

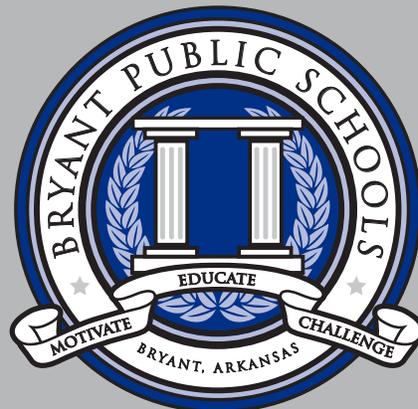
2016-17

BRYANT PUBLIC SCHOOLS

ELEMENTARY HANDBOOK

BRYANT ELEMENTARY
COLLEGEVILLE ELEMENTARY
DAVIS ELEMENTARY
HILL FARM ELEMENTARY
HURRICANE CREEK ELEMENTARY
SALEM ELEMENTARY
SPRINGHILL ELEMENTARY

STUDENT HANDBOOK



BRYANT PUBLIC SCHOOLS
CREATING OPPORTUNITIES *for* SUCCESS

200 NW 4th Street | Bryant, AR 72202

501 847 5600
bryantschools.org

BRYANT PUBLIC SCHOOLS ELEMENTARY STUDENT PARENT/GUARDIAN HANDBOOK

VISION

Bryant Public Schools will be the state's premier provider of educational services.

MISSION STATEMENT

Bryant Public Schools create opportunities for academic and personal success to ensure all students are future ready.

STATEMENT OF RESPONSIBILITY

This handbook contains policies for students at all elementary schools in the Bryant Public Schools including discipline, homework and attendance policies. Also included is a summary of our district parental involvement plan. These policies will be enforced. Parents and/or students should read them carefully. Please contact the building principal or assistant principal if clarification is needed.

By our signatures below, we signify that we have received a copy of the Elementary Student- Parent/ Guardian Handbook. We understand that these policies will be enforced.

Student's Signature _____ Date _____

Parent's Signature _____ Date _____

FIELD TRIP PERMISSION

My child, _____, has permission to attend all school field trips pertaining to him/her that are chaperoned by school officials/employees and have students transported in a school bus.

Parent's Signature _____ Date _____

MEDIA, PUBLICATIONS, VIDEO, INTERNET CONSENT AND RELEASE AGREEMENT FOR PARENTS/GUARDIANS AND STUDENTS

Parents, guardians and students who attend or participate in Bryant School District programs or events are occasionally asked to be part of the county, statewide and/or national publicity, promotion, marketing and /or public relations activities or projects, and/or appear in educational and curriculum material developed by the District. In order to guarantee you and your child's privacy and ensure your agreement to participate, the Bryant School District asks that you sign and return this form.

By your signature on this form, you approve the Bryant School District, should it choose, to use you and/or your child's name, picture (still or video), art, written work, voice, or verbal statements in any educational and/or promotional printed or electronic piece that furthers the District's educational and/or public relations efforts during this and subsequent years. This includes but is not limited to external news media outlets (printed and/or broadcast), District website, online social media accounts, brochures, displays, newsletters, curriculum guides, purchased advertisements or other means of communicating with the public about District programs and services. The pictures, recordings, articles, copy or other means of communications may or may not personally identify you or your child.

AGREEMENT

The Bryant School District agrees that your or your child's name, picture, art, written work, voice, verbal statements, or portraits (video or still) will only be used for the District's public relations, public information, promotion, publicity and marketing efforts and/or to support its educational programs.

By signing below, the Parent/Guardian and Youth understand and agree that

- No monetary consideration shall be paid;
- Consent and release have been given without coercion or duress;
- This agreement is binding upon heirs and/or future legal representatives.

If the Parent/Guardian and/or Youth wish to rescind this agreement, they may do so at any time with written notice.

Parent/Guardian Name (Print)

Parent/Guardian Signature

Date

Youth Name (Print)

Youth Signature (if at least 18 years old)

Date

OBJECTION TO PUBLICATION OF DIRECTORY INFORMATION

I, the undersigned, being a parent of a student, or a student eighteen (18) years of age or older, hereby note my objection to the disclosure of publication by the Bryant Public Schools of directory information, as defined in district policy, concerning the student named below.

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

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

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

All public and school sources _____

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

All public sources _____

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

_____ I do not object to the disclosure or publication of directory information.

Name of Student (print)

Grade

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

Date of Form Submission

INTRODUCTION

This handbook has been prepared for the purpose of assisting all elementary students and their parents in the Bryant School District in becoming familiar with the rules and regulations, which apply to all students. A committee of parents, students, and teachers review this handbook annually.

All rules (and consequences) in this handbook apply to children en-route to and from school including transported and non-transported students.

We invite you to visit your school and consult with your teacher and principal when we may be of service in meeting the needs of your child. You may call the school office to set up an appointment with your child's teacher or to see the principal. Visitors must check in at the office upon arrival to the building to let us know when and why you are visiting and to pick up a visitor's pass.

Bryant Elementary

Mark Scarlett, Principal
Angela Mask, Asst. Principal
Telephone: 501-847-5642

Collegeville Elementary

Katie Thomas, Principal
Trey Stevens, Asst. Principal
Telephone: 501-847-5670

Davis Elementary

Michele Lewis, Principal
Suzanne McDermott, Asst. Principal
Telephone: 501-455-5672

Hurricane Creek Elementary

Tammie Reitenger, Principal
Tisha Long, Asst. Principal
Telephone: 501-653-1012

Hill Farm Elementary

Karen Metcalf, Principal
Lee Ann McDaniel, Asst. Principal
Telephone: 501-653-5950

Salem Elementary

Donaven Sims, Principal
Leslie Penfield, Asst. Principal
Telephone: 501-316-0263

Springhill Elementary

Russ Sherrill, Principal
Deborah Tazelaar, Asst. Principal
Telephone: 501-847-5675

Alternative Learning Environment

Eric Ryan, Asst. Principal

Dear Parents:

The Bryant School Board would like to take this opportunity to welcome you to the Bryant Public School System.

The Board is responsible for ensuring that the administration operates in a manner that reflects sound and cost-efficient management principles. This oversight role includes monitoring the District's compliance with all relevant state and federal guidelines. Ultimately, our goal is to facilitate each student receiving a quality, comprehensive education.

The Board also performs some specific functions regarding student disciplinary action and a variety of personnel measures. These activities are a part of a specific chain of command that must be adhered to in order to guarantee that the rights of all staff, faculty, and students are protected.

It is important for all patrons of the school district to understand that the authority and responsibility of the board members exist only on a collective basis. Individually, they have no authority.

If you have a concern regarding your child, contact his/her teacher(s). If you still have a concern regarding your child and his/her education, contact the teacher's supervisor (this is typically the principal). If you still have concerns regarding your child, contact the Superintendent of Schools. If at this level a satisfactory resolution cannot be reached, the Board may become involved as indicated by policy.

The Bryant School Board members consider it a vital element of their role to reflect the desires of the community with respect to the school system. Listed below are the names of the School Board members. If you have any suggestions or comments, please feel free to contact any board member:

Mr. Michael Daly
ph. 501-860-6444
e-mail: michaeldaly9158@sbcglobal.net

Dr. Scott Walsh
ph. 501-847-9282
e-mail: dscottwalsh@yahoo.com

Mr. Scott Hart
ph. 501-722-3343
e-mail: scotthart76@yahoo.com

Mr. Ben Lewellen
ph. 501-847-6559
ben.lewellen@outlook.com

Mrs. Sandra Porter
ph. 501-847-3627
e-mail: sandra9porter@gmail.com

Mrs. Rhonda Sanders
ph. 501-847-6849
e-mail: RhoSan1959@gmail.com

Mr. Joe Wishard
ph. 501-316-0765
e-mail: jcwishard@stvincenthealth.com

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Entrance Requirements.....	10
Age Requirements	
Enrollment Documents	
Proof of Residence	
Kindergarten Waiver	
Immunization Requirements	
Campus Availability Policy	
Student Transfers	
Emergency Forms	
Physical Assessment	
Pertinent Information	
Student Educational Records.....	15
FERPA	
Directory Information	
Student Attendance.....	17
School Attendance Eligibility	
Compulsory Attendance	
Attendance Specifications	
Check in/out Procedures	
Instructional Time/Tardies	
School Hours	
Student Conduct.....	20
Cafeteria Rules	
Hallway Rules	
Classroom Rules	
Playground Rules	
Dress Code	
Communication Devices	
Bullying	
Sexual Harassment Policy	
Drug Policy	
Management of Discipline Infractions.....	25
Corporal Punishment	
Suspension	
Expulsion	
Search and Seizure	
Video Surveillance	
School Resource Officers (SRO)	
Contact with Students at School by Individuals	
LINKS/ALE	

Academic Notes.....	31
Academic Assessment	
Grading Scale K-5	
Homework Policy Notification	
Grade Assignment – Transfer Students	
Remediation	
Retention	
Before and After School Programs and Summer School	
Special Education	
School Issued Learning Materials	
Instructional Materials Selection Procedure	
Smart Core and Graduation Requirements	
Class of 2017	
Class of 2018 and Thereafter	
Health and Social Services.....	41
Individual Health Care Plan	
Injured Students	
Medication Policy	
Parental Notice to Access Public Insurance	
Reporting Child Abuse	
School Nurse	
Child Find	
Parent Center	
Asbestos Notification to Parents	
Emergency Notification Procedures.....	46
Parent Notification	
School Crisis and Emergency Management	
Inclement Weather Policy	
Closing Announcements	
Food Service Department.....	47
Meal Prices	
Food Allergy Policy	
Parental Involvement.....	48
District Parental Involvement Summary	
Parental Visitor Guidelines	
Volunteer Program	
Parental Contact with Students at School	
General Information.....	49
Birthday Parties	
Class Parties	
Floral or Balloon Arrangements	
Fundraising	
Extra Curricular Activities	
Field Trips	
Tobacco Use on Campus	
Student Publications and Distribution of Literature.....	50
Computer System/Internet Appropriate Use Policy.....	53
Civil Right Regulations.....	57
Protection of Pupil Rights Amendment.....	58
Student Discrimination Complaint Procedures.....	59
Bus Policies and Procedures.....	59

BRYANT PUBLIC SCHOOLS

2016-17 CALENDAR

FIRST QUARTER

Mon., Aug. 8	District/building level professional development day (Required)
Tues., Aug. 9	Building level PD day for Elem. & H.S. (Required)
	Work Day for Middle School Teachers (Count as 1 contract day)
	Open House – Middle Schools
Wed., Aug. 10	Building level PD for Middle Schools (Required)
Thursday, Aug. 11	Work Day for Elem. and H.S. Teachers (Count as 1 contract day)
	Open House – Elem. and Freshmen Academy
Monday, Aug. 15	First Day of School for Students
Monday, Sep. 5	Labor Day Holiday – Schools Closed
Thursday, Sep. 15	Mid-term progress reports issued
Thursday, Oct. 13	End 1 st Quarter (43 Days)

SECOND QUARTER

Wednesday, Oct. 19	Report cards issued
Thursday, Oct. 20	Parent/Teacher Conferences (Early Dismissal)
	Conferences 2:30-8:00
Friday, Oct. 21	Professional Development
	No school for students
November 21-25	Thanksgiving Holiday – Schools Closed
Friday, Dec. 16	End 2 nd quarter (40 days) and 1 st Semester (83 days)
Dec. 19-Dec. 30	Christmas Holiday – Schools Closed

THIRD QUARTER

Monday, Jan. 2	Professional Development Day – Schools Closed
Tuesday, Jan. 3	Classes resume for students
Monday, Jan. 9	Report Cards issued
Monday, Jan. 16	Dr. Martin Luther King Holiday – Schools Closed
Wednesday, Feb. 8	Mid-term progress reports issued
*Friday, Mar. 10	End 3 rd Quarter (48 days)

FOURTH QUARTER

Wednesday, Mar. 15	Report Cards Issued
Thursday, Mar. 16	Parent-Teacher/CAP Conferences (Early Dismissal)
Conferences 2:30 8:00	
Friday, Mar. 17	Professional Development Day – Schools Closed
March 20-24	Spring Break – Schools Closed
Monday Mar. 27	Classes resume
Wednesday, Apr.19	Mid-term progress reports issued
Monday, May 29	Memorial Day – Schools Closed
**Thursday, June 1	Last day of school – End of 4 th quarter (47 days)
	2 nd semester (93 days) and year (178 days)

*The total days in the third nine weeks will be dependent upon the number of snow days.

**The June 1 date includes 5 built in snow days. If no days were taken, May 24 would be last day for students. If more than 5 days are missed, days would be added to the end of the school year, pushing the last day out later in June. Total days in the fourth quarter may change depending on snow days.

ENTRANCE REQUIREMENTS

AGE REQUIREMENTS

Students may enter kindergarten if they will attain the age of five (5) years on or before August 1 of the year in which they are seeking initial enrollment.

Any student who has been enrolled in a state-accredited or state-approved kindergarten program in another state for at least sixty (60) days, who will become five (5) years old during the year in which he or she is enrolled in kindergarten, and who meets the basic residency requirement for school attendance may be enrolled in kindergarten upon written request to the school district.

ENROLLMENT DOCUMENTS

1. Before a child is enrolled in school the parent must present proof of residence within the Bryant Public Schools. Examples of acceptable proof of residence include a sales contract or closing papers for the purchase of a home, a rent receipt with a current date, or a current utility bill, which indicates the address. Also, parents must provide proof of real estate or personal property assessment for the current year. When the parent wishing to enroll a student in school does not have a residence in his/her own name, a residency affidavit must be completed in the district Administrative Offices prior to an approval for enrollment being granted.
2. Prior to a child's enrollment in a school in the Bryant Public Schools, the parent, guardian, or responsible person shall provide the school district with one (1) of the following documents indicating the child's age:
 - a. A birth certificate.
 - b. A statement by the local registrar or a county recorder certifying the child's date of birth.
 - c. An attested baptismal certificate.
 - d. A passport.
 - e. An affidavit of the date and place of birth by the child's parent or guardian.
 - f. Previous school records, or
 - g. A United States military identification.
3. Prior to a child's admission to a school in the Bryant Public Schools, the school shall request the parent, guardian, or other responsible person to furnish the child's social security number and shall inform the parent, guardian, or other responsible person that, in the alternative, they may request that the school district assign the child a nine-digit number designated by the Department of Education.
4. Prior to a child's admission to a school in the Bryant Public Schools, the parent, guardian, or other responsible person shall indicate on school registration forms whether the child has been expelled from school in any other school district or is a party to an expulsion proceeding.

KINDERGARTEN WAIVER

Any parent, guardian, or other person residing within the State and having custody or charge of any child or children may elect for the child or children not to attend Kindergarten if the child or children will not be age six (6) on August 1 of that particular school year. If such an election is made, the parent, guardian, or other person having custody or charge of the child must file a signed Kindergarten waiver form with the local District administrative office. Such form shall be prescribed by regulation of the State Department of Education. On filing the Kindergarten waiver form, the child or children shall not be required to attend Kindergarten in that school year. (ACT 570 of 1999)

IMMUNIZATION

Definitions

“In process” means the student has received at least one dose of the required immunizations and is waiting the minimum time interval to receive the additional dose(s).

“Serologic testing” refers to a medical procedure used to determine an individual’s immunity to Hepatitis B, Measles, Mumps, Rubella and Varicella.

General Requirements

Unless otherwise provided by law or this policy, no student shall be admitted to attend classes in the District who has not been age appropriately immunized against:

- Poliomyelitis;
- Diphtheria;
- Tetanus;
- Pertussis;
- Red (rubeola) measles;
- Rubella;
- Mumps;
- Hepatitis A;
- Hepatitis B;
- Meningococcal disease;
- Varicella (chickenpox); and
- Any other immunization required by the Arkansas Department of Health (ADH).

The District administration has the responsibility to evaluate the immunization status of District students. The District shall maintain a list of all students who are not fully age appropriately immunized or who have an exemption provided by ADH to the immunization requirements based on medical, religious, or philosophical grounds. Students who are not fully age appropriately immunized when seeking admittance shall be referred to a medical authority for consultation.

The only types of proof of immunization the District will accept are immunization records provided by:

- A. Licensed physician;
- B. Health department;
- C. Military service; or
- D. Official record from another educational institution in Arkansas.

The proof of immunization must include the vaccine type and dates of vaccine administration. Documents stating “up-to-date”, “complete”, “adequate”, and the like will not be accepted as proof of immunization. No self or parental history of varicella disease will be accepted. Valid proof of immunization and of immunity based on serological testing shall be entered into the student’s record.

In order to continue attending classes in the District, the student must have submitted:

- 1) Proof of immunization showing the student to be fully age appropriately vaccinated;
- 2) Written documentation by a public health nurse or private physician of proof the student is in process of being age appropriately immunized, which includes a schedule of the student’s next immunization;
- 3) A copy of a letter from ADH indicating immunity based on serologic testing; and/or
- 4) A copy of the letter from ADH exempting the student from the immunization requirements for the current school year, or a copy of the application for an exemption for the current school year if the exemption letter has not yet arrived.

Students whose immunization records or serology results are lost or unavailable are required to receive all age appropriate vaccinations or submit number 4 above.

Temporary Admittance

While students who are not fully age appropriately immunized or have not yet submitted an immunization waiver may be enrolled to attend school, such students shall be allowed to attend school on a temporary basis only. Students admitted on a temporary basis may be admitted for a maximum of thirty (30) days (or until October 1st of the current school year for the tetanus, diphtheria, pertussis, and meningococcal vaccinations required at ages eleven (11) and sixteen (16) respectively if October 1st is later in the current school year than the thirty (30) days following the student’s admittance). No student shall be withdrawn and readmitted in order to extend the thirty (30) day period. Students may be allowed to continue attending beyond the thirty (30) day period if the student submits a copy of either number 2 or number 4 above.

Students who are in process shall be required to adhere to the submitted schedule. Failure of the student to submit written documentation from a public health nurse or private physician demonstrating the student received the vaccinations set forth in the schedule may lead to the revocation of the student’s temporary admittance; such students shall be excluded from school until the documentation is provided.

The District will not accept copies of applications requesting an exemption for the current school year that are older than two (2) weeks based on the date on the application. Students who submit a copy of an application to receive an exemption from the immunization requirements for the current year to gain temporary admittance have thirty (30) days from the admission date to submit either a letter from ADH granting the exemption or documentation demonstrating the student is in process and a copy of the immunization schedule. Failure to submit the necessary documentation by the close of the thirty (30) days will result in the student being excluded until the documentation is submitted.

Exclusion From School

In the event of an outbreak, students who are not fully age appropriately immunized, are in process, or are exempt from the immunization requirements may be required to be excluded from school in order to protect the student. ADH shall determine if it is necessary for students to be excluded in the event of an outbreak. Students may be excluded for twenty-one (21) days or longer depending on the outbreak. No student excluded due to an outbreak shall be allowed to return to school until the District receives approval from ADH.

Students who are excluded from school are not eligible to receive homebound instruction unless the excluded student had a pre-existing IEP or 504 Plan and the IEP/504 team determines homebound instruction to be in the best interest of the student. To the extent possible, the student's teacher(s) shall place in the principal's office a copy of the student's assignments:

- for the remainder of the week by the end of the initial school day of the student's exclusion; and
- by the end of each school's calendar week for the upcoming week until the student returns to school. It is the responsibility of the student or the student's parent/legal guardian to make sure that the student's assignments are collected.

Students excluded from school shall have five (5) school days from the day the student returns to school to submit any homework and to make up any examinations. State mandated assessments are not included in "examinations" and the District has no control over administering state mandated make-up assessments outside of the state's schedule. Students shall receive a grade of zero for any assignment or examination not completed or submitted on time.

Immunization Requirements

In order to be allowed to attend school, Arkansas State Law requires proof from your doctor or health department that your child has received the following immunizations before entering school.

- 4 doses of DTP/DT/Td/DtaP/Tdap, with 1 dose on or after the 4th birthday.
- 3 doses of Polio vaccine, with 1 dose on or after the 4th birthday.
- 2 doses of MMR with 1st dose on or after 1st birthday.
- 3 doses of Hepatitis B vaccine.
- 2 doses of Varicella with 1st dose on or after 1st birthday. (Physician documentation only for history of disease will be accepted.
- Kindergarten and first grade students will be required to have 1 dose of Hepatitis A.
- All students 11 years and older by September 1st of each year will be required to have a Tdap vaccination.

A current immunization record must be provided within 30 days of enrollment to complete entrance requirements.

CAMPUS AVAILABILITY POLICY

It is the practice of the Bryant School District that when grade sections are full at a zoned campus, students will be transferred to another elementary campus.

STUDENT TRANSFERS

All students must attend school in the attendance zone in which they live unless a different assignment is made by District Administration to comply with state regulations or for educational reasons.

EMERGENCY FORMS

CURRENT TELEPHONE NUMBERS MUST BE FURNISHED - four numbers if possible. Address changes should be sent immediately. In the event your child should be injured and neither parent can be reached, Bryant School District officials will contact the named physician on the medical information card and authorize any treatment deemed necessary in an emergency for the health and safety of the child. If physicians or any named person cannot be contacted, the officials are authorized to take whatever action is necessary in their judgment for the health and safety of the child. Bryant Public Schools will not be held financially liable for the emergency care and/or transportation of the child.

PHYSICAL ASSESSMENT

Enrolling kindergarten students shall be evaluated with the Early, Periodic, Screening, Diagnosis, and Treatment (EPSDT) or its equivalent. Any pupil may be excused from the examination on presentation of a physical assessment form from a physician. Physical assessment forms may be obtained from the school office or school nurse. (AR 6-18-701)

PERTINENT INFORMATION

All pertinent information concerning the child's health (well-being) record should be furnished to school authorities such as immediate teacher, principal, school nurse. This includes the health information given at registration, records furnished by the family physician, and information provided on emergency call cards. If a change of custody occurs or disputes in custody exists, parents will provide court documents clarifying custody arrangements. Updated contact information should be made in person.

Schools will not be held responsible for keeping up with a visitation schedule and the release of a child to the correct party each weekday. If a parent is listed on the child's birth certificate they may be given educational information unless otherwise indicated by court order. If an adult is listed on the pick up list then the child may leave school with that person unless otherwise stated in court documentation.

STUDENT EDUCATIONAL RECORDS

The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) affords parents and students over 18 years of age (“eligible students”) certain rights with respect to the student’s education records. They are:

1. The right to inspect and review the student’s education records within 45 days of the day the District receives a request for access. Parents or eligible students should submit to the school principal (or appropriate school official) a written request that identifies the record(s) they wish to inspect. The principal will make arrangements for access and notify the parent or eligible student of the time and place where the records may be inspected.
2. The right to request the amendment of the student’s education records that the parent or eligible student believes is inaccurate or misleading. Parents or eligible students may ask to amend a record that they believe is inaccurate or misleading. They should write the school principal, clearly identify the part of the record they want changed, and specify why it is inaccurate or misleading. If the District decides not to amend the record as requested by the parent or eligible student, the District will notify the parent or eligible student of the decision and advise them of their right to a hearing regarding the request for amendment. Additional information regarding the hearing procedures will be provided to the parent or eligible student when notified of the right to a hearing.
3. The right to consent to disclosures of personally identifiable information contained in the student’s education records, except to the extent that FERPA authorizes disclosure without consent. One exception, which permits disclosure without consent, is disclosure to school officials with legitimate educational interests. A school official has a legitimate educational interest if the official needs to review an education record in order to fulfill his or her professional responsibility. A school official is a person employed by the District as an administrator, supervisor, instructor, or support staff member (including health or medical staff and law enforcement unit personnel); a person serving on the School Board; a person or company with whom the District has contracted to perform a special task (such as an attorney, auditor, medical consultant, or therapist); or a parent or student serving on an official committee, or assisting another school official in performing his or her tasks. Upon request, the District will disclose educational records without consent to officials of another school district in which a student seeks or intends to enroll.
4. The right to file a complaint with the U.S. Department of Education concerning alleged failures by the District to comply with the requirements of FERPA. The Office that administers FERPA is: Family Policy Compliance Office, U.S. Department of Education, 600 Independence Avenue SW, Washington, DC 20202-4605.

Any student and his/her parent(s) are entitled to see school records regarding that student’s educational progress in school. Personal memoranda prepared by a teacher, counselor, or administrative staff member concerning observations of the staff or teachers with reference to student’s personalities and behavior problems will not be exhibited to the parent(s) or student.

DIRECTORY INFORMATION

“Directory information” includes information in a student’s education record that generally would not be considered harmful or an invasion of privacy if disclosed. Directory information includes, but is not limited to, the following:

- Name, address, telephone listing, electronic mail address, date and place of birth, dates of attendance, and grade level;
- Participation in officially recognized activities and sports;
- Weight and height of members of athletic teams;
- Degrees, honors, and awards received; and
- The most recent school attended.

A school may disclose directory information to anyone, without consent, unless the parent informs the school, in writing, of the desire to opt out of such disclosure. Parents must notify the school in writing within 10 school days of the date of their child’s enrollment if they wish to opt out of these disclosures.

STUDENT ATTENDANCE

SCHOOL ATTENDANCE ELIGIBILITY

The schools of the Bryant School District are open and free through completion of the secondary program to all persons from the ages of five (5) through age twenty-one (21) whose parents, legal guardians, or other persons having lawful control of the person under an order of a court whom reside within the school district and to all persons between those ages who have been legally transferred to the district for education purposes.

COMPULSORY ATTENDANCE

Every parent, guardian, or other person residing within the State of Arkansas having custody or charge of any children age five (5) through seventeen (17) years on August 1 of that year, both inclusive, shall enroll and send the child or children to a public, private, or parochial school or provide home schooling for the child or under such penalty for noncompliance as shall be set by law unless the child has received a high school diploma, or its equivalent or the child's parent(s) have filed a kindergarten waiver.

Students have the right to attend school in the Bryant Public School District in accordance with state law, Board of Education policies, and individual school procedures. Students have the right to be informed of policies pertaining to scheduling, grading, assignments, makeup work, attendance, and behavior expected for continued education.

Students are required to maintain prompt and regular attendance in accordance with Board of Education policy. Parents have the responsibility to monitor attendance and to familiarize themselves with policies pertaining to the educational program of the school.

When students exceed the number of absences as defined in the district's attendance policy, the students' parents, guardians, or parents in loco parentis shall be subject to a civil penalty not to exceed five hundred dollars (\$500.00) plus costs of court and any reasonable fees assessed by the court.

ATTENDANCE SPECIFICATIONS

Regular school attendance is vital to the overall academic success of every student. The responsibility of regular attendance rests with the student and his/her Parents/Guardians. An absence from school is categorized as excused, unexcused, or excessive.

Excused Absences

Student absences will be excused for the following reasons:

- Personal illness of student
- Court appearance
- Medical appointments
- Serious illness in the immediate family (Parents/guardians, siblings, and grandparents)
- Death in the family
- Any circumstances not covered above which the principal or designee determines are acceptable. All other absences will be categorized as unexcused.

All excused absences require a written note or doctor's excuse to be provided to the school within five (5) school days of returning to school. All absences over six (6) days per semester will require a medical/professional written note. The District reserves the right to require confirmation of the medical documentation through direct communication with the medical personnel responsible for the documentation and if the district is unable to confirm or verify the absence or the reason for the absence, to consider the absence unexcused.

Students are responsible for seeing that work missed during an excused absence is made up. The normal time allowed to make up work will be one (1) day per absence.

Unexcused Absences

Any absence not excused by note or official documentation will be considered an unexcused absence. After three (3) unexcused absences in a semester, the student's Parent/Guardian will be notified. Students will receive a zero for work missed during a suspension or any unexcused absence.

Excessive Absences & Excessive Tardies

Seven (7) unexcused absences or ten (10) unexcused tardies per semester is considered excessive.

A truancy petition will be filed with the Saline County Juvenile Court for students with excessive absences or tardies. If excessive absences or tardies continue, a FINS petition (Families in Need of Services) could be filed.

Before a student accumulates the maximum number of absences allowed in the district student attendance policy, the student or the student's parent, guardian, or person in loco parentis may petition the school or district administration for special arrangements to address the student's absences. If special arrangements are granted, they will be formalized in a written agreement that includes the conditions of the agreement and the consequences for failing to fulfill the terms of the agreement. The agreement shall be signed by the district designee, the parent or guardian, and the student.

Exceptions to student attendance will be allowed as necessary to satisfy Individualized Education Program (IEP) or 504 plans.

CHECK IN/OUT PROCEDURES

Students arriving late must be accompanied by a parent to check in through the office. A late notice will be issued to the student for teachers to admit them to class. Parents/Designee may pick up a student by checking them out through the office. Teachers will require a notice from the office before allowing a student to leave. A student will be released directly to the parents at any time. If parents call or send a note giving permission, another adult may pick up a student. For the safety of your child, a student check out card will be sent home to list authorized individuals to pick your child up from school early. Adults checking children out early will be required to show identification to school personnel. All transportation changes must be called into the office no later than 2:30 PM in order to allow time to notify your child of the change.

Schools will not be held responsible for keeping up with a visitation schedule and the release of a child to the correct party each weekday. If an adult is listed on the pick up list then the child may leave school with that person unless otherwise stated in court documentation.

INSTRUCTIONAL TIME/TARDIES

A student must be present six (6) hours of instructional time to be counted present all day. A student must be present three (3) hours instructional time to be counted present one-half day. A student arriving one hour or more late or checking out one hour or more early will be counted present one-half day. Students considered for perfect attendance awards shall receive no more than two (2) tardies per nine-week grading period. Tardy is defined as a student not being in his/her assigned classroom when the tardy bell rings each morning, a student checked out during the day and missing instructional time, or a student leaving before the end of the day. Instruction missed due to excessive tardies will not be made up during regular instructional time.

SCHOOL HOURS

School hours are available on the district web site for all campuses. Each school will also distribute this information to parents including times when doors are open and supervision is provided. Parents are to adhere to school hours because school personnel are not present to supervise children outside of listed times.

STUDENT CONDUCT

A student's behavior should conform to acceptable standards of conduct. The staff requests support in maintaining appropriate conduct in school. Students' behavior should reflect self- respect, respect for authority, and consideration for the rights, feelings and property of others.

The school staff has the authority and the responsibility to take customary and reasonable measures to maintain proper control and discipline among students. This may include reasonable force to stop or restrain a student from causing physical injury to himself/herself or others.

Students involved in disciplinary action may be subject to one or more of the following consequences: conference with student or parent/student, detention during or before school, withholding privileges, work detail, placed on probation, in-school suspension, isolation, Saturday School (5th Grade only), removal from the classroom setting temporarily, corporal punishment, suspension, expulsion, student pays for damages, sentence/theme writing, or other appropriate consequences.

In the case of students assigned to a special education self-contained classroom, the self- contained teacher or supervisor in cooperation will handle all discipline infractions with the principal as determined by the student's individual education plan.

A student will be informed of the offense and given an opportunity to tell his/her side before disciplinary action is taken. The school district reserves the right to provide consequences for behavior that is not conducive to good order and discipline in the schools, even though such behavior is not specified in the rules.

Individual consequences and rewards are posted in each classroom. All elementary campuses follow the rules listed below:

CAFETERIA RULES

- Classes will enter the cafeteria as a group and sit as a group.
- Do not leave food, napkins or utensils on the tables or floor.
- There shall be no playing, loud talking, or loud noise in the cafeteria.
- Do not take food or paper products from the cafeteria.
- Parents may only bring food or drinks for their own child; not for other students. Students may not share food from home lunches or trays due to the high number of food allergies.
- Drinks that contain high levels of caffeine when used in excess can cause health related issues including irritability, anxiety, arrhythmia (irregular heart beat), and dehydration. Because of this, we request that parents not allow students to bring them to school to consume.

HALLWAY RULES

- Students shall walk quietly and orderly at all times.
- Students report directly to their rooms. There should be no roaming the halls or standing in the halls visiting.

CLASSROOM RULES

- Follow all directions of the teacher.
- Be in your room and ready to work when class begins.
- Have materials for class and assignments every day.
- Keep hands, feet, books, and other objects to yourself.
- No bad language, rude gestures, cruel teasing, put-downs, or bullying.
- Body spray, perfume, or other scented items are not to be sprayed in classrooms or hallways

PLAYGROUND RULES

- Use playground equipment in a safe and proper manner.
- Remain within assigned playground areas.
- No tackle football or other contact sports,
- No hardballs, wooden or metal bats. No riding toys such as skateboards, roller blades, hover boards, etc.
- No jumping or riding on each other's backs. No cheer stunts.
- No climbing trees or fences.
- No playing war or gangs.
- Keep hands and feet to yourself. No karate, games involving kicking or punching, including wrestling.
- No throwing of objects (rocks, sticks, pine cones, etc.).
- No teasing, making fun of others, harassment (verbal or physical), or bullying.
- Stay away from animals on the playground.
- For the safety and well-being of our children, only school personnel should be on the playground with the children at recess, unless approved by the principal.

Personal toys and other play items will not be allowed at school or on the playground unless permission is granted by the classroom teacher. The school will not be responsible for these items. Unauthorized items will be confiscated. Parents may pick up these items in the front office.

DRESS CODE

Student dress, grooming and appearance should be the responsibility of the student and the student's parents under the following guidelines:

- Dress and grooming should be clean and in keeping with health, safety, sanitary practice, and according to weather conditions. Appropriate shoes and clothing for physical education classes will be worn.
- Dress and grooming will not be allowed to disrupt the educational process.
- Clothing or articles that advertise drugs, alcoholic beverages, tobacco, suggest obscenities, violence, or present double messages may not be worn
- Students may not wear midriff tops, spaghetti strap tops, or tops that leave the stomach, sides, cleavage, or back exposed. Students may not wear any garment that exposes the body between the shoulder and the accepted length of shorts according to current dress code. The school reserves the right to regulate the wearing of articles with holes, tears, splits, or cuts in garments.
- Students wearing sheer or 'see through' shirts must wear an 'undershirt' that complies with dress code.
- Students may not wear clothing or hairstyles that can be distracting or disruptive to the educational process.

- A student shall not wear or display emblems, insignias, badges, tattoos, or other symbols if the message is intended to mock, ridicule, or otherwise demean or provoke others because of race, religion, national origin, or other individual views.
- Students must wear shoes. Every school will have a minimum 30 minutes of daily physical activity. (Act 1220 of 2003) For safety requirements, we recommend that students wear tennis shoes, not flip flops or sandals. No cleats or skate shoes allowed.
- No caps or hats may be worn in the building.
- Students shall not wear clothing that exposes underwear, no sagging.
- With the exception of earrings, no body piercings will be allowed.

Students will be permitted to wear shorts throughout the school year under the following restriction:

- Absolutely no short shorts or skirts. (Length must be longer than fingertips with arms dropped at side of body.)
- Spandex, leggings, dance or exercise clothing may be worn underneath clothing which meets fingertip regulation.

Students must be dressed in good taste. It is the discretion of the administration to determine acceptable dress.

COMMUNICATION DEVICES

The use of communication devices, including but not limited to cell phones, during regular school hours is forbidden except for authorized educational purposes. If brought to school, communication devices must be turned off, and secured in the student's backpack until the end of the school day. All communication devices in a student's physical possession or heard by school personnel during the school day may be confiscated, and parents will be allowed to pick up items in the school's office. Approved electronics will be allowed if they are used for classroom instruction or special school events. The school will not be responsible for any damage to these devices.

Note: Arkansas law prohibits all drivers from using hand held cell phones in school zones at any time. This also prohibits all drivers from text messaging while in school zones.

BULLYING

The General Assembly finds that every student in this state has the right to receive his or her public education in a public school educational environment that is reasonably free from substantial intimidation, harassment, or harm or threat by another student.

“Bullying” means the intentional harassment, intimidation, humiliation, ridicule, defamation, or threat or incitement of violence by a student against another student or public school employee by a written, verbal, electronic, or physical act that causes or creates a clear and present danger of: (a) Physical harm to a public school employee or student or damage to the public school's employee's or student's property; (b) Substantial interference with a student's education or with a public school employee's role in education; (c) a hostile educational environment for one (1) or more students or public school employees due to the severity, persistence, or pervasiveness of the act; or (d) substantial disruption of the orderly operation of the school or educational environment.

“Electronic act” means without limitation a communication or image transmitted by means of an electronic device, including without limitation a telephone, wireless phone or other wireless communications device, computer, or pager. Electronic acts/cyber-bullying are prohibited whether or not the electronic act originated on school property or with school equipment, if the electronic act is directed specifically at students or school personnel and maliciously intended for the purpose of disrupting school, and has a high likelihood of succeeding in that purpose; “Harassment” means a pattern of unwelcome verbal or physical conduct relating to another person’s constitutionally or statutorily substantial interference with the other’s performance in the school environment; and “Substantial Disruption” means without limitations that any one or more of the following occur as a result of bullying: (a) Necessary cessation of instruction or educational activities; (b) Inability of students or educational staff to focus on learning or function as an educational unit because of a hostile environment; (c) Severe or repetitive disciplinary measures are needed in the classroom or during educational activities; or (d) Exhibition of other behaviors by students or educational staff that substantially interfere with the learning environment.

Students who engage in bullying (a) while at school, on school property, in school vehicles, on school buses, at designated bus stops, at any school function in connection to or with any District sponsored activity or event, while en route to or from school, or (b) by an electronic act that results in the substantial disruption of the orderly operation of the school or educational environment are subject to disciplinary action, up to and including suspension or expulsion. This section shall apply to an electronic act originated on school property or with school equipment, if the electronic act is directed specifically at students or school personnel and maliciously intended for the purpose of disrupting school, and has a high likelihood of succeeding in that purpose. School employees who witness bullying, or have reliable information that a pupil has been the victim of bullying, as defined in this policy, shall report the incident to the building principal immediately.

The person or persons who file a complaint will not be subject to retaliation or reprisal in any form. A school employee who has reported violations under the school district’s policy shall be immune from any tort liability that may arise from the failure to remedy the reported incident.

A copy of this policy shall be posted in every classroom, cafeteria, restroom, gymnasium, auditorium, and school bus in the district. In addition, notice of this policy shall be provided to parents, students, school volunteers, and employees. Copies of this policy shall be available upon request.

SEXUAL HARASSMENT POLICY

As with other forms of discrimination, sexual harassment is prohibited according to Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, which protects the adolescent at work, and Title IX of 1972, which protects the teen from sex discrimination at school. The Supreme Court has mandated that schools provide a safe environment for students. The Bryant School District is committed to the eradication of sexual harassment in the schools. Such harassment is illegal and will not be tolerated. Offenders will be subject to disciplinary actions up to and including expulsion.

Sexual harassment consists of verbal or physical conduct of a sexual nature that disrupts the right to equal education by interfering with the student’s psychological, social, and physical well being.

Some behaviors that are unwanted and sexual in nature that could constitute sexual harassment especially to students at school are:

- | | |
|------------------------------------|------------------------------|
| Verbal comments | Jokes/cartoons/pictures |
| Conversations of a personal nature | Pulling at clothes |
| Sexual name calling | Cornering/blocking movements |
| Spreading sexual rumors | Attempted rape/rape |
| Leers/stares | Gestures |
| Touching | |

Sexual harassment is a form of bullying. Teasing or name-calling based on the belief or perception that an individual is not conforming to expected gender roles or conduct or is homosexual, regardless if the student self-identifies as homosexual is also a form of bullying.

Any student who has a complaint of sexual harassment at school by anyone should bring the problem to the attention of the principal at the school. If the complaint involves the principal the complaint may be made to the Superintendent or his/her designee. The complaint will be investigated and the complainant will be advised of what action, if any, has been taken to resolve the complaint, subject to the privacy rights of the person against whom the complaint was made. If the student is not satisfied with the principals' resolution of the complaint, he may appeal to the Superintendent or his/her designee. The appeal must be made in writing within ten (10) days from the decision of the principal.

DRUG POLICY

A student shall not (a) sell or distribute legal or illegal drugs, alcohol, and/or look-alike drugs, (b) purchase, use, possess, or be under the influence of drugs, alcohol, narcotics, hallucinogens, and/or illegal drugs, or (c) misuse over-the-counter or prescription medications.

Any student who sells or distributes drugs (legal or illegal), look-alike drugs (items represented as controlled substances), or alcoholic beverages at school or at any school sponsored activity on or off campus will be disciplined under the "Management for Discipline Infractions" section of this handbook.

A student shall not purchase, use, or possess rolling paper, roach clips, pipes, or any other drug paraphernalia, or be under the influence of look-alike drugs.

Any student, who uses, possesses, purchases, or is under the influence of illegal drugs, look-alike drugs, alcohol, or hallucinates at school or at school sponsored activity on or off campus will be disciplined under the "Management for Discipline Problems" section of this handbook.

The law enforcement agency will be notified of any criminal activity with full cooperation from school officials.

MANAGEMENT FOR DISCIPLINE INFRACTIONS

Any conduct that tends to be disruptive of the educational program will be grounds for disciplinary action.

1. Dress code violation

Min. - Student conference with parent notification
Max. - One (1) day suspension

2. Cheating

Min. - Student conference with parent notification
Max. - Three (3) day suspension

3. Truancy or leaving school grounds at any time without permission

Min. - Student/Parent conference
Max. - Report to prosecuting authority

4. The unauthorized use of a cell phone or other non approved electronic device on the campus during school hours

Min. - Confiscation of device, to be returned to the student following parent notification.
Max.- Five (5) day suspension

5. Sexual harassment, inappropriate language, gestures, teasing, sexual acts or art

Min. - Student conference with parent notification.
Max. - Ten (10) day suspension with the recommendation for expulsion for the remainder of the semester. No credit.

6. Possession or use of any tobacco or tobacco products, or nicotine delivery system or product

Min. - Student conference with parent notification.
Max. - Ten (10) day suspension with recommendation for expulsion for the remainder of the semester. No credit.

7. Participation in gambling or wagering where the stakes are money or any other objects of value.

Min. - Student conference with parent notification.
Max. - Ten (10) day suspension.

8. Gang, secret organization (Use of gang signs, symbols, paraphernalia, etc.)

Min.-Warning with student/parent/administrator conference.
Max. - Ten (10) day suspension with recommendation for expulsion for the remainder of the semester. No credit.

9. Inappropriate use of technology or media

Min. - Student conference with parent notification.

Max. - Ten (10) day suspension with recommendation for expulsion for the remainder of the semester. No credit.

10. Damaging, destroying or stealing of school or another individual's property

Min.-Student/parent conference with parent notification.

Max. - Ten (10) day suspension with recommendation for expulsion for the remainder of the school year. No credit.

11. Fighting/Scuffling/Rough-Housing

Min. - Student conference with parent notification.

Max. - Ten (10) day suspension with recommendation for expulsion for the remainder of the school year. No credit.

12. Bullying, cyber-bullying, threatening, attempting or causing physical injury or violence toward any school employee, student, or other individual.

Min. - Student conference with parent notification.

Max. - Ten (10) day suspension with recommendation for expulsion for the remainder of the school year. No credit.

13. Possession of any weapon or object considered to be a dangerous instrument or possession of any object that looks like a weapon is prohibited on school property or at school sponsored events. (If a knife or other dangerous object is brought to school by mistake, turn in to the office or teacher immediately without penalty.)

Min. - Student conference with parent notification.

Max. - Ten (10) day suspension with recommendation for expulsion for the remainder of the school year. No credit

14. Possession of any firearms

Ten (10) day suspension with recommendation for expulsion for one (1) calendar year.

A referral will also be made to the following: School Resource Officer, Police/Sheriff's Department and the Saline County Juvenile courts.

The superintendent has the discretion to modify the expulsion requirements for a student on a case-by-case basis.

Any student who brings on any school property, a firearm or other weapon, prohibited by law, will be referred to the local law enforcement agency and/or juvenile delinquency system. The Superintendent has the discretion to modify the expulsion requirements for a student on a case-by-case basis.

15. Insubordination or disrespect toward any school employee, Refusing to identify self to school personnel or giving wrong identification.

Min. - Student conference with parent notification.

Max. - Ten (10) day suspension with recommendation for expulsion for the remainder of the semester. No credit.

16. Possession of fireworks, matches, etc.

Min.-Student conference with parent notification.

Max. - Five (5) day suspension

17. Threats of mass violence such as bomb threats, shootings, etc.

Possible ten (10) day suspension with recommendation for expulsion for the remainder of the school year and/or following semester/term or permanently.

A report will be filed with the appropriate law enforcement agency.

18. Purchase, possession, using, offering for sale or selling alcoholic beverages or other illicit drugs or look-alike drugs (substances represented as a controlled substance in any form) on school property

Min. - Seven (7) day suspension with parent conference.

Max. - Ten (10) day suspension with recommendation for expulsion for the remainder of the school year. No credit.

The District strongly encourages the student to get a drug and alcohol assessment by a Certified Drug and Alcohol Counselor (available through an independent agency under contract with the District at no cost to the student) before re-admittance.

Bryant ALE/L.I.N.K.S

Principals will have the authority/discretion to refer students to the Bryant ALE/L.I.N.K.S. program in lieu of recommending expulsion if, in the principal's judgment, such a referral is warranted and appropriate.

The school district reserves the right to punish behavior, which is subversive to good order and discipline in the schools, even though such behavior is not specified in the preceding written rules. The minimum consequences will be a verbal reprimand and the maximum will be a recommendation for permanent expulsion. All consequences will be at the discretion of the administrator except where law dictates.

CORPORAL PUNISHMENT – BOARD POLICY

Corporal punishment may be administered by any certified employee (teacher/principal) of the District to any student following a warning that the misbehavior will not be tolerated. The Board of Education directs that corporal punishment will be administered according to the following requirements with the parent's permission:

- It will be administered by a certified staff member in the presence of a school administrator or designee, who shall be a teacher or administrator employed by the school district. (Act 333 of 1995)
- It will not be administered in the presence of other students, or in a spirit of malice or anger, nor will it be excessive.
- Refusal to take corporal punishment may result in suspension.
- The employee administering the corporal punishment shall prepare a written report stating the reason for the punishment and the name of the witness, and shall submit a copy to the principal's office.
- On request, the parent shall be informed in writing of the reasons for the punishment and the name of the witness.

SUSPENSION

Suspension is prohibition of a student from entering the school or grounds (except for a prearranged conference with an administrator) for a period of time set by the principal of the school or the superintendent.

Suspensions will not be longer than ten (10) days including the day on which the offense occurred. Suspension does not carry with it loss of credit for the semester. Receiving credit for work missed during a suspension from school is left to the discretion of the principal. School closings due to inclement weather will not be counted as part of the suspension days.

EXPULSION

Expulsion is exclusion of a student from school for the remainder of the term or semester. The authority for expelling a student from school rests with the Board of Education upon recommendation of the principal and the superintendent. Students who bring firearms or other weapons to the school campus shall be expelled for a period of not less than one year. (Act 567 of 1995).

The Board of Education is authorized to expel a student for the remainder of the school term, school year or permanently for conduct it deems to be of such gravity as to make a relatively short temporary suspension inappropriate, or when it finds that the student's continued attendance at school would be disruptive to the education program or dangerous to other students and/or faculty members.

The Superintendent or his/her designee shall give written notice mailed within five (5) school student interaction days from the alleged incident causing the expulsion recommendation to the parents or guardian that he/she has recommended to the Board of Education that a student be expelled for the balance of the school semester/year and the notice shall contain a statement of reasons for this recommendation. The notice shall contain a notice of the parent's right to a hearing and shall reflect the date, hour, and place where the Board will consider and dispose of the recommendation.

SEARCH AND SEIZURE

The District respects the rights of students' privacy and security against arbitrary invasion of their person or property. School officials do have the right, however, to search students and their property in the interest of the overall welfare of other students or when necessary to preserve order and discipline in the school. School authorities may conduct searches of student desks and lockers when a reasonable suspicion exists to believe that stolen items or items prohibited by law or policy are contained in the area to be searched. School officials may seize weapons, items prohibited by law or policy or stolen property found in a search. The search of a student's person will be conducted only if school officials have probable cause that a students' clothing, purse, or other personal possessions contain stolen items or items prohibited by law or school policy. The person conducting the school search will be a school official with an adult witness present.

VIDEO SURVEILLANCE

Bryant Public Schools has a responsibility to maintain discipline, protect the safety, security, and welfare of its students, staff, and visitors while at the same time safeguarding district facilities, vehicles, and equipment. As part of fulfilling this responsibility, the board authorizes the use of video/ audio surveillance cameras. The placement of these cameras shall be based on the presumption and belief that students, staff and visitors have no reasonable expectation of privacy anywhere on or near school property, facilities, vehicles or equipment, with the exception of places such as rest rooms or dressing areas where an expectation of privacy is reasonable and customary.

Students will be held responsible for any violations of school discipline rules caught by the cameras. Videos containing evidence of a violation of student conduct rules and/or state or federal law shall be retained until the issue of misconduct is no longer subject to review or appeal; any release or viewing of such records shall be in accordance with current law. Students who vandalize surveillance cameras and equipment shall be subject to appropriate disciplinary action and referral to the appropriate law enforcement agencies.

SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICERS (SRO)

School Resource Officers will be in use throughout the district to provide additional security and to serve as an instructional resource to our students. While the role of SRO's is not to enforce student discipline policies, they do have the authority to enforce existing laws and may assist school administrators when needed to help maintain a safe school environment. Questions about the school resource officer program may be directed to the Superintendent of Schools or the Chief of Police.

CONTACT WITH STUDENTS AT SCHOOL BY INDIVIDUALS

Questioning of students by non-school personnel, except for law enforcement personnel and/ or investigative personnel from state or federal child-protective agencies (Department of Human Services, SCAN, etc.) who are conducting a child maltreatment or abuse investigation, shall be granted only with a court order directing such questioning, with permission of the parents of a student (or the student if above eighteen [18] years of age), or in response to a subpoena or arrest warrant. Except for child maltreatment/abuse investigations, no student shall be questioned under any circumstances without an employee of the district being present.

L.I.N.K.S. (LEARNING AND IMAGINING NEW KEYS TO SUCCESS) AND ALTERNATIVE LEARNING ENVIRONMENT (ALE)

Purpose

The purpose of the L.I.N.K.S./ALE program is to establish an alternative educational and behavioral environment for students with behavioral or learning difficulties, which prevent them from functioning in a regular classroom setting.

Criteria

- Students in Kindergarten through sixth grade in the Bryant Public Schools are eligible for referral.
- Students must demonstrate specific behavioral, emotional, or learning difficulties that make him/her unable to function in the regular classroom setting.
- Sufficient evidence must be provided to show that the student has not responded to standard disciplinary procedures.
- Classroom intervention strategies must be attempted before placing the student in the more restrictive setting.
- The parent/guardian will be notified prior to the student being placed in an alternative program.
- ALE/LINKS handbooks will be provided upon parent request.

ACADEMIC NOTES

ACADEMIC ASSESSMENT

Grades assigned to students for performance in a course shall reflect only the extent to which a student has achieved the expressed academic objective of the course. Report cards are issued each nine-week period. Interim reports are sent at four and one-half weeks for all students. Report cards will be sent home on the date indicated on the district calendar.

When a student transfers in grades from another school/district, the grades will be averaged into the work evaluated by his/her new teacher when nine-week grades are issued. An elementary student who does not transfer in grades must attend Bryant Schools a minimum of thirty (30) days before a grade can be given for the nine-week period.

Elementary teachers shall meet with the parent/guardian of each student at least once a semester through a parent-teacher conference, telephone conference, e-mail, or a home visit to discuss student academic progress. Home visits will be conducted by two certified staff members. Please contact your child's teacher if you feel additional conferences are needed.

GRADING SCALE KINDERGARTEN-5TH

A standards based report card is used for students in grades 1-4 Kindergarten-5th. This allows teachers to provide specific feedback to parents regarding the skills in which students excel or need more reinforcement.

Students will receive the following marks for literacy and math standards using this grading scale:

- E- Exceeding grade level expectation (if applicable)**
- 3- Demonstrating the standard independently**
- 2- Demonstrating grade level expectations with support 1- Not progressing toward grade level expectation**

*** Not every standard is assessed every quarter. For those standards not assessed, they will receive an NA (Not Assessed) marking.**

HOMEWORK POLICY NOTIFICATION

The Bryant Public Schools believes homework should be an integral part of the instructional program and a means by which students are provided extended time to master learning concepts and objectives. Homework should be a positive experience and provide students the opportunity to:

- Reinforce the concepts taught in class and/or lesson preparation
- Manage learning time away from the school setting
- Involve other adults in helping students learn
- Inform the parents of the learning activities provided during the school day
- Develop independent study habits, skills, and responsibilities
- Homework shall be monitored and credit may be given as part of the students' grade.
- Division of average amounts of homework per week shall be left to the discretion of the building principal and classroom teacher.
- Inter-departmental planning and coordination shall be necessary for long-range assignments such as research papers, science projects, television assignments, etc.

GRADE ASSIGNMENT – TRANSFER STUDENTS

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

Students transferring to the Bryant Public Schools from a home school or a school that is not accredited by the Arkansas Department of Education will be evaluated as follows:

Grades 1-8

Principals will use all available information in making grade placement decisions. The principal may change the placement depending on the performance of the child. Principals may require informal testing to determine placement.

Grades 9-12

Students in grades 9-12 who have completed coursework in another school will be required to take tests in the academic areas for which credit is desired. No letter grade will be issued, only “CR” for “credit earned”. The tests will be considered by the appropriate departments. The percent of material mastered on the test will determine the credit. For example:

PERCENT	CREDIT
60-100	Full
59 or less	None

REMEDIATION

All students must participate in appropriate standardized state testing as established by the State Board of Education. Each student identified as not scoring at the proficient level or higher on the state mandated assessments shall participate in a remediation program to address the specific needs of that child. School personnel in conjunction with parents shall develop an appropriate individualized academic improvement plan (AIP) for those identified students.

RETENTION

Retention or the possibility of retention will be conveyed to parent/guardians in a personal conference prior to the end of the school year. The decision to retain or promote a student in the elementary grades will be the responsibility of school personnel. The promotion or retention of a student must be substantiated by current grades, standardized achievement scores, benchmark results, and permanent records. The final decision to promote or retain a student shall rest with the building principal.

BEFORE AND AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAMS AND SUMMER SCHOOL

Before and after school programs and summer school may be offered to elementary students as an extended service. Academic remediation will be the primary focus of these programs.

Disciplinary problems will NOT be tolerated; students may be dropped from the program due to excessive absences. It is the responsibility of parents to pick up their child on time. For more information, please contact the building principal.

SPECIAL EDUCATION

Special Education students entering the district will receive services according to their current Individual Education Plan (IEP) while records are gathered to confirm eligibility for services according to state and federal regulations. A full continuum of service options and related services are available to meet the needs of identified students from 3-21 years of age.

SCHOOL ISSUED LEARNING MATERIALS

Students may be issued various books, materials and technology devices for use in their classroom. Parents are responsible for replacement cost of any items lost or damaged due to misuse by the student. The prices for specific school issued materials will be available to parents through the office as needed.

INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS SELECTION PROCEDURES POLICY

The Bryant School District subscribes in principle to the statements of policy on library philosophy as expressed in the First Amendment of the United States Constitution and the American Library Association's Library Bill of Rights. Whenever a student or a student's parents find books or other teaching materials to be offensive, he/she should contact the principal of the school.

SMART CORE CURRICULUM AND GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS FOR THE CLASS OF 2017

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

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

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

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

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

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

To the best of its ability, the District shall follow the requirements covering the transfer of course credit and graduation set forth in the Interstate Compact on Educational Opportunity for Military Children for all students who meet the definition of eligible child in Policy 4.2 – Entrance Exams.

GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

The number of units students must earn to be eligible for high school graduation is to be earned from the categories listed below. A minimum of 22 units is required for graduation for a student participating in either the Smart Core or Core curriculum. In addition to the 22 units required for graduation by the Arkansas Department of Education, the district requires one (1) additional credit to graduate for a total of 23 units. The additional required units may be taken from any electives offered by the district. There are some distinctions made between Smart Core units and Graduation units. Not all units earned toward graduation necessarily apply to Smart Core requirements.

SMART CORE: SIXTEEN (16) UNITS

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

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS: one-half (1/2) unit

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

Algebra I or Algebra A & B* which may be taken in grades 7-8 or 8-9

Geometry or Investigating Geometry or Geometry A & B* which may be taken in grades 8-9 or 9-10;

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

Algebra II; and

The fourth unit may be either:

- A math unit beyond Algebra II: this can include Pre-Calculus, Calculus, AP Statistics, Algebra III, Advanced Topic and Modeling in Mathematics, Mathematical Applications and Algorithms, Linear Systems and Statistics, or any of several IB or Advanced Placement math courses (Comparable concurrent credit college courses may be substituted where applicable); or
- One unit of computer science chosen from ADE Essentials of Computer Programming, ADE Computer Science and Mathematics, AP Computer Science, AP Computer Science Principles, IB Computer Science, or other options approved by ADE.

NOTE: For the 2016-17 school year, no computer science classes will count as a math credit.

NATURAL SCIENCE: a total of three (3) units with lab experience chosen from

One unit of Biology; and either:

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

Physical Science

Chemistry Physics or Principles of **Technology I and II** or **PIC Physics:** or

One unit from the three categories above and one unit of computer science chosen from ADE Essentials of Computer Programming, ADE Computer Science and Mathematics, AP Computer Science, IB Computer Science, or other options approved by ADE.

SOCIAL STUDIES: three (3) units

Civics one-half (1/2) unit

World History - one unit

American History: one unit

PHYSICAL EDUCATION: one-half (1/2) unit

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

HEALTH AND SAFETY: one-half (1/2) unit

ECONOMICS – one half (½) unit

Dependent upon the licensure of the teacher teaching the course, this can count toward the required three (3) social studies credits or the six (6) required Career Focus elective credits.

FINE ARTS: one-half (1/2) unit

CAREER FOCUS: Six (6) units

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

CORE: SIXTEEN (16) UNITS

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

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS: one-half (1/2) unit

Mathematics: four (4) units

Algebra or its equivalent*-1 unit

Geometry or its equivalent*-1 unit

All math units must build on the base of algebra and geometry knowledge and skills.

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

One unit of computer science chosen from ADE Essentials of Computer Programming, ADE Computer Science and Mathematics, AP Computer Science, AP Computer Science Principles, or other options approved by ADE may be substituted for a math credit beyond Algebra I and Geometry

NOTE: For the 2016-2017 school year, no computer science classes will count as a math credit

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

SCIENCE: three (3) units

at least one (1) unit of biology or its equivalent; and
two units chosen from the following three categories:

Physical Science;

Chemistry

Physics; or

One unit from the three categories above and one unit of computer science chosen from ADE Essentials of Computer Programming, ADE Computer Science and Mathematics, AP Computer Science, AP Computer Science Principles, or other options approved by ADE.

SOCIAL STUDIES: three (3) units
Civics one-half (1/2) unit
World history, one (1) unit
American History, one (1) unit

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

HEALTH AND SAFETY: one-half (1/2) unit

ECONOMICS: one half (1/2) unit
Dependent upon the licensure of the teacher teaching the course, this can count toward the required three (3) social studies credits or the six (6) required Career Focus elective credits.

FINE ARTS: one-half (1/2) unit

CAREER FOCUS: -Six (6) units
All career focus unit requirements shall be established through guidance and counseling based on the student's contemplated work aspirations. Career focus courses shall conform to the curriculum policy of the District and reflect state curriculum frameworks through course sequencing and career course concentrations where appropriate.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

To the best of its ability, the District shall follow the requirements covering the transfer of course credit and graduation set forth in the Interstate Compact on Educational Opportunity for Military Children for all students who meet the definition of "eligible child" in Policy 4.2–ENTRANCE REQUIREMENTS.

GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

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

Department of Education, the district requires one (1) additional credits to graduate for a total of 23 units. The additional required units may be taken from any electives offered by the district.⁶ There are some distinctions made between Smart Core units and Graduation units. Not all units earned toward graduation necessarily apply to Smart Core requirements.

Digital Learning Courses

The District shall offer one or more digital learning course(s) through one or more District approved provider(s) as either a primary or supplementary method of instruction. The courses may be in a blended learning, online-based, or other technology-based format. In addition to the other graduation requirements contained in this policy, students are required to take at least one (1) digital learning course for credit while in high school.

SMART CORE: SIXTEEN (16) UNITS

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

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS: one-half (1/2) unit

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

Algebra I or **Algebra A & B*** which may be taken in grades 7-8 or 8-9;

Geometry or Investigating Geometry or Geometry A & B* which may be taken in grades 8-9 or 9-10

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

Algebra II; and

The fourth unit may be either:

A math unit beyond Algebra II: this can include Pre-Calculus, Calculus, AP Statistics, Algebra III, Advanced Topic and Modeling in Mathematics, Mathematical Applications and Algorithms, Linear Systems and Statistics, or any of several IB or Advanced Placement math courses (Comparable concurrent credit college courses may be substituted where applicable); or one unit of computer science chosen from ADE Essentials of Computer Programming, ADE Computer Science and Mathematics, AP Computer Science, AP Computer Science Principals, or other options approved by ADE.

NATURAL SCIENCE: a total of three (3) units with lab experience chosen from

One unit of Biology; and either:

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

Physical Science

Chemistry

Physics or Principles of Technology I & II or PIC Physics: or

One unit from the three categories above and one unit of computer science chosen from ADE Essentials of Computer Programming, ADE Computer Science and Mathematics, AP Computer Science, AP Computer Science Principals, or other options approved by ADE.

SOCIAL STUDIES: three (3) units

Civics one-half (½) unit

World History - one unit

American History - one unit

PHYSICAL EDUCATION: one-half (1/2) unit

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

HEALTH AND SAFETY: one-half (1/2) unit

ECONOMICS – one half (½) unit –

Dependent upon the licensure of the teacher teaching the course, this can count toward the required three (3) social studies credits or the six (6) required Career Focus elective credits. Fine Arts: one-half (1/2) unit

CAREER FOCUS: - Six (6) units

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

CORE: SIXTEEN (16) UNITS CORE: Sixteen (16) units

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

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS: one-half (1/2) unit

MATHEMATICS: four (4) units

Algebra or its equivalent* - 1 unit

Geometry or its equivalent* - 1 unit

All math units must build on the base of algebra and geometry knowledge and skills.

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

One unit of computer science chosen from ADE Essentials of Computer Programming, ADE Computer Science and Mathematics, AP Computer Science, AP Computer Science Principles, or other options approved by ADE may be substituted for a math credit beyond Algebra I and Geometry

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

SCIENCE: three (3) units

At least one (1) unit of biology or its equivalent; and

Two units chosen from the following three categories:

Physical Science;

Chemistry;

Physics; or

One unit from the three categories above and one unit of computer science chosen from ADE Essentials of Computer Programming, ADE Computer Science and Mathematics, AP Computer Science, AP Computer Science Principles, or other options approved by ADE.

SOCIAL STUDIES: three (3) units

Civics one-half (1/2) unit

World history, one (1) unit

American History, one (1) unit

PHYSICAL EDUCATION: one-half (1/2) unit

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

HEALTH AND SAFETY: one-half (1/2) unit

ECONOMICS – one half (½) unit

Dependent upon the licensure of the teacher teaching the course, this can count toward the required three (3) social studies credits or the six (6) required Career Focus elective credits.

FINE ARTS: one-half (1/2) unit

CAREER FOCUS: - Six (6) units

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

BRYANT SCHOOL DISTRICT REQUIREMENTS

A total of 23 credits are required to graduate. A ½ unit of a business course must be taken.

HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES

The school nurse is available to administer first aid and care for ill students during regular school hours. There are also other available staff trained in first aid and CPR who may be utilized in the absence of the nurse.

The school nurse serves as the health care coordinator for each school and develops care plans for all students needing one. Parents/Guardians should contact the school nurse regarding any medical needs, concerns, or changes in the student's health.

Hearing/Vision screenings are conducted on all Kindergarten-4th grade students, transfer students, and for any student upon written request to the school nurse by parents, teachers or students. Parent/Guardian will be notified of any suspected problems.

Heights and Weights are obtained on students in Kindergarten, 2nd and 4th grades to determine Body Mass Index (BMI) as required by law. This information will be reported to the parent/guardian in a confidential manner with appropriate health information. Parents may submit a written request for their child(ren) to be exempt from BMI screening.

Students found with active head lice are to be excluded from school until appropriate proof is provided that the student has been adequately treated. The students will not be excluded from school because of nits in the hair. Decisions concerning head lice will be made by the school nurse. One (1) day excused absence will be allowed for the treatment of head lice. A parent should accompany the student to school to be re-admitted. After two occurrences of head lice, a school social service worker will contact the parents by phone or personal visit to offer head lice prevention training.

Arkansas School Infectious Guidelines furnished by the Arkansas Department of Education will be utilized in management of infectious diseases to reduce the risk of spreading diseases. Some common communicable diseases requiring exclusion from school until a period of communicability has passed or treatment has been established to render a student non-communicable are: Chickenpox, head lice, influenza, scabies, whooping cough and streptococcal sore throat. The school nurse should be aware of any illness that could possibly be contagious.

Students known to have chronic infectious diseases must be individually evaluated to determine if their behavior and/or physical condition pose a risk of spreading of disease (Review team should consist of the school nurse, attending physician or local health authority, and the principal). For your child's safety, appropriate staff may be notified of needed health information provided. The student's right to privacy will be respected at all times.

INDIVIDUAL HEALTH CARE PLAN

If a need for an Individualized Health Care Plan (IHCP) exists, written consent from the Parent/Guardian to obtain information from the child's physician may be requested. An IHCP will then be written.

STUDENT ILLNESS/ACCIDENT

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

INJURED STUDENTS

The following procedures will be followed when students are injured:

- If, at any time, either in the school building or on the school campus a student is suspected of having serious injury the principal and/or other school personnel are directed to do what is expedient and safe for the injured student.
- The school nurse should be contacted immediately, during school hours, followed by a call notifying the parents/guardian and/or 911 if necessary.
- An accident report shall be filed providing details of the nature of the accident. The school assumes no financial responsibility for treatment.
- Emergency Services will be contacted at the discretion of the school nurse or other designated school official.

MEDICATION POLICY

It is the policy of the Bryant Public Schools that no prescription medication be administered to a student on any premises by school personnel unless the student requires the medication to attend school. School personnel should not give nonprescription medication to any student unless it is required for a student to attend school and a written request and instructions are received by the school nurse from the student's parents.

Guidelines for the Policy:

- A Medication Administration Release Form (MARF) signed by the parent will be used for prescription medications. This form should include: 1) Request for medication to be given, 2.) Student's name, grade, and teacher, 3.) Medication, 4.) Dosage, 5.) Time to be given, including recommended interval, 6.) Reason for medication, and 7.) Emergency numbers in case the child has a reaction to the medication. A separate form is required for each medication.
- All medication must be in the original container. (Pharmacists should provide second container to be sent to school upon request). The label on prescription medications must include the child's name, current date, and name of the drug, dosage, and time to be given. Drugs should not be mixed in a container. The manufacturer's label is sufficient on non-prescription medications.
- The school nurse or designee will not give a dosage of non-prescription medication in excess of the recommended dosage on the label of the container unless a written physician's order is received. School personnel will not administer narcotic pain medication.

- Parents shall be responsible for transporting medication to and from school for students in grades K- 12 unless other arrangements are made with the school nurse or principal. At the end of the school year, parents must pick up any unused medication on or before the last day of school. All medication left after the last day of school will be disposed of. The school nurse or designee must administer all prescription and non-prescription medications. To comply with Act 1694 of 2005, an exception will be made for students to carry/self administer asthma inhalers, emergency medication required for specific health conditions, or other prescription medication with a physician's order and school nurse approval. These students will require an emergency health care plan and a Medication Administration Release Form (MARF) on file with the school nurse. Parents will need to furnish required medical documentation.
- If a student is found with medication at school and the nurse determines it is needed for the well-being of the student (i.e., inhalers, etc.), she will attempt to contact the parent for appropriate information or obtain a verbal order from the physician to be used until a written order can be obtained. The parent will also be instructed concerning the District's medication policy and disciplinary action to be taken.
- The Parent/Guardian outside of the school setting must give the initial dose of a new medication.
- No more than six (6) doses of a non-prescription medication should be given per school year. If the student has a medical condition that requires more doses a written physician's order is required. Parents must supply all medications in the original container.
- Students with fevers of greater than or equal to 100 F will be sent home. A child with a fever should be fever free, without the aid of fever reducing medicines, for 24 hours before returning to school. The students should also be free from vomiting and diarrhea or at the discretion of the school nurse.

PARENTAL NOTICE TO ACCESS PUBLIC INSURANCE

This notice is to inform you of your rights and protections under Part B of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), as a parent of a child with a disability, so that you can make an informed decision about whether you should give consent to allow the school district to access your or your child's public benefits or insurance, such as Medicaid, to help pay for health services provided by the school district. This notice must be provided before the school district obtains your consent for the first time and annually thereafter. These rights include:

1. **Your Child's Confidential Information Cannot be Disclosed Without Your Consent** - under the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) and the IDEA, parental consent must be obtained before the school district discloses your child's personally identifiable information to the Department of Human Services, Division of Medical Services, Arkansas Medicaid, or Medicaid billing agencies, for the purpose of billing for Medicaid reimbursement. The personally identifiable information that may be disclosed could include: student's name, date of birth, social security number, Medicaid ID, disability, IEP and evaluations, type of service(s), times and dates services were delivered, and progress notes.
2. **Your Child Has a Right to Special Education and Related Services at No Cost to You** - this means that, with regard to services required to provide a Free Appropriate Public Education (FAPE) to an eligible child under IDEA, the school district:

- May not require parents to sign up for, or enroll in, public benefits or insurance programs in order for their child to receive FAPE;
- May not require parents to incur an out-of-pocket expense such as the payment of a deductible or co-pay amount incurred in filing a claim for services provided, but may pay the cost that the parents otherwise would be required to pay;
- May not use a child's benefits under a public benefits or insurance program if that use would:
 - ... Decrease available lifetime coverage or any other insured benefit;
 - ... Result in the family paying for services that would otherwise be covered by the public benefits or insurance program and that are required for the child outside of the time the child is in school;
 - ... Increase premiums or lead to the discontinuance of benefits or insurance; or
 - ... Risk loss of eligibility for home and community-based waivers, based on total health-related expenditures.

3. **You May Withdraw Consent at Any Time** – once you have given consent for disclosure of confidential information about your child to the Department of Human Services, Division of Medical Services, Arkansas Medicaid, or Medicaid billing agencies, you have a legal right under the FERPA and IDEA regulations to withdraw that consent at any time.

4. **If You Refuse Consent, or Withdraw Consent, the School District Must Still Provide Required Services at No Cost to You** – if you refuse to provide consent for the disclosure of personally identifiable information for the purpose of billing Medicaid, or, if you give consent but then later withdraw consent, that does not relieve the school district of its responsibility to ensure that all required services under IDEA are provided at no cost to the parents.

REPORTING CHILD ABUSE

It is the policy of the Bryant Public Schools to comply with the state's child abuse and neglect reporting laws and with the mandatory reporting section of those laws.

Any school official or employee mandated by law who knows or has reasonable cause to suspect that a child has been subjected to abuse or neglect, or observes reasonable results of abuse or neglect, as defined by law shall immediately report to the Department of Human Services as required by law.

The District will always consider the welfare of the child and state law regarding Parent/Guardian notification whenever outside agencies have interviewed a student at school.

SCHOOL NURSE

Students who must see the school nurse shall get a Health Room Assessment Form completed by school staff. The nurse will give the student a copy of the Health Room Assessment Form in order to return to class and the student will take a copy home to the parent/guardian.

CHILD FIND

The District will utilize varied methods on an annual basis to locate children with special health care needs. These students may require individualized health care intervention to enable participation in the educational process.

PARENT CENTER

Mission Statement: The Bryant School District – in close partnership with family and community – is committed to the concept of parents becoming directly involved in their student’s education process. We are committed to providing each student with a safe, educationally stimulating, learning environment so that all students will learn.

The Bryant Parent Center supports parents as both learners and teachers. The schools center provides materials and a space where parents can gather with other parents and school staff to learn how to assist in their children’s at-home learning. Parents can come to such a center for educational materials, training, informal meetings, and even for referral to other community services.

For more information, contact the District Social Service Department at 653-5083.

ASBESTOS NOTIFICATION TO PARENTS

Under federal law, we are required to provide annual notification to parents, students, and staff members about asbestos in school buildings and the district procedures being used to maintain it safely. While many schools/buildings in the district are asbestos-free, it can be found in several locations in the district.

A copy of the district Asbestos Management Plan can be found at each school, as well as in the District Maintenance Office. This plan gives the location of asbestos-containing materials at schools where it exists and the methods/procedures being used to maintain it safely. Any questions concerning our asbestos plan can be directed to Mr. Bob Padgett, District Maintenance Director at 501-847-5640.

EMERGENCY NOTIFICATION PROCEDURES

PARENT NOTIFICATION

This District's mass communication/emergency notification system, Blackboard MyConnect, provides parents and guardians with school and district notifications through phone, text and email. You can manage contact information and notifications by logging on to bryantschools.bbcportal.com. The following is needed to access your student's account:

- Student ID
- Phone number or email address on file for the student.
- The Blackboard MyConnect app is available in the app/Google play store.

SCHOOL CRISIS AND EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

Each school is required to develop and maintain a handbook of emergency policies and procedures to help protect and sustain life of students and staff and prevent and/or minimize personal injury and/or damage to school facilities. Bryant Public Schools has the authority to withhold or limit the review of any security plans and specific vulnerability assessment components as provided in the Arkansas Freedom of Information Act.

When an emergency has occurred at school, parents and guardian may obtain critical information through one of the following:

- a. By electronic notification through email, phone, or text
- b. On local television stations
- c. On the Bryant School District website (bryantschools.org)
- d. On Bryant School District social media channels (Facebook/Twitter/Instagram)

INCLEMENT WEATHER POLICY

Under certain conditions, it may be determined that our schools will be closed because it is unsafe to operate school buses. Announcements of school closings will be made as follows:

- a. On local television stations
- b. On the Bryant School District website (www.bryantschools.org).
- c. On Bryant School District social media channels (Facebook/Twitter/Instagram)
- d. By electronic notification through email, phone, or text

All days missed because of inclement weather will be made up at a later date.

CLOSING ANNOUNCEMENTS

There will be no announcement if schools are open on a regular schedule. Unscheduled closings due to equipment failure or weather may occur.

Early school closings will be announced over the radio and television stations, Blackboard and website, stating the time of dismissal. Each child should know where to go if an emergency arises, and school is dismissed early. Each school's crisis plan provides emergency checkout procedures, i.e. inclement weather.

FOOD SERVICE DEPARTMENT

MEAL PRICES

Student Lunch	\$2.35	Adult Breakfast	\$2.35
Student Breakfast	\$1.60	Adult Lunch	\$3.60
Reduced Lunch	\$.40		
Reduced Breakfast	\$.30		
Extra Milk	\$.50		

Lunch applications may be picked up at the Food Service Office in Building 16 at Bryant High School after July 1. Completed applications may be returned to the Food Service Office or mailed to: Food Service Director, 200 NW 4th Street Bryant, AR 72022. Applications are also available at any school office.

The first week of school will be used to set up student accounts so that everyone will have a meal balance. Your child(ren) will need to bring lunch money on the first day of school. Please enclose lunch payments in an envelope with your student’s name, grade, and teacher on the outside of the envelope.

Please do not include snack money, book money, etc. with your child’s lunch payment. If you have more than one child in your school and send one check for both students, please specify name, grade, teacher and the amount for each. Elementary students will be allowed to charge two (2) to their account. In the instance that siblings are linked in accounts this rule will be two (2) meal charges per student. This may be a breakfast and a lunch, two lunches or two breakfasts. The cashier will tell students that a charge has occurred. The charge must be reimbursed the following day. Parents can access student accounts anytime at www.ezschoollpay.com.

No charges or personal checks will be allowed on student cafeteria accounts on or after May 1 of each school year.

The Bryant School District does not want any student to go without a lunch; therefore, it is the District policy that an alternate lunch will be provided by the cafeteria to students who do not have lunch money and who cannot charge additional meals to their accounts. We will be glad to answer any questions concerning your child’s meal account by calling the Bryant Food Service Office at 847-5632.

Breakfast is served from 7:30 A.M. to 7:50 A.M. at all elementary campuses.

FOOD ALLERGY POLICY

An annual doctor’s note is required to be filed with the school nurse stating the student’s allergies to any food item before a food substitution can be made.

PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT

DISTRICT PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT SUMMARY

The Bryant School District recognizes the shared responsibility of the school and family during the time your child spends in school. Engaging parents is very essential to improving student achievement. Effectively engaging parents and families in the education of their children has the potential to be far greater in the success of a child than any other type of educational reform.

Bryant Public Schools recognize:

- a. That a child's education is a responsibility shared by the school and family during the entire time the child spends in school;
- b. That to support the goal of the schools to educate all students effectively, the individual schools and parents must work as knowledgeable partners;
- c. That although parents are diverse in culture, language, and needs, they are an integral component of a school's ability to provide for the educational success of their children;
- d. That engaging parents is essential to improve students achievement; and
- e. That our schools will foster and support active parental involvement.

With this in mind, the Bryant School District shall:

- a. Support partnerships with schools, parents, and the community.
- b. Assist schools in implementing effective parental involvement.
- c. Help build each school's capacity for parental involvement.
- d. Survey parents and evaluate their responses to help improve the educational programs at the schools.
- e. Involve parents in developing each school's improvement plan.
- f. Provide informational materials to parents to assist them in being involved with their child's education.

To view the Parental Involvement Plan for each individual school, go to the Parents and Students section of the Bryant School District website at www.bryantschools.org.

PARENT AND VISITOR GUIDELINES

Parents/guardians are welcome on our school campus. All visitors must sign-in at the office and pick up a visitor badge. Visitors under the age of 18 who are not parents or guardians are not allowed in classrooms, school parties, and/or field trips. In order to maintain an atmosphere conducive to learning, visitors should follow the guidelines listed below:

- **Classroom observation** – Parents/guardians must schedule in advance with teacher and principal. The parent/guardian will be provided an unobtrusive seat in the classroom area. Interaction is not allowed with students during observation.
- **Teacher conference** – Parents/guardians may contact their child's teacher to schedule a conference at any time during the school year. Conferences should be scheduled in advance and will be held in an area away from the students.
- **Lunch or Breakfast** – Parents may only bring food or drinks for their own child. Parents wishing to eat a school lunch must notify the school prior to 8:30 a.m. on that day.

- **Deliveries** - All deliveries of personal items such as forgotten homework, lunches, etc. will be made to the school office. Classes will not be interrupted for deliveries.

VOLUNTEER PROGRAM

A volunteer program is organized in each elementary school. Any parent wishing to know more about the program may get further information by calling the parental involvement designee at each school. Arkansas law requires that all volunteers be trained in student discipline procedures.

PARENTAL CONTACT WITH STUDENTS AT SCHOOL

In the event there is a question about the legal custody of a child, it should be established who has this responsibility and what limitations are imposed by this situation. Both custodial and non- custodial parents are entitled to be involved in the education of their child(ren), including visits to school and having access to school records, unless a court order exists and is on file at school which (1) specifically prohibits such activity and (2) specifically names the school in question.

GENERAL INFORMATION

BIRTHDAY PARTIES

Birthday parties are not allowed.

CLASS PARTIES

Class parties are limited to two per year: Christmas and Valentine's Day. Please remember all cookies or cupcakes must be store bought or from a bakery. All candy must be in a sealed package, individually wrapped.

FLORAL OR BALLOON ARRANGEMENTS

Floral or balloon arrangements are not permitted at school.

FUNDRAISING

Student participation in fundraising events is voluntary. All students that participate must have on file at the school written parental permission. No student can sell door to door without parental supervision or parent designee.

EXTRA CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

Students in grades K-12 who meet academic, discipline, and attendance requirements may be eligible to participate in school sponsored activities and other educational experiences during the school year.

FIELD TRIPS

A field trip is an educational experience that is an extension of the regular classroom environment. The following guidelines will apply to field trips:

- Written parental permission must be given before a student participates in a field trip. A permission slip is in the front of the Elementary Handbook.
- Only students from the classroom are allowed to attend field trips. Siblings and pre-school children are not allowed on field trips.
- As a part of the field trip experience, all students are expected to ride the school bus. If a parent does not want their child to ride the school bus, parents may transport their child in an automobile. The Bryant School District accepts no liability involving privately transported students on school field trips. No other student can ride with another parent even if there is written permission.
- All school discipline procedures and consequences apply on field trips.
- Parents can check out a student during a field trip if the student is signed out with a school official. Generally, parents must provide their own transportation to field trips unless authorized to ride the bus by the principal.

TOBACCO USE ON CAMPUS

The use of intoxicants, drugs, or tobacco in any form is prohibited by students or adults on any school property /building owned and operated by the Bryant School District.

STUDENT PUBLICATIONS AND THE DISTRIBUTION OF LITERATURE

Students attending school in the Bryant School District may exercise their right of expression within the framework of this publications policy, as outlined in Ark. Code Ann. § 6-18-1203: “Student publications policies shall recognize that students may exercise their right of expression, within the framework outlined in § 6-18-1202. This right includes expression in school-sponsored publications, whether such publications are supported financially by the school or by use of school facilities, or are produced in conjunction with a class, except as provided in § 6-18-1204.”

Student Responsibility

Publications staff members in the Bryant School District recognize truth, fairness, accuracy, and responsibility as essential to the practice of journalism. All student publications, as well as the content of student expression in school-sponsored activities, shall adhere to the following limitations, which shall be enforced by the adviser and principal:

1. Advertising may be accepted for publications that does not condone or promote products that are inappropriate for the age and maturity of the audience or that endorses such things as tobacco, alcohol, or drugs.
2. Publications may be regulated to prohibit writings which are, in the opinion of the adviser and/or principal, ungrammatical, poorly written, inadequately researched, biased or prejudiced, vulgar, or profane.
3. Publications may be regulated to prohibit writings which might reasonably be perceived to advocate drug or alcohol use, irresponsible sex, or conduct otherwise inconsistent with the shared values of a civilized social order.

4. Prohibited publications include:
 - a. Those that are obscene to minors, as defined by law;
 - b. Those that are libelous or slanderous, as defined by law;
 - c. Those that constitute an unwarranted invasion of privacy, as defined by state law;
 - d. Those that suggest or urge the commission of unlawful acts on school premises or the violation of lawful school regulations;
 - e. Those that scurrilously attack ethnic, religious, or racial groups

Review of Content

Publication staff members create all editorial content for student publications and choose advertising for student publications. When questionable content arises, the adviser and principal will review such content and advertising and make recommendations. When the adviser and principal disagree about the appropriateness or quality of material scheduled for publication, the Publication Review Committee (PRC) will be consulted within two weeks. After a recommendation from the PRC, the principal shall have the final decision. The principal's decision should be reasonably related to the limitations as noted under "Student Responsibility."

Publication Review Committee (PRC):

The Publication Review Committee (PRC) of Bryant High School shall convene to advise the publication staffs, the adviser, and administration upon adviser or principal request due to controversial content or other concerns. Members shall be appointed by the principal with approval from the adviser. A member shall volunteer or be designated to keep detailed minutes of all meeting proceedings. The adviser and principal may attend the meeting and may speak, but only committee members may vote on the official recommendation of the committee. Recommendations will be reported to the adviser and principal.

The PRC shall consist of the following members:

1. Student editor;
2. Parent of a child in the Bryant School District;
3. Professional journalist;
4. Secondary math or science teacher;
5. Secondary English or social studies teacher;
6. Secondary foreign language or business teacher; and
7. Secondary fine arts teacher.

Distribution of School-Sponsored Publications

School-sponsored publications may be distributed on school grounds in areas and at times designated by the principal to avoid disruption of school operations.

Student Publications on School Web Pages

Student publications on school web pages shall follow the same guidelines listed above, and shall also:

1. Adhere to the restrictions regarding use of Directory Information, including not using a student's photograph when associated with the student's name unless written permission has been received from the student's parent or the student if he or she is over the age of 18.
2. State that the views expressed are not necessarily those of the School Board or employees of the Bryant School District.

Student Distribution of Nonschool Literature, Publications and Materials

A student or group of students who distribute ten (10) or fewer copies of the same nonschool literature, publications, or materials (hereinafter "nonschool materials"), shall do so in a time, place, and manner that does not cause a substantial disruption of the orderly education environment. A student or group of students wishing to distribute more than ten (10) copies of nonschool materials shall have school authorities review their nonschool materials at least three (3) school days in advance of their

desired time of dissemination. School authorities shall review the nonschool materials, prior to their distribution and will bar from distribution those nonschool materials that are obscene, libelous, pervasively indecent, or advertise unlawful products or services. Material may also be barred from distribution if there is evidence that reasonably supports a forecast that a substantial disruption of the orderly operation of the school or educational environment will likely result from the distribution. Concerns related to any denial of distribution by the principal shall be heard by the superintendent, whose decision shall be final.

The school principal or designee shall establish reasonable regulations governing the time, place, and manner of student distribution of nonschool materials. The regulations shall:

1. Be narrowly drawn to promote orderly administration of school activities by preventing disruption and may not be designed to stifle expression;
2. Be uniformly applied to all forms of nonschool materials;
3. Allow no interference with classes or school activities;
4. Specify times, places, and manner where distribution may and may not occur; and
5. Not inhibit a person's right to accept or reject any literature distributed in accordance with the regulations.

Students shall be responsible for the removal of excess literature that is left at the distribution point for more than five days.

The superintendent, along with the student publications adviser, shall develop administrative regulations for the implementation of this policy. The regulations shall include definitions of terms and timelines for the review of materials.

COMPUTER SYSTEM / INTERNET APPROPRIATE USE POLICY

The Bryant School District is pleased to provide to students access to interconnected computer systems within the district and to the Internet, the worldwide network that provides various means of accessing educational materials and opportunities.

In order for the school district to be able to continue to make its computer network and Internet access available, all students must take responsibility for appropriate and lawful use of this access. Students must understand that one student's misuse of the network and Internet access may jeopardize the ability of all students to enjoy such access. While the School's teachers and other Staff will make reasonable efforts to supervise student use of network and Internet access, they must have student cooperation in exercising and promoting responsible use of this access.

Below is the Acceptable Use and Internet Safety Policy of the school district and the Data Acquisition Site that provides Internet access to the School District. Upon reviewing, signing, and returning this policy as the students have been directed, each student will be given the opportunity to enjoy Internet access at school and is agreeing to follow the policy. If a student is under 18 years of age, he or she must have his or her parents or guardians read and sign the policy. The school district cannot provide access to any student who, if 18 or older, fails to sign and submit the policy to the school as directed or, if under 18, does not return the policy as directed with the signatures of the student and his/her parents or guardians.

Listed below are the provisions of your agreement regarding computer network and Internet use. If you have any questions about these provisions, you should contact the person that your school has designated as the one to whom you can direct your questions. If any user violates this policy, the student's access will be denied, if not already proved, or withdrawn and he or she may be subject to additional disciplinary action.

PERSONAL RESPONSIBILITY

By signing the handbook pages you are agreeing not only to follow the rules in this policy, but are agreeing to report any misuse of the network to the person designated by the school for such reporting. Misuse means any violations of this policy or any other use that is not included in the policy, but has the effect of harming another or his/her property.

ACCEPTABLE USES

A. Educational Purposes Only. The school district is providing access to its computer networks and the Internet for ONLY educational purposes. If you have any doubt about whether a contemplated activity is educational, you may consult with the person(s) designated by the school to help you decide if a use is appropriate.

B. Unacceptable Uses of Network. Among the uses that are considered unacceptable and which constitute a violation of this policy are the following:

1. USES that violate the law or encourage others to violate the law. Do not transmit offensive or harassing messages; offer for sale or use any substance the possession or use of which is prohibited by the school district's Student Discipline Policy; view, transmit or download offensive materials or materials that encourage others to violate the law; intrude into the networks or computers of others; and download or transmit confidential, trade secret information, or

copyrighted materials. Even if materials on the networks are not marked with the copyright symbol, you should assume that all materials are protected unless there is explicit permission on the materials to use them.

2. USES, that cause harm to others or damage to their property. For example, do not engage in defamation (harming another's reputation by lies); employ another's password or some other user identifier that misleads message recipients into believing that someone other than you is communicating or otherwise using his/her access to the network or the Internet; upload a worm, virus, "trojan horse," "time bomb" or other harmful form of programming or vandalism; participate in "hacking" activities or any form of unauthorized access to other computers, networks, or information systems.
3. USES that are commercial transactions. Students may not sell or buy anything over the Internet. You should not give others private information about you or others, including credit card numbers and social security numbers.
4. USES that are PUBLIC social communication website such as Zanga, Facebook, and Myspace are prohibited. District email accounts are for academic purposes only and should not be used for social communication.

C. Cyber Ethics. All users must abide by rules of network etiquette, which include the following:

1. Be polite. Use appropriate language. No swearing, vulgarities, suggestive, obscene, belligerent, or threatening language.
2. Avoid language and uses, which may be offensive to other users. Do not use access to make, distribute, or redistribute jokes, stories, or other material, which is based upon slurs or stereotypes relating to race, gender, ethnicity, nationality, religion, or sexual orientation.
3. Do not assume that a sender of email is giving his or her permission for you to forward or redistribute the message to third parties or to give his/her email address to third parties. This should only be done with permission or when you know that the individual would have no objection.
4. Be considerate when sending attachments with email (where this is permitted). Be sure that the file is not too large to be accommodated by the recipient's system and is in a format, which the recipient can open.

D. Personal Devices. All students are allowed to bring their own electronic communication devices (laptops, smart phones, eReaders, tablets, etc.) These devices are for educational purposes only as approved by the building administration.

1. Students bring electronic communication devices to school at their own risk, just like any other personal item. The district will not be held responsible if an electronic device or other item is lost, stolen, or misplaced, including those that have been confiscated.
2. Students must log on and use Bryant School District filtered wireless network during the school day on personal electronic devices.
 - a. Using your own wireless provider during school is not permitted. (e.g. tethering 3G/4G phones, wireless broadband devices, etc.)
 - b. Personal BPSD network access information should not be conveyed to other students or attempts made to use another's authentication information.

4. Students must not waste or abuse school resources through unauthorized system use (e.g. playing online games, downloading music, watching unapproved video broadcasts, participating in chat-rooms, any type of social media, etc.).

INTERNET SAFETY

A. General Warning; Individual Responsibility of Parents and Users.

All users and their parents/guardians are advised that access to the electronic network may include the potential for access to materials inappropriate for school-aged pupils. Every user must take responsibility for his or her use of the computer network and Internet and stay away from these sites. Parents of minors are the best guides to materials to shun. If a student finds that other users are visiting offensive or harmful sites, he or she should report such use to the person designated by the school.

B. Personal Safety.

Be safe. In using the computer network and Internet, do not reveal personal information such as your home address or telephone number. Do not use your real last name or any other information which might allow a person to locate you without first obtaining the permission of a supervising teacher. Do not arrange a face-to-face meeting with someone you “meet” on the computer network or Internet without your parent’s permission (if you are under 18). Regardless of your age, you should never agree to meet a person you have only communicated with on the Internet in a secluded place or in a private setting.

C. “Hacking” and Other Illegal Activities.

It is a violation of this Policy to use the school’s computer network or the Internet to gain unauthorized access to other computers or computer systems, or to attempt to gain such unauthorized access. Any use which violates state or federal law relating to copyright, trade secrets, the distribution of obscene materials, or which violates any other applicable law or municipal ordinance, is strictly prohibited.

D. Confidentiality of Student Information.

Personally identifiable information concerning students may not be disclosed or used in any way on the Internet without the permission of a parent or guardian or, if the student is 18 or over, the permission of the student himself/herself. Users should never give out private or confidential information about themselves or others on the Internet, particularly credit card numbers and Social Security numbers. A supervising teacher or administrator may authorize the release of directory information for internal administrative purposes or approved educational projects and activities.

E. Active Restriction Measures.

The school, either by itself or in combination with the Data Acquisition Site providing Internet access, will utilize filtering software or other technologies to prevent students from accessing visual depictions that are obscene or harmful to minors. The school will also monitor the online activities of students, through direct observation and/or technological means, to ensure that students are not accessing any material which is inappropriate for minors.

Internet filtering software or other technology-based protection systems may be disabled by a supervising teacher or school administrator, as necessary, for purposes of bona fide research or other educational projects being conducted by students age 17 and older.

F. Education.

The school will provide training for students who use Internet resources with regard to:

1. Safety on the Internet;
2. Appropriate behavior while online, on social networking sites, and in chat room;
3. Cyber bullying awareness and response.

PRIVACY

Network and Internet access is provided as a tool for your education. The school district reserves the right to monitor, inspect, copy, review and store at any time and without prior notice any and all usage of the computer network and Internet access and any and all information transmitted or received in connection with such usage. All such information files shall be and remain the property of the school district and no user shall have any expectation of privacy regarding such materials.

FAILURE TO FOLLOW POLICY

The user's use of the computer network and Internet is a privilege, not a right. A user who violates this policy, shall at a minimum, have his or her access to the computer network and Internet terminated, which the school district may refuse to reinstate for the remainder of the student's enrollment in the school district. Further, a user violates this policy if he or she permits another to use his or her account or password to access the computer network and Internet, including any user whose access has been denied or terminated. The school district may also take other disciplinary action in such circumstances.

WARRANTIES/INDEMNIFICATION

The school district makes no warranties of any kind, either express or implied, in connection with its provision of access to and use of its computer networks and the Internet provided under this policy. It shall not be responsible for any claims, losses, damages or costs (including attorney's fees) of any kind suffered, directly or indirectly, by any user or his or her parent(s) or guardian(s) arising out of the user's use of its computer networks or the Internet under this policy. By signing this policy, users are taking full responsibility for his or her use, and the user who is 18 or older or, in the case of a user under 18, the parent(s) or guardian(s) are agreeing to indemnify and hold the school, the school district, the Data Acquisition Site that provides the computer and Internet access opportunity to the school district and all of their administrators, teachers, and staff harmless from any and all loss, costs, claims or damages, including attorneys fees and expenses, resulting from the user's access to its computer network and the Internet, including but not limited to any fees or charges incurred through purchases of goods or services by the user. The user or, if the user is a minor, the user's parents(s) or guardian(s) agree to cooperate with the school in the event of the school's initiating an investigation of a user's use of his or her access to its computer network and the Internet, whether that use is on a School computer or on another computer outside the school district's network.

UPDATES

Users, and if appropriate, the user's parents/guardians, may be asked to provide new or additional registration and account information or to sign a new policy for example, to reflect developments in the law or technology. Such information must be provided by the user, (or his/her parents or guardian), or such new policy must be signed if the user wishes to continue to receive service. If after you have provided your account information, some or all of the information changes, you must notify the person designated by the school to receive such information.

CONTROVERSIAL MATERIAL

There is a tremendous variety of material available on the Internet, not all of which has a place in the Bryant Public Schools. When browsing the World Wide Web (www), users are not to intentionally access web sites which:

- Contain adult content, nudity, or other sexually explicitly material or images.
- Discuss, promote, or provide information about prohibited, controlled, or regulated drugs and their abuse; also, paraphernalia associated with such use and abuse (this does not include medications which may be prescribed by a properly licensed health care provider).
- Promote the identification of racial groups, the denigration or subjection of groups (racially identified or otherwise), or the superiority of any group.
- Provide information on or promote violent activity.
- Provide information about or promote gambling or that support online gambling.
- Provide instruction in or promote crime or unethical or dishonest behavior or evasion of prosecution thereof.
- Provide information on or promoting illegal or questionable access to or use of communications equipment and/or software.
- Any other activity, which is not specifically defined but is deemed to be unacceptable by administration.

While users are expected to avoid such materials, the District recognizes that it is not always possible to know, prior to going to a web site, exactly it's contents. Should a user inadvertently access prohibited materials, he/she should leave the page immediately by (1) using the browser's "back" button, (2) using the browser's "home page" button, (3) closing the browser, or (4) taking some other action that demonstrates the student's intent to leave the prohibited site. Failure to do so will indicate intentional access and possibly subject the users to the disciplinary policies found elsewhere in this Handbook. Users will not use any sort of chat room or chat window, access news groups or use instant messaging programs, unless under the direct supervision of a teacher or staff member for the purpose directly related to school business or coursework, such as obtaining technical support information for the District's computer systems, software, or network.

CIVIL RIGHTS REGULATIONS

P.L. 94-142

In disciplining the disabled, it is necessary that due process procedures mandated by P.L. 94-142, and Arkansas Laws be followed by the Individualized Education Plan (IEP) team.

TITLE VI. SECTION 601, OF THE CIVIL RIGHTS ACTS OF 1964

No person in the United States shall, on the grounds of race, color, or national origin, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any program or activity receiving federal financial assistance.

TITLE IX. SECTION 901, OF THE EDUCATION AMENDMENT OF 1972

No person in the United States shall, on the basis of sex, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any education program or activity receiving federal financial assistance.

SECTIONS 504 OF THE REHABILITATION ACT OF 1973

Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 provides individuals with disabilities basic civil rights protection against discrimination in any program or activity receiving financial assistance, including public schools. Section 504 provides services for students identified as having a disability, as defined by the act, which substantially limits a major life activity.

PROTECTION OF PUPIL RIGHTS AMENDMENT

The Protection of Pupil Rights Amendment (PPRA), 20 U.S.C. § 1232h, requires the Bryant School District to notify you and obtain consent or allow you to opt your child out of participating in certain school activities. The activities include a student survey, analysis, or evaluation that concerns one or more of the following eight areas (“protected information surveys”):

1. Political affiliations or beliefs of the student or student’s parent;
2. Mental or psychological problems of the student or student’s family;
3. Sexual behavior or attitudes;
4. Illegal, anti-social, self-incriminating, or demeaning behavior;
5. Critical appraisals of others with whom respondents have close family relationships;
6. Legally recognized privileged relationships, such as lawyers, doctors, or ministers;
7. Religious practices, affiliations, or beliefs of the student or parents; or
8. Income, other than required by law to determine program eligibility.

This requirement also applies to the collection, disclosure or use of student information for marketing purposes (“marketing surveys”), and certain physical exams and screenings.

The Bryant School District will provide parents, within a reasonable period of time prior to the administration of the surveys and activities, notification of the surveys and activities and be provided an opportunity to opt their child out, as well as the opportunity to review the surveys. (Please note that this notice and consent/opt-out transfers from parents to any student who is 18 years old or an emancipated minor under State law.)

STUDENT DISCRIMINATION COMPLAINT PROCEDURES

Students who believe that they have been discriminated against based upon race, national origin, religion, disability or sex, including sexual harassment or bullying, should report the alleged incident to the principal as soon as possible, but no later than thirty (30) days, after the event(s) in question. If the complaint involves the principal, the complaint may be made to the assistant superintendent.

The complaint will be investigated and, when possible, the complainant will be advised of what action, if any, has been taken to resolve the complaint.

If the student is not satisfied with the principal's resolution of the complaint, he or she may appeal to the assistant superintendent.

If the student is not satisfied with the assistant superintendent's resolution of the complaint, or if the complaint was originally made to the assistant superintendent, he or she may appeal to the superintendent. The appeal must be made in writing ten (10) working days from the decision of the assistant superintendent. The decision of the superintendent shall be final.

BUS POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

PARENTS PLAY IMPORTANT ROLE IN SCHOOL BUS SAFETY

To have an effective safety program, safety awareness must begin and be constantly reinforced at home. Bus drivers must operate the bus safely in traffic with many students behind them. There is only a minimal amount of time for drivers to participate in the area of bus safety instruction.

The following points are suggested to parents:

- Stress the importance of remaining seated and reasonably quiet while the vehicle is in motion.
- Students should not automatically expect traffic to stop for the overhead flashers on the bus.
- Students shall wait until the driver directs the students to get on the bus.
- Find an established time--not too early and not too late--to have your children leave home for AM pick-up.
- Warn youngsters about strangers who hang around the bus stop and may offer rides or candy.
- Discuss the safety hazards involved in throwing anything out of a bus window.
- As a Parent/Guardian, support Bryant School District's policies and procedures for riding the bus. **Riding a school bus is a privilege, not a right.**
- As a Parent/Guardian, instill in your child that they are to obey all school rules at the bus stop. Misbehavior at the bus stop will be reported to the building administrator.

While at the bus stop, students will:

- Be at the bus stop before the bus is scheduled to arrive.
- Choose a spot that is about 10 feet off the road to wait for the bus.
- Wait until the bus comes to a complete stop and the driver has given directions to board before crossing the street in front of the bus.
- Not gather on private property without permission from the landowner.
- Obey all rules and regulations at the bus stop as if in a school classroom. **The bus stop is considered part of the grounds.**

When boarding and exiting the bus, students will:

- Get on and off the bus only at their assigned bus stop or school, unless they have a permission slip from the building administration office. Students will exit the bus quietly in an orderly manner.
- Board the bus and go to their assigned seat. Students must sit in assigned seats.
- Not board or leave the bus except when instructed by the driver. Students will not exit through the emergency exits unless instructed by the driver.
- Go to a point on the shoulder of the street approximately ten feet in front of the bus and wait for the driver's signal before crossing the street.
- Not attempt to retrieve a dropped object until the bus has left the scene and the street is clear of other vehicles.
- Not get in the way of exiting students.

While riding the bus, students will:

- Follow all rules and regulations in the student handbook.
- Follow the driver's instructions and not distract his/her attention.
- Go to and remain in their assigned seats until they arrive at their school or bus stops. Students are responsible for the seat they are assigned.
- Face the front of the bus and talk quietly (no screaming or yelling).
- Carry on the bus only items that can be placed on their laps and keep all belongings out of the aisle of the bus.
- Not bring opened beverage containers, knives, firearms, sharp objects, clubs, glass objects, or animals on the bus.
- Keep hands, etc., to themselves and inside the bus windows.
- Not eat or drink on the bus.
- Not open or spray fragrances or other substances on the bus.

All rules that are followed at school are also to be followed on the school bus and/or at the school bus stop. If a child breaks a rule other than the safety rules mentioned above, the violation(s) will be reported to the school administrator who will then follow the school's student handbook. This violation will also count as one of the five (5) bus discipline steps before a student is denied bus-riding privileges for the semester or year.

Students who ride any bus while suspended will have their bus suspension doubled.

When riding a Bryant school bus, students are subject to videotaping. The videotape will be used to help maintain discipline and student safety.

Disciplinary Incidents will be referred by the driver to the campus administration. Disciplinary measures will be administered according to the Student Handbook.

The following discipline policy will be used at the DISCRETION OF THE PRINCIPAL AND/OR ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL, depending upon the severity of the offense. If a child chooses to break the safety rules and procedures above, the following will occur:

- 1st Offense - probation notice sent home.
- 2nd Offense - three (3) day suspension from riding ALL buses or paddling.
- 3rd Offense - five (5) day suspension from riding ALL buses.
- 4th Offense - ten (10) day suspension from riding ALL buses.
- 5th Offense - suspension from ALL buses for the remainder of the semester or year.

BUS RESTITUTION

Students that damage school property on the school bus will receive the discipline in addition to paying the cost of repairing or replacing the damaged property. The student will not be allowed to ride the bus until restitution has been made and discipline has been served.

BUS TRANSPORTATION PROCEDURES IN SEVERE WEATHER

If inclement weather occurs (SIRENS HAVE SOUNDED) while school is in session, students are to follow written tornado drills procedures.

AFTERNOON

1. If the high school students are already on buses and headed toward BMS/BES, BEMS, SPES, CES, HFES, and DES the following steps need to be followed until the area has been cleared by the Weather Service:
 - The elementary and middle school students will remain in their building in a safe location and follow tornado drill procedures.
 - The junior high and senior high students will follow emergency evacuation procedures and enter the designated school building. Students will assume the tornado position (sit facing an inside wall of the building away from all doors and windows with heads down).
 - In the event students must be unloaded from buses, drivers will assist building administrators and teachers in the supervision of their respective passengers.
2. If the buses have already loaded and are en route to BEMS, SPES, CES, HFES, or DES buses will proceed to the satellite schools, students will follow emergency evacuation procedures, enter the school, and assume the tornado position until area has been cleared by the Weather Service.
3. If buses have already left BEMS, SPES, CES, HFES, and DES (or for buses that do not stop at these schools), drivers will proceed to a “safe haven” as designated by the bus transportation office, follow emergency evacuation procedures, and enter the safe haven. Safe havens will be designated on each route and be made known to parents. If weather circumstances are such that something needs to be done immediately, drivers are to pull off the road and have students get down below the windows as much as possible.

MORNING

The procedures for morning will be in reverse order of those listed above for afternoons. Bus drivers do not always hear the sirens over the noise of the bus engine and children on the bus. The District Transportation Office and/or Central Office Administration will be responsible for calling the Weather Service and relaying information to schools. Local fire department and police officials with access to emergency communication systems can also give schools information needed to allow buses to proceed.

NOTES:

Students riding buses other than the bus to which they are assigned by residence has caused over crowding on some of our buses. Students will be allowed to ride only the bus to which they are assigned by residence.

- Students are not to get off the bus at any stop but their own, unless they have a permission slip from the Principal's office. Safety takes place over convenience in selecting school bus stops. Bus stops are not made over 2 per one-quarter mile or four per mile. Exceptions to this policy may be considered in case of hardship, dangerous stops, and bad weather.
- No student who lives within two (2) miles of school will be allowed to ride the bus.
- Students must be walking over one mile to a bus stop before the Board will consider entering an area. There must be also at least seventeen (17) students in the area. The administration will be given the authority to consolidate bus stops according to Arkansas Department of Education recommendations; stops one-fourth mile apart in rural areas and one stop every three blocks in urban areas.

Passing a school bus while flashing red lights are on is in direct violation of Arkansas law regulating the unlawful passing of a school bus. Violators will be reported to law enforcement officials.

- When a student chooses to misbehave and the school administrator suspends the bus riding privileges of a student, the administrator will attempt to contact the parent. Suspension will begin once the parent is notified.
- Parents with concerns or questions about bus discipline involving their students should first call the school's principal in charge of discipline. If the problem remains unresolved, parents may then contact the district's Director of Administrative Services. If parents are still unsatisfied at this point, the Assistant Superintendent may be contacted.
- Parents with concerns or questions about the bus driver when it involves their children should first call the Transportation Director at 847- 5641. If the problem remains unresolved, parents may then contact the district's Director of Administrative Services. If parents are still unsatisfied at this point, the Assistant Superintendent may be contacted.

A note signed by the parent/guardian or a phone call will be required for ANY transportation change.