. The term "parents" includes legal guardians or other persons standing in loco parentis (such as a grandparent or stepparent with whom the child lives, or a person who is legally responsible for the welfare of the child).

In situations in which a student has both a custodial and noncustodial parent, both shall have access to the student's educational records unless stipulated otherwise by court order. In the case of adult students (individuals eighteen (18) and older), parents will be allowed access to the records without the student's consent, provided the student is considered a dependent under section 152 of the Internal Revenue Code. 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 AG8350). 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.

“Legitimate educational interest” shall be defined as a “direct or delegated responsibility for helping the student achieve one or more of the educational goals of the District” or if the record is necessary in order for the school official to perform an administrative, supervisory or instructional task or to perform a service or benefit for the student or the student’s family.

The Board authorizes the administration to:

- A. forward student records on request to a school or school district in which a student of this District seeks or intends to enroll upon condition that the student’s parents be notified of the transfer, receive a copy of the record if desired, and have an opportunity for a hearing to challenge the content of the record;
- B. Provide “personally-identifiable” information to appropriate parties in connection with an emergency if such knowledge is necessary to protect the health and safety of the student or other individuals;
- C. Report a crime committed by a child with a disability to appropriate authorities and to transmit copies of the student’s special education and disciplinary records to the authorities for their consideration;
- D. Request each person or party requesting access to a student’s records to abide by the Federal regulations concerning the disclosure of information to a third party.

The Board will comply with a legitimate request for access to a student’s records within a reasonable period of time but not more than forty-five (45) days after receiving the request. Upon the request of the viewer, a record shall be reproduced, unless said record is copyrighted, and the viewer may be charged a fee equivalent to the cost of handling and reproduction. Based upon reasonable requests, viewers of educational records will receive explanation and interpretation of the records.

The Board shall maintain a record of those persons to whom information about a student has been disclosed. Such disclosure records will indicate the student, person viewing the record, information disclosed, date of disclosure, and date parental / adult student consent was obtained.

Only “directory information” regarding a student shall be released to any person or party, other than the student or his/her parent, without the written consent of the parent; or, if the student is eighteen (18) years of age or older, the written consent of the student, except those persons or parties stipulated by the Board policy and administrative guidelines and /or those specified in the law.

The Board shall exempt from disclosure directory information, as requested for the purpose of surveys, marketing, or solicitation, unless the Board determines that the use is consistent with the education mission of the Board and beneficial to the affected students. The Board may take steps to ensure that directory information disclosed shall not be used, rented, or sold for the purpose of surveys, marketing, or solicitations. Before disclosing the directory information, the Board may require the requester to execute an affidavit stating that directory information provided shall not be used, rented, or sold for the purpose of surveys, marketing, or solicitation.

Directory Information

Each year the Superintendent shall provide public notice to students and their parents of its intent to make available, upon request, certain information known as “directory information.” The Board designates as student “directory information”:

- A. a student’s name;
- B. participation in officially recognized activities and sports, height, and weight, if a member of an athletic team;
- C. date of graduation;
- D. awards received;
- E. honor rolls;
- F. scholarships.

Parents and adult students may refuse to allow the District to disclose any or all of such “directory information” upon written notification to the District within ten (10) days after receipt of the District’s public notice.

Technology Resources

The policy of the district is to provide technology to support curriculum and instruction. All of the district’s computers are primarily intended to be used for instructional purposes, and not for entertainment, advertising, recreation, or commercial purposes. Further, use of the district’s computer equipment by any person is a privilege, and not a right, and the district reserves the right to prohibit any use that does not further the instructional objectives of the school district. Any student violating the provisions of this policy is subject to discipline up to and including permanent expulsion from school. The detailed Internet Policy (Board Policy # 5890) is listed below. The Anchor Bay School District Student Internet Access and Acceptable Use Agreement must be signed and turned in by each student. This form is found on the last page of this handbook.

Internet Policy

Anchor Bay Schools are devoted to using the best technology that we can offer in an effort to help students become lifelong learners. To that end, the Internet and other telecommunications networks are vital tools.

Students have the conditional right to access telecommunications networks to facilitate their growth in skill and their research. Users of telecommunications networks have the responsibility to follow all Board adopted guidelines when using school facilities or school district passwords.

General Responsibilities

- All internet or other network passwords will be issued to faculty and staff only. Students may only use district facilities when using a staff password with that staff member’s authorization.
- Students may not use personal passwords from school facilities.
- Access to toll numbers may be made only within the limitations of preauthorized school accounts. The holder of the password is responsible for all charges made while accessing with that password.
- Faculty and staff will supervise all student use of telecommunications networks authorized by their passwords.
- Students may not use faculty/staff passwords from home or other access sites.

Responsibilities While Using Telecommunications Networks:

- Users have the responsibility to respect the privacy of all users; they shall not intentionally seek information on, obtain copies of, or modify files or passwords belonging to other users.
- Users have the responsibility to respect all copyright laws; copyrighted materials shall not be uploaded. School programs may not be downloaded for use at home.
- Users shall not incur charges for downloading materials without prior authorization.
- Users shall not develop or use programs that harass, infiltrate or otherwise interfere with the use of others.
- Users shall not access, download or bounce materials which would be otherwise prohibited in the schools, including but not limited to pornography, material which incites or encourages violations of laws, substance abuse or harassment on the basis of gender, race, ethnicity or condition of disability.
- It is the user's responsibility to maintain the integrity of the system by using appropriate logon and logoff procedures, reporting all malfunctions immediately, and powering off all equipment after use.

Users Of Telecommunications Networks In The Schools Shall:

- Use the Internet for the support of education, research and information only.
- Obey all copyright laws.
- Report any misuse, illegal access, tampering or malfunction immediately.
- Accept responsibility for care of equipment.
- Keep all passwords confidential.
- Use passwords only for authorized access, and not at other times.

Users Shall Not:

- Access inappropriate files.
- Access or modify accounts or files.
- Use the Internet in any way which would violate the Code of Conduct.
- Incur charges without prior authorization.
- Reveal personal or confidential information.
- Use passwords other than those authorized for school use, or at times other than authorized.

The school district reserves the right to access, read, or delete any information on district files or charged to district passwords.

Failure to follow these guidelines and procedures will result in loss of access and/or disciplinary action.

Transferring Out Of The District

Parents must notify the school office about plans to transfer their child to another school. 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.

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

Uniform Student Code of Conduct

The Board of Education has adopted a Uniform Student Code of Conduct. 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 terms contained in the list.

It is the school staff's responsibility 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 facts and / or special circumstances of the situation.

Vision / Hearing Screening

Vision and hearing screening is available to each elementary school through the Macomb County Health Department. These services will take place at the schools. Parents will be notified concerning details and dates in advance.

Visiting Students

On occasion we are asked to allow non-enrolled students to spend the day in a classroom with a friend. Our policy is that we deny these requests. The lessons are likely to have little or no relevance to where that student's own classroom is in relation to the course of study in each subject area.

Visitor Registration

Please keep in mind that all visitors to the school must sign in and pick up a visitor pass at the School Office. Entrance is only through the main office doors. We wish to safeguard your children so let us know when you are here, even if you just stopped by to bring in a forgotten lunch.

Volunteers

Volunteers are an important part of the Anchor Bay School Community. Each day your dedication, caring and smiles touch the lives of students you see. When volunteering to work in the school, you need to sign in at the office before you report for your volunteer assignment. Please sign out of the school when you leave.

As a volunteer worker, you provide supplementary help to the students and teachers and perform other needed tasks in support of the educational program. At no time does a volunteer take the place of the classroom teacher or other staff person. As a volunteer, you must follow the same code of ethics that the professional staff follows. This includes keeping confidential matters confidential. Volunteers are required to complete a district volunteer registration form for background checks prior to any volunteer assignment.

Walkers

Walkers should attempt to walk to school with other children from their area and observe proper pedestrian procedures.

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.

ANCHOR BAY SCHOOL DISTRICT

ELEMENTARY UNIFORM STUDENT CODE OF CONDUCT

**5201 County Line Rd., Suite 100
Casco, MI 48064
(586) 725-2861**

Website: www.anchorbay.misd.net



Dear Parents, Students, and Community Members:

Our schools provide a safe, orderly environment for the achievement of our mission - lifelong learning. We are proud of our students and we are committed to working together to make them all that they can be. This Uniform Code of Conduct is intended to support the efforts of the entire school family and to keep our schools safe. We are grateful for your support and your pride in Anchor Bay.

*Sincerely,
Superintendent of Schools*

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ANCHOR BAY SCHOOL DISTRICT

VISION:

It is the vision of the Anchor Bay School District to promote educational excellence, community collaboration and student success.

MISSION:

Anchor Bay Schools, in partnership with the community, will produce lifelong learners, who respect diversity, adapt to change and function as responsible citizens.

BELIEF STATEMENTS:

Every Person—

- Can become a life-long learner and a responsible citizen
- Can actively participate in the learning process
- Can respect the global environment
- Can respect diversity

The Community—

- Supports education
- Provides resources for students
- Encourages students to stay in school and succeed
- Supports school goals and activities

Families—

- Prepare children for school
- See that children attend school regularly
- Support school goals and participate in school activities
- Support school appropriate character development and behavior
- Provide support and resources for students to complete assignments
- Establish appropriate priorities for learning

Teachers—

- Provide relevant experiences that enhance and encourage learning
- Encourage students to do quality work
- Accommodate learning styles, abilities and intelligences
- Encourage parent communication/partnerships
- Utilize instructional best practices to meet state curriculum standards

All School Personnel—

- Model responsible leadership
- Provide a positive and safe environment
- Provide resources and technologies to enhance learning
- Encourage instructional best practices
- Encourage cooperation, innovation and creativity
- Are highly qualified
- Engage in continued professional development
- Set a standard for excellence
- Promote parent involvement
- Treat each other with respect
- Commit to the success of all students

Students—

- Demonstrate positive attitude and behavior
- Seek help and clarification when needed
- Set high goals for learning
- Understand the importance of learning

STUDENT CODE OF CONDUCT

EQUAL OPPORTUNITY

The Michigan Constitution (Article 8, Section I) assures all students the right to a free public education: "Religion, morality and knowledge being necessary to good government and the happiness of mankind, schools and the means of education shall forever be encouraged."

At the same time, both federal and state legislation assures students of their right to pursue this education in a system which provides equal opportunity for each learner.

Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 assures all citizens that they will not experience discrimination on the basis of their race or ethnic origins.

Title IX of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 assures students that they will not experience discrimination on the basis of their sex.

Section 504 of Public Law 94-142 (Vocational Rehabilitation Act of 1973) assures students that they will have equal opportunities regardless of handicapping conditions.

It is the policy of the Anchor Bay School District to provide equal opportunity for all students, regardless of race, color, creed, handicap, religion, sex, ancestry, national origin, place of residence within the boundaries of the District, or social or economic background, to learn through the curriculum offered in this district. Any student who believes that they have been subject to discrimination should contact the Superintendent's Office.

RESPONSIBILITIES OF STUDENTS

With these rights come responsibilities. The Common Goals of Michigan Education (1971) identifies these general responsibilities of students:

- The rights of the individual at times are limited by the greater need to protect the rights of the group and the instructional process.
- Further rights of the individual end where they conflict with the rights of others.
- A person who violates the rights of others or fails to properly carry out his/her responsibilities can expect to suffer some loss of his/her rights.

For that reason, the Board of Education of the Anchor Bay School District has established through its policies and administrative directives the following Code of Conduct for all students.

RESPONSIBILITY FOR A SAFE AND ORDERLY SCHOOL ENVIRONMENT:

To create an environment which promotes learning, every member of the school community must work together. The ultimate responsibility for student conduct rests with the student and parents. Parents are responsible for the behavior and attitudes of their children. Teachers, administrators, counselors and staff deal with such problems to the extent the student will accept their help and authority.

When efforts fail or are not accepted by the student, parents must then deal with their child in whatever way is necessary to insure proper respect for school authority and acceptable behavior on the part of their child. The District policy manual states:

"Respect for the law and for those persons in authority shall be expected of all students. This includes conformity to school rules as well as general provisions of (state and federal) laws as they relate to students and staff. Respect for the rights of others, consideration of their privileges, and cooperative citizenship shall also be expected of all members of the school community."

The school district's policies and rules apply to any student who is on school property or school affiliated transportation, who is in attendance at school or any school-sponsored activity, or whose conduct at any place or time creates a substantial disruption to the operations, discipline, or general welfare of the school, regardless of location, date or time.

To accomplish these goals, students are expected to work to obtain the highest achievement possible in their studies, contribute to the schools' safe and orderly environment, and respect the rights and property of others. School staff are expected to encourage and work to maintain the highest standards of conduct in the schools by publishing and enforcing consistent rules of conduct and supervising activities. As partners in the educational process, parents are expected to reinforce the school's standards of conduct and disciplinary procedures at home and encourage their students to attend school regularly.

CATEGORIES OF MISCONDUCT:

The Board of Education has established standards of behavior in school, on school buses, and at school activities. Misconduct is defined as any action which:

- Does not conform to reasonable standards of socially-acceptable behavior,
- Does not respect the person or property of others,
- Does not preserve the order necessary to the educational program of the school,
- Does not respect the rights of others, or involves disobedience to duly constituted authority or disrespect for those who hold that authority.

ACTS OF MISCONDUCT MAY FALL INTO THE FOLLOWING CATEGORIES:

Minor infractions may include but are not limited to:

1. Lack of cooperation with school personnel in the schools, on buses, or at school-sponsored activities.
2. Improper dress - This Code requires dress which is not disruptive to the school environment and which is not hazardous to the health, safety or physical appearance of our school. Students must wear shirts which cover the shoulders and fit around the arms and waistline; pants which have a natural waistline and do not drag on the floor. Snap or breakaway pants and extremely short shorts are prohibited. Chains, studs and other metallic accessories are prohibited. Writing on the body is prohibited. Hats and coats should not be worn in school. T-shirts may not exhibit messages that are offensive, which advocate drugs or illegal activities.
3. Irregular attendance (unexplained absences or tardiness to class).
4. Violation of classroom or school rules.
5. Shoving, tripping, or other actions which endanger the safety of others.
6. Improper language directed at staff.
7. Unauthorized sales of products on school property.
8. Unauthorized distribution or posting of communicative materials.
9. Plagiarism.
10. Violation of closed campus rules.
11. Disrespectful behavior towards staff.
12. Violation of Computer Use Policy
13. Cheating - Copying assignments on tests, giving an assignment or test to another student to copy - no credit for the assignment.

POSSIBLE DISCIPLINARY ACTION FOR MINOR OFFENSES:

Since parents and school personnel share the responsibility for supervising student behavior, every effort will be made to keep parents informed of the nature and frequency of minor offenses. Disciplinary action for minor offenses will be progressive, relate in kind and degree to the infraction, help the student learn to take responsibility for actions, and be directed, wherever possible, to minimizing the harm which may have been done by the infraction. However disciplinary action taken shall not include corporal punishment.

(Time-outs will allow credit for make-up work; suspensions may not.) Actions may include all or part of the following:

- Exclusion from social activities, ceremonies, or extracurriculars,
- Detention before or after regularly-scheduled classes, when parents have been notified, and can provide for and/or arrange transportation,
- Reassignment to an alternative location in the school for completion of school assignments,
- Time-out (1-10 days) or suspension from classes (1-10 days), or
- Establishment of alternative consequences by means of student behavior contracts, or community service, or
- Elimination of the right to drive to or park at school.

ABSENCE AND TARDINESS:

Regular attendance at required school activities and classes is essential to successful achievement of the goals of education. It is the student's responsibility to attend class regularly. Reasons for absence may include, but are not limited to:

- a) illness,
- b) required medical or dental treatment which cannot be scheduled at another time,
- c) required court attendance,
- d) death in the immediate family or a family friend,
- e) observation or celebration of a bona fide religious holiday.

Parents or guardians must provide documentation of reasons for all absences to the school immediately following the absence. Students may be required to make up missed work at alternative times (1 day make-up for each day excused) or to demonstrate their competence through examinations for repeated absences; failure to do so may result in reduction of grade, denial of credit or failure to achieve promotion. Absences which are not explained by parents within 24 hours are unexcused. Students with greater than the number of unexcused absences specified in the student handbook may be denied credit subject to credit review. In the event of an unexcused absence (skip), there is a loss of credit for that period or day.

SEARCH AND SEIZURE:

To maintain order and discipline in the schools and to protect the safety and welfare of students and school personnel, school authorities may search a student, student lockers, desks, vehicles, purses and athletic bags under the circumstances out-lined below and may seize any illegal, unauthorized or contraband materials discovered in the search. Student lockers and desks are school property and remain at all times under the control of the school district; however, students are expected to assume full responsibility for the security of their lockers and desks. Students should not expect privacy regarding items placed in or on school property because school property is subject to search at any time by school officials.

Periodic general inspection of lockers, desks and vehicles may be conducted by school authorities for any reason at any time without notice, without student consent and without a search warrant. The District reserves the right to use the police department and its canine unit to search the premises for illegal substances at any time. A student's failure to permit searches and seizures as provided in this policy will be considered grounds for disciplinary action. A student's person and/or personal effects (e.g., purse, book bag, athletic bag or vehicle) may be searched whenever a school official has reasonable suspicion to believe that the student is in possession of illegal or unauthorized materials. If a properly conducted search yields illegal or contraband materials, such findings shall be turned over to proper legal authorities for ultimate disposition.

STUDENT PUBLICATIONS:

The Board of Education recognizes that student publications enable students to learn the rights and responsibilities of the press in a free society. The Board is mindful that publications sponsored by the District must be available to all students who attend and, therefore, must be suitable for all students. Issues which reflect opposing points of view may be included in school publications, providing that equal opportunity has been provided to present alternative views. The Board reserves the right to prevent distribution of student publications which:

- Are prejudicial to any group,
- Libel any person or persons,
- Seek to establish any religious denomination or sect,
- Advocate any substance which may be reasonably believed to endanger the health of students,
- Contain obscenity or material which violates the standards of the community, or
- Incite violence, advocate use of force, or urge violation of law or school regulations.

The Board also prohibits publications which:

- Fail to identify the student or organization responsible for their publication,
- Solicit funds for non-school organizations without Board approval, or
- Promote, favor, or oppose any candidate for election or issue placed on the ballot in an election.

HARASSMENT/BULLYING

Any form of harassment is unacceptable and will result in disciplinary action. Harassment includes but is not limited to the following:

1. Racial, ethnic, religious or gender-related slurs, name calling, derogatory slang terms, etc.
2. Racial, ethnic, religious or gender-related innuendos, epithets or gestures.
3. Racial, ethnic, religious or gender-related terms or messages written on lockers or displayed on papers, signs, T-shirts, or any other materials or apparel.
4. Any discriminatory words, acts, suggestions or sayings spoken or written anywhere on school property.

Students involved in harassing/bullying activities will be punished via suspension up to and including a recommendation for expulsion. Local authorities will be notified and charges filed for severe and/or repeat offenses. Distribution of materials which violate these standards shall be considered an infraction of school rules under the guidelines defined above.

STUDENT SEXUAL HARASSMENT:

The Anchor Bay School District is committed to providing all students with a safe and supportive school environment. Staff and students are expected to treat each other with mutual respect and to accept the rich diversity which makes up the school community. Disrespect among members of the school community is unacceptable behavior which threatens to disrupt the learning environment and behavior which will not be tolerated. The Anchor Bay School District is opposed to and prohibits without qualification sexual harassment in our schools.

Definition: Sexual harassment is any unwanted or unwelcome sexual behavior that makes a person feel uncomfortable, put down, demoralized or interferes with a person's school days. In order for any specific action to be considered sexual harassment, it must be offensive to the recipient or create an offensive educational (working or learning) environment. (Sexual harassment includes both intentional conduct and action that was not intended to offend a reasonable and prudent individual.)

Both federal and state laws state that harassment on the basis of sex is a form of discrimination. Title VII of the U.S. Civil Rights Act and Title IX of the Educational Amendments are the laws that make sexual harassment illegal in schools.

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 of this nature that may be considered inappropriate. Such behavior may result in suspension from school or possibly expulsion.

FRATERNITIES, SORORITIES, GANGS AND SECRET ORGANIZATIONS:

Students attending public schools are prohibited by state law from holding membership in fraternities, sororities, gangs and secret organizations.

Belonging to a gang or wearing gang-related clothing and gang items in itself poses a problem. It creates the possibility that persons other than Anchor Bay students will purposefully come to one of the schools to encounter a potential rival gang or member of a gang. This creates a potentially dangerous situation for all Anchor Bay students. It also creates an intimidating and stressful situation for non-gang members. The potential for internal conflict is also increased when "gangs" exist.

To provide a safe environment for all students in the Anchor Bay School District, all gang identifying clothing, items, and activities (as determined in cooperation with the police) are strictly prohibited in school, on school property and at all school related events.

Students violating the above regulation will be subject to disciplinary action up to and including expulsion and referral to police. Non-students will be refused entry to schools and school events or asked to leave.

ILLEGAL ACTIONS AND MAJOR INFRACTIONS:

The following actions are considered major violations of the order of the school:

1. Use, sale or possession of tobacco on school district property or during school sponsored events.
2. Larceny/Steal another person's property or unauthorized possession of it.

3. Hazing/Performing acts of initiation into a group, class or organization that causes physical, mental or emotional harm.
4. Extortion.
5. Gambling.
6. Malicious mischief.
7. Trespassing/being present in a locked or posted location without permission.
8. Unlawful interference with school authorities or programs.
9. Fighting (Five day suspensions for both parties on the first offense unless one party attempted to walk away and was physically unable).
10. Possession or distribution of materials which are libelous, pornographic or which advocate illegal acts.
11. Gaining access, altering or forging (on paper or electronically) school documents or school databases, or possession of a "virus" disc.
12. Gross negligence/violation of rules for safe and orderly conduct. Disorderly conduct/substantial interference with the operation of the district by unlawful student assemblage or group/individual acts of violence, disruption, vandalism or building seizure.
13. Racial or sexual harassment/intimidation.
14. Bullying/Harassment.
15. Insubordination/failure to follow staff directive. Bold resistance to authority.
16. Giving false identification or information.
17. Profanity and/or obscene gestures directed at staff.
18. Possessing or distributing non-commercial and/or pirated software (computer discs, CDs).
19. Indecent exposure.
20. Computer crimes and/or compromising the school network/hacking.
21. Possession of laser devices on school property or during school activities.
22. Use, sale or possession of illegal drugs/drug paraphernalia or look-alike substances or alcohol on school property or during school-sponsored events.
23. Arson.
24. Battery/harmful striking of another person.
25. Assault/an offer or threat to do physical harm, with force or violence, and the apparent present means to carry out that threat.
26. Burglary/breaking and entering a building with intent to steal.
27. Possession or use of explosives, flammable or dangerous materials.
28. Possession of firearms or items that could be used as weapons on school district premises.
29. Setting false alarms.
30. Bomb threats made to school or school personnel.
31. Gang related activity.
32. Anyone responsible for things going over the balcony railing (high school).
33. Improper touching of another student, or other lewd and promiscuous behavior.
34. Cell Phone/Electronic Communication Device – refusal to surrender to requesting staff member as directed.

CONSEQUENCES FOR MAJOR INFRACTIONS:

1st offense – up to three (3) day suspension

2nd offense – up to five (5) day suspension

3rd offense – up to ten (10) day suspension

Subsequent offenses – ten (10) day suspension

The severity of the infraction may allow for accelerated/reduced consequences

SPECIAL RESPONSES

Time out may be used until a parent conference is held.

Restitution will be made for damages.

Bogus phone calls will result in a one (1) day suspension.

During the period of suspension the student has forfeited any and all privileges to attend school functions or any school sponsored activities and/or be on school grounds. Violation of this provision will be construed to be willful violation of reasonable school rules, and subject to further suspension.

USE OF BREATH-TEST INSTRUMENTS:

The principal or their designee 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 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. 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.

DISCIPLINARY ACTION FOR MAJOR INFRACTIONS:

While minor infractions may warrant progressive consequences, major violations of school conduct may be followed by imposition of more severe consequences on the first offense. Violation of the major infractions above may result in immediate suspension for up to ten days, and may be followed by long-term suspension or expulsion from the school program by the Board of Education (as a result of a formal hearing). The District will also pursue criminal prosecution of violations of applicable state and federal laws on school district property. Suspensions from school for major offenses require notification to parents by phone or in person, followed by notification by mail (with copy to student record). Conditions for readmission of students may include restitution for property damage and/or acceptance of outside professional help for behavioral difficulties. The building administrator may also require a parent, guardian, or designee to accompany a student to class in lieu of suspension in some cases. Documentation of satisfactory completion of conditions for readmission will be provided. Work missed during suspension from school will not count toward credit or graduation unless it is the first non-violent infraction. As a result of a major infraction, students may also be restricted from enrollment in one or more educational alternatives in our system. Major offenses committed on school transportation will be considered major school offenses.

USE OF ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATIONS DEVICES

A student may possess a cellular telephone or electronic device (ECD) for after-school use, if it is turned off and stored in their locker during school hours. Also, during school activities when directed by the administrator or sponsor, cell phones and other ECD's shall be turned off and stored away out of site. Prohibited activities:

*Devices that are capable of capturing images, electronic or otherwise, are prohibited from use in bathrooms or locker rooms, even at other school districts;

*Connecting a cell phone and/or ECD to the District Wide Area Network.

Possession of a cellular telephone or other ECD by a student is a privilege which may be forfeited by any student who fails to abide by the terms of this policy, or otherwise engages in misuse of this privilege. Violations of this policy may result in disciplinary action and confiscation of the cellular telephone or ECD. The student who possesses a cellular phone or ECD shall assume responsibility for its care. At no time shall the District be responsible for preventing theft, loss or damage to cell phones or ECD's brought onto its property. Students using a Palm Pilot without the communication capacity disabled are subject to the same consequences.

Cell phones and electronic communications devices must be turned off and left in student lockers during the school day.

Students Caught Using Cell Phones

Since use of such devices can contribute to disruptions and student misbehavior, students whose cell phones go off in school or who use cell phones or electronic communication devices with or without a camera or video capability during the school day will be subject to the following consequences:

1st Offense - Confiscation and pick up by a parent or guardian

2nd Offense - 1 day suspension / time out

3rd Offense - 3 days suspension / time out

4th Offense - 5 days suspension / time out

5th Offense - 10 days suspension / time out

The administration reserves the right to accelerate consequences as necessary. Students caught using the video or camera capability of the phone during the school day without prior approval of the building principal will be subject to suspension from school.

Students who refuse to surrender their cell phone or electronic communication device are insubordinate. This is a major infraction and the consequences for major infractions subject to progressive discipline will apply.

WEAPONS

If a dangerous weapon is found in the possession of a pupil while the pupil is in attendance at school or a school activity or while the pupil is en route to or from school on a school bus, the superintendent of the school district will immediately report that finding to the pupil's parent or legal guardian and the local law enforcement agency. A dangerous weapon means a firearm, including air and gas-powered guns (whether loaded or unloaded) a dagger, a dirk, a stiletto, a knife with a blade more than three inches in length (measured from the hinge), a pocket knife opened by a mechanical device, iron bar, or brass knuckles, martial arts weapons, or any other object used to threaten or harm another student. Weapons may also include any toy that is presented as a real weapon or reacted to as a real weapon. Criminal charge may be filed for this violation. If a student possesses a dangerous weapon, the Board of Education or its designee will expel the student permanently from the school district, subject to possible reinstatement, unless the student establishes in a clear and convincing manner, at least one of the following:

1. The object or instrument possessed by the student was not intended for use as a weapon or for direct or indirect delivery to another person for use as a weapon.
2. The weapon was not knowingly possessed by the pupil.
3. The student did not know or have reason to know the object or instrument possessed constituted a dangerous weapon.
4. The weapon was possessed by the student at the suggestion, request, or direction of, or with the express permission of the school or police authorities. (Act 451 of 1976, Section 1311)

Major offenses committed on school transportation will be considered major school offenses. Students may also be subject to disciplinary action if misconduct occurs out of school and has a direct adverse impact either on school discipline or on the general safety and welfare of staff or students.

ASSAULT

If a student enrolled in grade 6 or above commits a physical assault at school against another student, that student may be subject to permanent expulsion with the right to reapply to the school district after 180 days. If a student enrolled in grade 6 or above commits a physical assault at school against a person employed by or engaged as a volunteer or contractor by the school district then that student shall be expelled from the school district.

"Physical assault" shall mean intentionally causing or attempting to cause physical harm to another through force or violence.

"Verbal assault" shall mean a direct threat of physical harm by threatened force, violence or intimidation.

Staff members who observe or experience an assault shall provide immediate, written report to the building level administration to be communicated to the Superintendent of Schools. The report should include the specific nature of the physical harm threatened and details of how the means to carry out the threat was present in the situation.

MANDATORY EXPULSION FOR SERIOUS OFFENSES

Michigan law requires the expulsion of students who bring a weapon onto school premises. A weapon is defined as a firearm, an explosive device, a knife greater than 3 inches (measured from the hinge), brass knuckles, or any object which can be used as a weapon. In addition, Michigan law requires expulsion of students who communicate threats of bombing, commit arson, commit criminal sexual conduct or commit verbal or physical assaults on school employees, volunteers or contractors. (Michigan Revised School Code, Section 1311).

INTERVIEWS OF STUDENTS BY POLICE AND OTHER PUBLIC AGENCIES

The school district endeavors to cooperate with law enforcement agencies. Law enforcement officials may interview students at school. School officials will grant law enforcement interviews with a student considering (1) type of incident; (2) seriousness of incident; (3) age and maturity of student; and (4) the relationship of the incident to school or the education process. When practical, school personnel will be present during the police interview, and an attempt will be made to notify the parent prior to the interview. Parental notification will occur in the event such an interview has taken place.

DUE PROCESS:

A student charged with misconduct has a right to due process. The Board of Education recognizes that the following procedures insure this right:

1. The student will be informed of the charges against him/her in a timely manner.
2. The student will be informed of the origin of the charges and will be allowed to present evidence on his/her own behalf.
3. For serious/criminal infractions where police involvement is required, a hearing will occur with the appropriate administrator, the persons making the charges, and the student (with parents and/or representatives present if desired).
4. The student may have access to records of disciplinary actions and may appeal these actions when appropriate to the next higher authority.

An administrator may require the immediate removal of a disruptive student from a classroom situation if his/her presence endangers the academic atmosphere, the health, safety, or rights of others, or the security of the school. Notice of such a removal will be given to parents at the first opportunity.

In cases where students and/or parents object to the discipline practices of school personnel, appeal may be made by:

1. Arranging a conference with the teacher or administrator from whom the action originated, then
2. If agreement has not been reached, writing a letter of appeal to the building administrator or immediate supervisor, then
3. If agreement has not been reached, arranging a conference with the Superintendent of Schools or his/her designee.

Appeals of suspensions should be made in writing to the Director of Elementary or Secondary Education and followed by a phone call to the office. In an appeal, the parent should include the circumstances regarding the disciplinary action and the student's past school record. An appeal of a suspension may result in detention, community service, or continued suspension depending upon the student's record and circumstances. For suspensions up to 10 days, the appeal process ends with the Superintendent.

LONG TERM SUSPENSION AND EXPULSION:

Decisions on long term suspension (more than 10 days) or expulsion from the District are made by the Board of Education. The student and his/her parents will be provided with written notice of the intention to suspend or expel, the timetable for such action, and the reasons for this action. A Board hearing will be convened within ten (10) school days following the suspension. They will be provided with an opportunity to appear before the Board and to answer the charges. A summary of the procedures which will be used, the witnesses which will be called, and the student's rights in these procedures will be provided. The decision of the Board will be made available within five (5) days after such hearing. Students may be assigned to an alternative educational setting by the Superintendent.

Both the student and the Board may be represented by an advisor or legal counsel at this hearing. The hearing may be held in public or in closed session at the discretion of the student and his/her parents.

STUDENT GRIEVANCES:

The Board of Education recognizes that as citizens, students have the right to redress of grievances. Further, the Board believes that the instilling of respect for lawful procedure is an important part of the educational process. Accordingly, individual and group grievances should be provided for and appropriate appeal procedures implemented.

The first recourse for a student grievance is the staff member immediately involved in the process. If satisfaction is not achieved, the decision may be appealed to the next higher authority. Details of the appeal procedure are included in the Anchor Bay Board of Education policy manual. Further information can be obtained by calling the Superintendent at (586) 725-2861, or writing to the District at 5201 County Line Road, Ste. 100, Casco, MI 48064.

BUS TRANSPORTATION:

Bus transportation is a privilege and not a right. Major offenses or repeated minor offenses may result in the loss of bus privileges.

REPORTING OBLIGATION:

Public law and Board policy requires school officials to report all suspected crimes, misdemeanors, or suspected cases of abuse or harassment.

STUDENTS CHARGED WITH GROSS MISDEMEANORS OR FELONIES:

Students charged with gross misdemeanors or felonies are subject to suspension or expulsion within the discretion of the Board of Education, if the conduct giving rise to the charge occurred while going to or from school, on school district property, at a school activity (either home or away), during involvement in Community Education, or summer school. Students will also be subject to suspension or expulsion if the conduct occurred out of school and has a direct adverse effect either on school discipline or on the general safety and welfare of students or staff.