

# **ASHLEY PUBLIC SCHOOL**

**“REACHING FULL POTENTIAL  
THROUGH SEEING, DOING,  
AND APPLYING”**



**Parent/Student/Staff/  
Community/Guest  
HANDBOOK**

Revised Aug 2025

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## **Section 1: SCHOOL INFORMATION**

This handbook is not written to cover every possible situation – only as a guideline. Administration reserves the right to make decisions regarding situations and circumstances not addressed in the Ashley Public School Handbook.

### **1-01 INTRODUCTION**

Welcome back to Ashley Public School for another school year. Hopefully, you were able to enjoy the summer and are ready to enter the routine of school. It is hard to believe that another school year is beginning, and a new class is ready to complete their school journey. This handbook contains the general rules and guidelines for the day-to-day functions of our school. A handbook is part of the school board's policy, which means it's something that changes from year to year (and sometimes even during the school year). Input from parents, teachers, board members, and students are valued when putting together the handbook. Please go through this carefully and familiarize yourself and your parents with the contents.

### **1-02 The Mission, Philosophy and Objectives of the Ashley Public School**

#### **“REACHING FULL POTENTIAL THROUGH SEEING, DOING, APPLYING”**

The Ashley Public School System believes that its purpose is to accept students as they are and to assist them in developing their full potential through the cooperative efforts of community, family, and educators.

Objectively the student will:

- 1) Learn the basic skills necessary to function in a modern society.
- 2) Realize the feeling of self-worth by developing mature social, moral, and emotional skills to prepare for life's challenges.
- 3) Develop a sound work ethic.
- 4) Develop reading, writing, listening, and speaking skills necessary to communicate effectively.
- 5) Develop thinking and reasoning skills.
- 6) Develop an appreciation for the arts.
- 7) Be provided the opportunity to become technologically literate.
- 8) Acquire an understanding of democracy and other forms of government as well as a loyalty to our democratic ideas.
- 9) Learn the importance of proper nutrition, family matters, and maintenance of a healthy lifestyle.
- 10) Promote citizenship and sportsmanship that will instill a sense of pride in the community, teach lifelong lessons of teamwork and self-discipline, and facilitate physical and emotional development through interscholastic and fine art activities.
- 11) Realize the importance of volunteer service in community, social, and political work.
- 12) Be provided the opportunity to prepare scholastically for attendance at institutions of higher learning.
- 13) Learn skills that will contribute to the enjoyment of leisure time activities and quality of life.
- 14) Develop and enhance confidence and feelings of self-worth and self-respect by developing effective communication skills, conflict resolution skills, and using critical thinking skills to resolve ethical situations.

### **1-03 SCHOOL LOYALTY**

If the Ashley Public School is to constantly move forward, then its students, teachers, and employees must be loyal to the school and devoted to making it the best school it can be. Sometimes that means taking an unpopular stand on a controversial issue, or doing something that you think is right, even though others don't agree with you. Everyone who is part of the Ashley Public School should have courage to do what they think is right and accept responsibility when they make mistakes.

### **1-04 SCHOOL SPIRIT**

School spirit involves treating other fellow students, teachers, visitors, athletic teams and officials with courtesy and respect. It means representing Ashley Public School and competing against other schools in a manner that shows good sportsmanship. It also means having pride in your school, in those who represent your school, and in the quality of education you receive here. It is not unusual to have alumni come back and talk about how much they enjoyed going to school here, how much they miss taking part in school activities, and how much they appreciate the education they received here.

School spirit applies to students, teachers, parents, and community members. Commitment and loyalty to your school is as important as ever, but it takes the effort of everyone to create the kind of atmosphere that shows others we are proud to be from Ashley Public School.

### **1-05 PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

I pledge allegiance to the Flag  
of the United States of America,  
and to the Republic for which it stands,  
one Nation under God, indivisible,  
with liberty and justice for all.

### **1-06 STAR SPANGLED BANNER**

Oh, say can you see by the dawn's early light,  
What so proudly we hailed at the twilight's last gleaming.  
Whose broad stripes and bright stars, through the perilous fight,  
O'er the ramparts we watch were so gallantly streaming.  
And the rocket's red glare, the bombs bursting in air,  
Gave proof through the night that our flag was still there.  
Oh, say does that star spangled banner yet wave,  
O'er the land of the free and the home of the brave.

### **1-07 FLAG ETIQUETTE AND THE NATIONAL ANTHEM**

During the playing of the National Anthem when the flag is displayed, all present, except those in uniform, should stand at attention facing the flag with the right hand over the heart. Men not in uniform should remove their headgear with their hand and hold it at their left shoulder, the hand being over the heart. When the flag is not displayed, those present should face toward the music and act in the same manner as they would if the flag were displayed. The position of attention should be maintained until the last note of the National Anthem has been played.

When an Honor Guard is used to present the colors, all present should maintain a position of attention from the beginning of the presentation of the colors, through the playing of the National Anthem, and until the colors have left the area.

## ***Section 2: ACADEMICS***

### **2-01 ACCREDITATION**

Ashley Public School is an accredited high school and in compliance with guidelines set forth by the North Dakota Department of Public Instruction and the North Dakota Century Code.

### **2-02 ENROLLMENT: ENTRANCE REQUIREMENTS**

New students enrolling in Ashley Public School as freshmen must present evidence of middle school work completed to the principal. Advanced students transferring from another school should see that their former school transcripts are sent as soon as possible. Transfer students may enroll, but their registration will not be completed until their credits have been recorded in the office.

### **2-03 WITHDRAWAL: PROCEDURES TO FOLLOW**

Should it become necessary to withdraw from school, you must first report to the principal. The principal will give you a form with directions on how to complete the form. No student will officially be withdrawn from school until the proper procedure has been completed.

### **2-04 STUDENT CLASSIFICATION**

High School students will be classified according to the number of units they have earned. Classification will be determined at the beginning of fall quarter as follows:

0 to 5 units	-	9th Grade
6 to 9 units	-	10th Grade
10 to 15 units	-	11th Grade
16 plus units	-	12th Grade

Students in the seventh and eighth grades must maintain at least a 70% overall average.

Promotion is based on satisfactorily completing the designated requirements for each grade level. Retention of students is handled on an individual basis. For all students the decision to retain shall be made by a team of the child's teachers and the building principal, with input from the parent or guardian.

For early graduation, a plan needs to be approved by the principal. In lieu of early graduation, the students in grades 9-12 must carry at least six classes per semester of coursework.

## 2-05 GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

Each year, the guidance counselor and principal will advise students on suggested course work with a four-year rolling plan as directed by the Choice Ready Program. Students have 10 days to adjust their schedule by dropping or adding courses (including online/ITV) after each semester begins. Every effort should be made to enroll in the courses you want and/or need to meet state graduation requirements during the initial registration process.

Students failing a class or classes must make arrangements to enroll in additional classes if they intend to graduate in four years. Required classes failed must be repeated. If after completing at least two years of high school a student has failed to pass at least one-half unit from three subsection or has a grade point average at or below the twenty-fifth percentile of other students in the district who are enrolled in the same grade, the student may request that the guidance counselor or principal meet with the student and the student's parent/guardian to determine if the student should be permitted to pursue an optional high school curriculum. If a student's parent/guardian consents in writing to the student pursuing the optional high school curriculum, the student is eligible to receive a high school diploma upon completing the following requirements:

Language Arts (English I, II, III, IV)	4 units
Social Studies (U.S. History, World History, Government, Multicultural Studies, ND Studies)	3 units
Mathematics	3 units
Science	3 units
Physical Education/Health	1 unit
Foreign language, fine arts, or career tech.	3 units
Electives	5 units
Computer Science/Cybersecurity (Class of 2028)	1 unit
Total	22 units

## 2-06 NORTH DAKOTA SCHOLARSHIPS



### NORTH DAKOTA SCHOLARSHIP as aligned to the Choice Ready Framework

The North Dakota Scholarship framework is a tool to assist educators in understanding the requirements of the ND Scholarship, as listed in North Dakota Century Code 15.1-21-02.10. Requirements begin with the **ESSENTIAL SKILLS** section. Students shall then strive to be **POST-SECONDARY READY**, **WORKFORCE READY**, and/or **MILITARY READY**, according to the requirements listed below.

Check here when student has completed Essential Skills ☐



#### ESSENTIAL SKILLS (15.1-21-02.10(5))

- ☐ Earn a **North Dakota high school diploma**
- ☐ Complete a **9-week Career Education/Individual Counseling, 4-year Rolling Plan**, pass **ND Civics Test**, earn a **3.0 or higher overall GPA**, and **four or more** additional indicators:

- ☐ 25 hours of Community Service
- ☐ 95% Attendance (not counting school related absences)
- ☐ Career Exploration Experience
- ☐ Two or more years in organized Co-Curricular Activities

- ☐ Two or more years in organized Extra-Curricular Activities
- ☐ Successfully complete a Capstone Project
- ☐ Successfully complete an online learning course
- ☐ Demonstrate competency in 21st Century Skills

Students shall achieve Essential Skills above, and complete **two or more** of the **CHOICE READY** components below to be eligible for the ND Scholarship.



Check here when student is Post-Secondary Ready ☐

#### POST-SECONDARY READY

Complete both indicator sets below:

ACT/SAT minimum composite score:

- ☐ ACT composite of 24, or
- ☐ SAT composite of 1180

and

**Two or more** additional indicators:

- ☐ Advanced Placement Course (A, B or C) (4, 3 or 2)
- ☐ Dual Credit Course (English or Math) (A, B or C) (4, 3 or 2)
- ☐ Algebra II (A, B or C) (4, 3 or 2)
- ☐ Advanced Placement Exam (3+)
- ☐ International Baccalaureate Exam (4+)
- ☐ 3.0 GPA in core course requirements for NDUS admission



Check here when student is Workforce Ready ☐

#### WORKFORCE READY

Complete both indicator sets below:

- ☐ 4 credits of CTE with 2 credits in same plan of study
- ☐ ACT of 24, or 5 or higher on all three WorkKeys tests

and

**Two or more** additional indicators:

- ☐ Complete Career Ready Practices Course
- ☐ Dual Credit Course (A, B or C) (4, 3 or 2)
- ☐ Technical Assessment/Industry Credential
- ☐ Workplace Learning Experience (40 hrs.)
- ☐ Work-based Learning Experience (Perkins V) (40 hrs.)
- ☐ NDSA (Reading/Math) Level 3 or greater, or ACT for Accountability: English 19/Mathematics 22 or greater



Check here when student is Military Ready ☐

#### MILITARY READY

Complete all three indicators below:

- ☐ **ASVAB score of 85 or greater**, or ASVAB score of 31 or greater and have completed Basic Training;

- ☐ **Physically Fit** - Have successfully completed required PE courses (A, B or C) (4, 3 or 2); **and**

- ☐ Complete **two or more** additional indicators from the **Post-Secondary** or **Workforce** options:

- ☐ \_\_\_\_\_
- ☐ \_\_\_\_\_

## **2-07 HONOR ROLL**

Junior-Senior High School—students earning a 'B' (3.00) average and above will be placed on the Semester honor roll. Any final quarter grade of 'F' or 'I' however, will disqualify a student from being listed on the honor roll for the grading period. The following subjects are not figured when determining honor roll status: Band, Chorus, Physical Education and any class that meets only once a week. The procedure to figure grades for the honor roll is also the same as used for determining honor students. A = 4.0, A- = 3.67, B+ = 3.333, B = 3.0, B- = 2.67, C+ = 2.333, C = 2.0, C- = 1.67, D+ = 1.333, D = 1.0, D- = .67, F = 0. The point value is assigned to the grade according to the credit the class is worth (half credit class is worth half the points, etc.) The total point value is then divided by the number of credits to arrive at the grade point average.

## **2-08 WEIGHTED GRADE SCALE**

The following classes are designated as academically advanced classes:

Chemistry	Any upper level science classes
Anatomy	College level speech
Physics	Any college level courses
Algebra II	Any dual credit courses
Any upper level math classes	
Second year foreign language	
College level Psychology	

An adjusted GPA will be computed for all students completing academically advanced classes and utilized on both honor roll and for calculating the cumulative GPA for student's transcript.

Grades are assigned a point value as follows:

A = 12 (adjusted=15)	C = 6 (adjusted=9)
A- = 11 (adjusted=14)	C- = 5 (adjusted=8)
B+ = 10 (adjusted=13)	D+ = 4 (adjusted=7)
B = 9 (adjusted=12)	D = 3 (adjusted=6)
B- = 8 (adjusted=11)	D- = 2 (adjusted=5)
C+ = 7 (adjusted=10)	F = 0 **no adjusted weight for an F

The grade point values listed above will be adjusted to include an additional 3 points for each academically advanced class completed. The sum of the grade point values (including the additional points) is divided by the number of credits and divided by 3 to reach the cumulative GPA. This means the maximum possible grade point value for each academically advanced class is 15, which would be 5.0 on the four point scale. This adjusted value will be used when calculating the cumulative GPA.

If a student has taken courses designated as weighted, his/her adjusted cumulative GPA will be used when determining class rank and honor student status. Honor students will have a minimum of a 3.00 GPA. Students with a GPA of 3.65 or above will be considered "Honor Students with Distinction". The student with the highest GPA above 3.65, actual or adjusted shall be named valedictorian/salutatorian regardless of their having taken weighted courses. According to KFYR's Best of Class policy, only the valedictorian and salutatorian will be eligible to attend KFYR's Best of Class.

## **2-09 Semester Testing Exemption**

Semester 1 – All students are required to take semester exams.

Semester 2 - Final exemption requirements (Students taking a weighted class are required to take a final.)

Students must have an A or higher in the class.

Student will be exempt if they have not missed more than 6 class periods per class. If a student has a medical appointment the student must bring a note from the doctor's office. If a student has a college visit the student must bring a note from the university or college. Some absences may be excused at the discretion of the administration. Any proof of excused absences must be turned in to the principal within 2 weeks of absence.

Tardy: See tardy policy, section 3-02 Tardiness.

## **2-10 GRADING & REPORT CARDS**

A student's semester grade will be based on a combination of factors, including homework, assignments done in class, quizzes, tests, individual and cooperative projects, and other forms of assessment that are deemed appropriate by the teacher and the principal. It is within the teacher's discretion to determine how best to balance all of the factors that can go into determining a student's grade, but it stands to reason that a student's quarter grade should include sufficient individual grades as to give a representative assessment of the student's academic performance.

A student's semester grade will include grades from each nine-week period, along with a semester test grade, unless the student is exempt from that semester test. A semester test can count for 10% to 20% of the semester grade. At the beginning of the year, teachers will explain to students how grades in their classes will be determined.

Semester Testing: Finals or a project in place of a final will be required for Core Subjects (Math, Science, English, and Social Studies). Non-core subjects can choose to have a final exam or final project. A block schedule will be set-up for first and second semester.

**The grading system is as follows:**

100-96	A	4.00
95-94	A-	3.67
93-92	B+	3.33
91-89	B	3.00
88-87	B-	2.67
86-85	C+	2.33
84-82	C	2.00
81-80	C-	1.67
79-78	D+	1.33
77-72	D	1.00
71-70	D-	.67
69-0	F	0

Should there be questions regarding progress, please make an appointment with the teacher. Appointments may be held before school, after school, or during the teacher's prep period.

Progress reports may be issued at any time. However, progress reports will be issued to all students at mid-semester. These notices are to act as a general guide to both parent/guardian and student so the student may improve his/her study and performance skills. Report cards will be given at the end of each semester grading period. The school has the right to withhold a student's report card until unpaid fees or fines are paid. Parents will also have access to their child's information by logging on to PowerSchool.

Parent-Teacher conferences will be held twice a year, once at the middle of the first semester and again during the second semester. Parent-Teacher conferences 7-12 grade are encouraged to be student led with both parent/guardian and student attending. Should academic or other problems arise, conferences may be called for at any time deemed necessary for the benefit of the child. The parents may also request a conference at any time by contacting the child's instructor and making the necessary arrangements. Conferences with parents/guardians are encouraged for a better understanding between parent/guardian and teacher.

## **2-11 CORRESPONDENCE AND ON-LINE COURSES**

Students may take elective courses through the North Dakota Division of Independent Study, provided the course is not being taught at Ashley High School. Some on-line courses may also be taken and used for electives. All correspondence courses and on-line courses must be approved by the high school principal. Online and ITV courses are subject to a financial penalty for late withdrawals after billing date. See appendix 8-13 and 8-14.

## **2-12 HOMEWORK**

Homework may be assigned for the purpose of helping a student progress in school. Homework may include, but not be limited to, the following:

1. Completion of assignments, work, etc. started in school.
2. Drill or practice work needed by the student.
3. Individual projects for self-growth in special areas.

### **Late-work Policy**

Any work turned in late the following will happen:

- 1<sup>st</sup> day late – assignment will be dropped a letter grade
- 2<sup>nd</sup> day late – assignment will receive a 0.

## **2-13 CHEATING, COPYING, & PLAGIARISM**

If any student is caught copying from another student's or authored work, any instructor has the right to confiscate the assignment. All students involved shall receive a grade as deemed appropriate by the instructor. These rules also apply to online and ITV courses.

## **2-14 GUIDANCE**

Assistance to help students grow emotionally, socially, and academically is available through the guidance counselor and the principal. The counselor and the principal will be available to discuss a four-year educational plan and any other matters connected to a successful and enjoyable school career.



## **2-15 LIBRARY/MEDIA CENTER**

Library hours are from 8:00 a.m. until 3:30 p.m. Students are encouraged to use the library for reference purposes. All rules established for the use of the library must be followed or the student(s) will lose their library privileges.

All library material must be checked out through the librarian on duty. Books and Android Tablets may be checked out from the library. Periodicals, newspapers and encyclopedias may be checked out on a daily basis, to be returned at the end of the day with no exceptions. Check the library for procedures and policies. A copy of the policies will be sent home for students and parents to read.

## ***Section 3: ATTENDANCE***

### **3-01 ATTENDANCE AND ABSENCES**

The School Board recognizes that regular attendance is necessary to achieve consistent educational progress. Classroom learning experiences, such as teacher interaction, lectures, discussions, and participation with other students are a meaningful and essential part of education. In addition, North Dakota state law requires all children between the ages of 7 and 16 to be in attendance every day school is in session, with exceptions for illness and certain other situations. The law also provides local school boards with the authority to establish standards for attendance. The Ashley Public School District, therefore, considers consistent and timely attendance a major responsibility.

Students are expected to be in the classes to which they are assigned every school day except in the case of illness or injury, school related activity, family emergency or religious observance. It is the responsibility of the school administration to monitor student attendance and communicate with students and their parents when attendance patterns do not meet district standards. It is the parents'/guardians' responsibility to ensure that their children are in school unless a valid reason for absence exists, and to notify the school when their child will be absent. As long as a student 18 years or older is still living with a parent/guardian they must have authorization of absences from the parent/guardian.

Schoolwork missed by the student during an absence shall be made up regardless of the reason for the absence. Family vacation should be scheduled, when possible, during the summer or other non-school days. Should it be deemed necessary for a student to be absent from school due to a family vacation, arrangements should be made by the student to complete, in advance, as much as possible of the school work that would be missed. Additional effort to make up work may be necessary upon the student's return.

Students shall be in attendance a minimum of 160 days per school year to be considered for grade promotion or the granting of a credit in a class. This standard is to be pro-rated to apply to semester classes: 80 days for a semester class.

- A. Students in grades K-6 whose poor attendance has caused a notable deficiency in learning may be retained at their present grade level, if in the judgment of the educational team such action is advantageous to the student. This decision is made after consultation with the teacher and the parents during the last month of the school year.
- B. All absences, other than school-related absences count against the maximum of ten per semester in any class. Any absence over ten will be made up by the discretion of administration.

**The administration will develop and enforce regulations to monitor the student attendance policy.**

### **3-02 TARDINESS**

Tardiness is a form of absenteeism. Therefore, excessive tardiness will not be condoned. There are times when students may be late for reasons beyond their control. However, persistent tardiness can be prevented, and students will be held accountable. Unexcused tardiness will be dealt with as follows:

- |                                      |   |
|--------------------------------------|---|
| 1st Tardy:                           | warning   |
| 2nd Tardy:                           | second warning and discussion with the principal                                  |
| 3rd Tardy:                           | warning and notification of parents by principal                                  |
| 4 <sup>th</sup> Tardy:               | 30 minute after-school detention (3:30-4:00 pm) & loss of semester test exemption |
| 5 <sup>th</sup> Tardy and thereafter | 30 minute school service (3:30-4:00 pm) or in-school suspension                   |

The accumulation of tardies is all class periods combined. The accumulation of tardies will start over with the second semester.

### **3-03 TRUANCY**

An unexcused absence or a student absent without the consent of his or her parent/guardian is truant. Truant students will be required to make up time missed at a designated time. Suspected violations of compulsory attendance law shall be investigated in accordance with law. When a compulsory attendance violation is substantiated, school administrators shall comply with reporting requirements under law.

You are also truant if you:

1. Leave school without prior permission from the principal.
2. Are absent from class without permission (skipping).

3. Obtain permission to go to a certain place and do not report there.
4. Come to school but do not attend classes.

### **3-04 MAKE-UP SLIPS**

Any student who has been absent must either bring a signed excuse from their parent or guardian, or have the parent or guardian call the office. The student has the option to get a make-up slip from the office.

### **3-05 MAKE-UP WORK**

- A. For Absences: When absences occur, you are required to see each of your teachers for make-up work assignments and to complete this work as soon as possible, and within the time limit established between you and the teacher (usually two days for each day missed). Tests that have been scheduled in advance and known to you will be required to be taken on the first day that you return to school.
- B. Advanced Make-up: If you are involved in approved school activities, trips, or provisional leave away from school, you should meet with teachers prior to being gone. Advance make-up work is to be turned in before you leave or on the day you return at the discretion of the teacher. A list of those students involved will be published by the responsible advisor. In some cases, advance make-up slips may be required.

## ***Section 4: THE SCHOOL DAY***

### **4-01 SCHOOL STARTING TIME AND DISMISSAL**

Please do not allow your children to come to school until 8:00 a.m. All students unless under proper supervision, will be out of the building by 3:30 pm. School hours will be from 8:00 a.m. to 3:20 p.m. Once a student is on the school bus or in the school building, they are under the supervision of the school and can't leave without administrative permission. Your cooperation will be appreciated by the staff, as this is the time when preparations are made for the day. Any student in the building after 3:30 p.m. must be under the supervision of an instructor or coach.

### **4-02 CLASSROOM REGULATIONS**

Students are responsible for keeping their desks in a neat and orderly manner. Desktops are to be kept free of markings, litter should be picked up around desks, and books and coats should be put away in lockers. Each student should follow classroom guidelines until dismissed by the instructor. Students are not to leave the classroom unless arranged with the instructor.

### **4-03 STUDENT-TEACHER RELATIONSHIP**

During class periods and all other times when teachers have been assigned supervisory duties, students must follow the rules of the teachers. Inappropriate behavior by the students in school or at school activities outside of school is considered a school affair, and those students can expect to meet with the activity supervisor and/or the principal to face consequences for the action. A good relationship based on mutual respect between students and teachers is extremely important. The same kind of relationship should exist between students and all school personnel.

### **4-04 STUDENT VEHICLES**

The use of motor vehicles for the purpose of traveling to and from school property is a privilege. Students may drive vehicles to school as long as they observe safe rules of operation.

Students driving vehicles to school must see that their vehicle is carefully and properly parked in the lot provided. Returning to your vehicle during the school day must be approved by the office. Driving vehicles at lunch or anytime during school hours is not allowed without both the consent of the administration and any form of communication from home (parent/guardian).

### **4-05 VISITORS**

The priority of the Ashley Public School is the education of all students. Our goal is to keep a minimum of interruptions for each class. All visitors will be required to sign-in and sign-out at the office. Students will be called to the office to meet with the visitor, rather than the visitor going to the classroom, to prevent disruption for the rest of the class. If something is to be left for a student, it should be left in the office. It will then be given to the student during a break so the student isn't interrupted during class.

### **4-06 TEACHERS' LOUNGE/WORKROOMS**

The teachers' lounge and the teachers' workroom is an area in the school building that is set aside as a private work area for the faculty. Students shall not enter the teachers' lounge, unless with a faculty member or faculty member's permission. This policy applies before, during, and after school hours.

### **4-07 TELEPHONE**

No one is to use the office telephones or teacher's phone during class time without permission from a staff member. Permission to use the telephone should be given sparingly.

#### **4-08 SCHOOL BUS RIDERS**

The following rules for school bus riders, issued by the N.D. Department of Public Instruction, will be observed and enforced at all times. State laws provide that "disciplinary authority of the school shall exist over all children while being transported to and from schools and the operator shall be charged with their control and discipline while they are transported."

- A. Previous to leaving (on the road and at school):
  - 1. Be on time at designated school bus stops, keeping the bus on schedule.
  - 2. Stay off the road at all times while waiting for the bus. Bus riders shall conduct themselves in a safe manner while riding.
  - 3. Wait until the bus comes to a complete stop before attempting to enter or exit the school bus.
  - 4. Be careful in approaching bus stops.
  - 5. Bus riders should not be permitted to move toward the bus at the school-loading zone until the bus has been brought to a complete stop.
- B. While on the bus:
  - 1. Keep hands and head inside the bus at all times after entering and until leaving the bus.
  - 2. Assist in keeping the bus safe and sanitary at all times.
  - 3. Remember that loud talking, laughing and unnecessary distractions diverts the driver's attention and may result in an accident.
  - 4. Treat bus equipment as you would value furniture in your own home. Damage to seats, etc. must be paid for by the offender.
  - 5. Bus riders should never tamper with the bus or any of its equipment.
  - 6. Leave no books, lunches or other articles on the bus.
  - 7. Keep books, packages, coats and all other objects out of the aisle.
  - 8. Help look after the safety and comfort of small children.
  - 9. Do not throw anything out the bus window.
  - 10. Bus riders are not permitted to leave their seats while the bus is in motion.
  - 11. Horse play is not permitted around or on the school bus.
  - 12. Bus riders are expected to be courteous to fellow students and the bus driver.
  - 13. Silence is necessary when approaching a railroad-crossing stop.
  - 14. A camera may be on the bus and used to monitor bus activities.
- C. After leaving the bus:
  - 1. Cross the road when necessary after getting off the bus (at least ten feet in front of the bus) but only after looking to be sure that no traffic is approaching from either direction.
  - 2. Help look after the safety of smaller children.
  - 3. Be alert to the danger signal from the driver.
  - 4. The driver will not discharge riders at other places than the regular bus stop, at home or at school, unless by proper authority from parents or school officials.
- D. Extra-curricular trips:
  - 1. The above rules and regulations will apply to any trip under school supervision.
  - 2. Pupils shall respect the wishes of competent chaperones appointed by the school.

#### **4-09 OUT OF TOWN BUS TRIPS**

At times, a school district bus may be made available to transport students to out-of-town activities (games, performances, field trips, music trips, academic events, etc.) at little or no charge to the student. Each bus will be chaperoned by teachers or other responsible adults. Students must ride the bus if they are a member of a participating organization. **ANY STUDENT WHO SIGNS UP AND RIDES THE BUS TO AN OUT-OF-TOWN ACTIVITY MUST ALSO RETURN WITH THE BUS.** The only exception to this is when a parent at the site of the event personally requests of the advisor (or chaperone) that their child ride home with them. Students returning home with another parent must provide written consent to the advisor or chaperone. Reasonable dress and appropriate conduct are expected on the way to, during, and returning from the activity. **Students may be refused a ride on the bus if they are not dressed appropriately during cold weather.** Represent your town and your school by displaying good behavior and school spirit. Behavioral problems will be handled by the principal and/or activity supervisor. Any exceptions can be approved by the administration.

#### **4-10 EMERGENCY DRILLS**

The laws of North Dakota require students to observe certain rules and practices to protect the safety of others.

- A. Fire Drills:
  - 1. When the fire alarm sounds, all classes will pass to the nearest designated exit in an orderly manner. All rooms will empty in single file. Walk rapidly, stay in line, and remain quiet.

2. Students will have assigned duties to close windows.
  3. Teacher will open and close the classroom door and check attendance.
  4. Exit routes will be discussed at the beginning of the school year.
  5. After leaving the building, move at least 100 feet away from it. Stay off the street.
  6. Students will be told when it is time to return to their classroom.
- B. Tornado Drills:
1. Upon hearing the announcement, students shall pass at a normal pace to their assigned areas within the building. All rooms will empty in single file. Walk rapidly, stay in line, and remain quiet.
  2. Upon reaching their assigned destination, everyone will assume the proper protective position.
  3. Students will be told when it is time to return to their classroom.

#### **4-11 ACCIDENTS AND EMERGENCIES**

In case of an accident on the school premises, we are equipped to render first aid. In the event of a more serious accident, parents will be notified and asked to seek medical attention for their child. If parents cannot be located, the student will be taken to a medical facility. If a life threatening emergency occurs, 911 will be the first call.

#### **4-12 STORM DAYS**

Occasionally we are forced to close school because of stormy weather. School cancellations can be heard on KFYZ/550 AM, and KSJB 600 AM radio. They will also be put on television channels KXMB and KFYZ. Announcements usually will be made by 6:45 AM. If school is in session and storm conditions exist, please listen to the radio for a possible early school closing. A message will be delivered using the Alert System. Please provide the school with your contact emergency information to ensure that you receive all weather related announcements.

It is necessary for the school to have on file a letter stating a home in town to which each rural student is to go should weather severities make it impossible for buses to leave the school.

#### **4-13 STUDY HALL REGULATIONS**

##### Guidelines:

Please report to the study hall classroom each day. Once in the room, take a seat at a student desk prior to the second bell or you will be counted tardy. Once attendance has been taken, those that need to leave to help teachers etc... can do so, however, be sure to sign out. Anyone who leaves the classroom must get permission from the study hall monitor/teacher. ALL students must sign out when leaving the study hall and sign in when (if) returning.

- Please be respectful of the study hall monitor and the students who need this time to study and get caught up on homework.
- Students should bring all necessary work to the study hall at the beginning of the period

**Students will work individually or in small groups using study hall time to:**

- Study
- Read
- Do Homework

**Students do have the option to (if work is available & agreed upon by teacher/supervisor):**

- **Be a Student Helper**
  - Copy Documents
  - Put up Bulletin Boards
  - Read to Elementary Students
  - Other
- **Provide Custodial Assistance**
- **Other opportunities as assigned by Study Hall Monitor or other teacher**

##### Simple Rules:

This is a study hall period and will be treated as such. You are not allowed to:

- **Disrupt others when Visiting** – limit group discussions unless working on an assignment
- **Using cell phones/devices**

#### **4-14 TEXTBOOKS/TECHNOLOGY DEVICES**

The school furnishes books and technology devices to all students for classes. This is a major investment. Fines or replacement costs may be assessed to a student for causing unreasonable damage to textbooks and technology devices. The fines will be levied by the principal and paid to the office.

There are two exceptions to the above. Students who take dual credit college courses originating from a remote site over the ITV system may be required to purchase their own materials. Students who choose to take Independent Study classes in lieu of a class offered at Ashley Public School (with the approval of the principal), will be expected to pay for their own textbooks and materials.

#### **4-15 MONIES EARNED BY SCHOOL GROUPS, CLASSES, ETC.**

Monies earned with the use of school equipment and school property and/or time is by law property of the Board of Education and cannot be expended without approval of the superintendent.

#### **4-16 BUILDING CARE AND USE**

It is the responsibility and privilege of each student, as well as staff members, to maintain the appearance of the school. Students should take pride in keeping both the building and equipment neat, clean, and in good condition.

#### **4-17 FACILITY USE POLICY**

The Ashley Public School may make school facilities available to individuals or groups through its building administrators.

#### **4-18 HOT LUNCH PROGRAM**

The Hot Lunch Program at Ashley Public School is an important part of the health program. Students are encouraged to eat a breakfast meal either at home or at school and to eat the noon meal at school. Students who bring their own lunch or do not eat must go to the cafeteria along with the rest of the students. The cafeteria staff expects students to be cooperative and to follow these rules:

1. Be patient and courteous in the food line.
2. Deposit all litter in designated wastebaskets.
3. Return all trays and utensils to the dishwashing area.
4. Leave the table and floor around you in a clean condition for others.
5. No food may be taken from the eating area.

#### **4-19 HALLS AND RESTROOM AREA**

No one is to be in the halls or the rest room during class time without permission from a teacher or administrator. Hall passes are required when given permission to go to another classroom or the office.

#### **4-20 LEAVING THE SCHOOL GROUNDS**

No student is to leave the school or school grounds without being properly excused by the administration. Leaving without permission is a basis for assignment of detention time or suspension from school. Students must check with the administration or secretary before leaving the school grounds. Students are not allowed to leave for lunch.

#### **4-21 IMMUNIZATION**

The parents or guardians of any student are required by North Dakota law to assure that such student is adequately immunized. Exceptions are when immunization would be a danger to the health of the student or where immunization conflicts with the religious beliefs of the student.

#### **4-22 ADMINISTERING MEDICATIONS**

Following state law changes and recommendations from the ND School Board's Association, the Ashley School Board adopted a Medication Policy. This policy is designed for the safe administration of prescription and/or over-the-counter medication at school. The main points of the policy are outlined below:

- ❖ Medication may not be sent with students. All medication must be hand delivered by a parent/guardian to the main office.
- ❖ All medication must be accompanied by a completed Request to Administer Medication at School form (included in the handbook and also available on the school website).
- ❖ Cough drops are excluded from the policy and don't require a medication form or parent authorization.
- ❖ Whenever possible, the first dose of medication should be given to a student at home.
- ❖ Over-The-Counter medication must be supplied in the original manufacturer's container that lists the ingredients, recommended dosage, expiration date, administration instructions, and storage instructions (if any). The container must be labeled with the student's name, date of birth, and, if unsealed, the number or amount of medication in the container.
- ❖ Prescription medication must be supplied in the original pharmacy-labeled container that lists the pharmacy name/phone number, name of the student, student's date of birth, name of the prescription medication, dose, expiration date, storage instructions (if any), administration directions, and number or amount of medication included. The container must be accompanied by active ingredients and information on possible adverse reactions and side effects associated with the medication. The prescribing health care provider signature is required on the Medication Form.
- ❖ If dispensing equipment is required (measuring cups, droppers, etc.) it must be provided by the parent/guardian and be labeled with the student's name and date of birth.
- ❖ If the student has any known allergies, the parent/guardian shall provide this list of allergies and include certification from a healthcare provider that the student is not known to be allergic to the medication the school is requested to provide (covered on the medication form).

- ❖ Student Self-Administration is allowed as indicated on the Request to Administer Medication Form. Over-the-counter medication requires parent/guardian and student signatures. Prescription medication requires the prescribing healthcare provider signature as well. In both cases the student will be required to carry a Medication Pass which is issued from the school office when the parent/guardian delivers the medication.
- ❖ Inhalers and Epi pens are considered emergency medication. Parents of students who must carry either of those must provide a document that
  - 1) Indicates the student has been instructed in the self-administration of the emergency medication; 2) Lists the name, dosage and frequency of the medication prescribed for use in the treatment of the student's asthma or anaphylaxis; 3) Includes guidelines for the treatment of the student in the case of an asthmatic episode or anaphylaxis; 4) Is signed by the student's health care provider. Students are required to carry a Medication Pass which is issued from the school office when the parent/guardian delivers the medication.

## **4-23 HEAD LICE POLICY**

### **HEAD LICE MANAGEMENT**

The objective of this Administrative Rule is to avoid misdiagnosis and unneeded school absences, to assure fair treatment for all students affected by head lice, to assist parents in the process of monitoring and resolving the problem, and to give head lice information to parents and students.

We shall use the following protocol for instances of head lice:

1. Our attitudes about lice can make a student feel unaccepted or discriminated against. Head lice can affect anyone. Lice do not carry disease, do not fly or jump, are transmitted more often in out-of-school activities than in school, and are transmitted through close contact.
2. The school will notify all parents if head lice is confirmed in the school.
3. Designated staff and other members of the community who have experience in checking for head lice will check any student reported to possibly have head lice.
4. If needed, administration will ask designated staff and other members of the community who have experience checking for head lice to screen all students in attempts to prevent further spread of head lice.
5. Parents of the confirmed child head lice will be notified and are strongly encouraged to pick up their child as soon as possible.
6. Procedure for dismissal from and return to school:
  - Encourage parents to take steps to rid head lice from the home and environment. Give parents a copy of N.D. Dept. of Health's "Quick Guide for Managing Head Lice" and head lice "Myths and Facts" sheet. These documents are found on the school website: <http://www.ashley.k12.nd.us/documents-forms/>
  - Students should return to school the next day after the proper head lice treatment/intervention has taken place.
  - Parents are encouraged to conduct daily checks for any signs of re-infestation and to continue to comb out nits.
  - Parents are encouraged to inform other parents of their child's close playmates about the head lice incident.
7. Students will put personal items in a plastic bag as directed by administration until the head lice is taken care of. More than likely these students will be in grades Pre-K through 4<sup>th</sup> Grade (students without their own locker).

## **4-24 SCHOOL DISTRICT WELLNESS POLICY**

School districts in North Dakota are now required to have a district wellness policy. The Ashley Public School Board updated the adopted our policy in July of 2022.

A complete copy of the school district wellness policy, as well as all school policies, may be obtained on the school website or by contacting the school office.

## **4-25 ILLNESS**

If a student becomes ill during the day, he or she should report to the main office. Arrangements can be made for the student to go home if necessary. A student will not be able to leave school until the office has been in contact with a parent/guardian. If for any reason the student must leave the building, he/she should request permission from the office. Failure to do so will result in an unexcused absence.

## **4-26 CONFIDENTIALITY**

A student can expect that any personal problem he/she discusses with an administrator, faculty member, social worker, or counselor will be strictly confidential. However, there are four exceptions:

1. Whenever a staff member learns of a condition that may adversely affect another student, he/she will have to act on that information.

2. If a student is experiencing health and/or emotional problems because of use/abuse of a prohibited substance and is unable or unwilling to seek assistance, then referral should be made. Confidentiality will be maintained subject to the welfare of the student.
3. If a staff member has reasonable cause to suspect child abuse, the staff member is required by law to report to the Children and Family Service Division of the Department of Human Services.
4. If a staff member is called to testify in a judicial proceeding.

#### **4-27 DISSEMINATION OF STUDENT RECORDS**

Student records shall be made available to an outside person or agency only under the following conditions:

1. A "RELEASE OF INFORMATION" request is received by school officials duly signed by a parent/guardian of the student, or by a student of legal age (18 or older).
2. A "REQUEST FOR INFORMATION" is received by school officials in the form of specific request from the court, a court order, or a subpoena duces tecum. Only information requested shall be provided and the parent/guardian and or student shall be notified of all such orders in advance of compliance with the order.
3. A "REQUEST FOR TRANSCRIPT" is received by school officials from an admitting school. Only information such as grades, attendance records, and ACT scores should be included. Transcripts may also be sent to prospective employers at the request of the student or parent/guardian. Psychological reports and health reports cannot be released without having been specified in the signed "RELEASE OF INFORMATION" request as per #1 above.
4. In instances where requests for information might come from an outside agency that works for the welfare of the student, the agency will file a release from the student (if legal age) or parent/guardian. In lieu of such a release, a form signed by a judge (not necessarily in the form of a subpoena) would suffice, provided a parent, student, or legal guardian is notified that such a form has been received.
5. In instances where request for information comes from the Comptroller General of the United States, the Secretary of HEW, and an administrative head of an education agency or state educational authorities in connection with the audit and evaluation of federal programs or for the enforcement of federal legal requirements which relate to such programs, only that data which does not include information (including social security numbers) which would permit the personal identification of such students or their parent/guardian shall be released. The only exception shall be when the collection of personal identifiable data is specifically authorized by federal law.

A student, parent, or legal guardian shall have access to a student's records at any time during the school day upon reasonable notice to the principal. Absent a court order to the contrary, divorced parents of a student shall have equal access to their child's educational records.

### ***Section 5: EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES***

#### **5-01 CLUBS AND ORGANIZATIONS**

All clubs, organizations, and special groups have advisors. All meetings of those groups are to be coordinated by the advisors. Students must maintain eligibility requirements to participate in clubs, organizations, and any other extra-curricular activity.

#### **5-02 AWARDS**

Students will be informed of the requirements for earning awards in an activity by the advisor.

#### **5-03 CHURCH NIGHT**

Wednesday night has been designated as church night. Every effort will be made to schedule activities so that they will not interfere with church activities.

#### **5-04 DANCES AND SOCIAL EVENTS**

All school dances and social events will be under supervision of an advisor. All plans are to be made with the approval of the advisor, who will consult with the principal as to the dates and details. All dates are to be determined two weeks in advance.

- 1) All students must stay in the designated area until they leave for home.
- 2) Doors will be locked one half hour after the dance begins.
- 3) Students who leave the building will not be readmitted.
- 4) At least one chaperone must be present besides the advisor. At least one of each gender are preferred.

#### **5-05 PROM**

The prom is held in the spring and is sponsored by Wishek. Ashley students in grades 9 - 12 and their dates are welcome to attend. Dates need to be in at least the ninth grade and under the age 21 to attend prom. High school students will be asked to fundraise for after prom prizes.

## **5-06 ATHLETIC POLICY AND ELIGIBILITY RULES**

The rules set forth by the North Dakota High School Activities Association will be followed. Additional eligibility rules will be outlined by the coaching staff or sponsor of the activity. Students are required to attend school the day following a school extracurricular activity. A student must be in attendance the day of a performance, game, or contest to be eligible to participate, unless exempted by the office.

Eligibility includes academic consideration as well as the forbidden use of tobacco, drugs, alcoholic beverages, etc. by students. Students who are under school suspension will not be allowed to take part in any school activities during the week their suspension occurs. This is not only against the policies of this school and the association, but also forbidden by state law.

Students must be making satisfactory progress toward the school's requirements for graduation. The school where the student is fully enrolled and regularly attends shall determine satisfactory progress. Failure to acquire two and one half credits at the end of a semester will make him/her ineligible for a minimum of two weeks the following semester.

Therefore, so that the consequences may be clearly understood, if there is any evidence of a violation of policies set forth by this school and the NDHSAA, the student will be immediately suspended from all activities for a period of six (6) weeks for the first offense, and eighteen (18) weeks for the second and subsequent offenses. The period for which suspensions apply shall begin with the first day of school to the first day of the ensuing term and shall not include days of summer vacation and shall continue with the next ensuing term. A second offense shall have its suspension begin at the end of any current suspensions in effect.

To be considered eligible, 7-12th students cannot have more than one failing grade per week. If a student is failing the same class three consecutive weeks that student will be ineligible. The passing grade will be computed from the opening of the semester and related to such subjects that have a credit value of one-half unit per semester. To meet eligibility requirements, grades are checked by the principal at 10:00 am of the first day of the school week.

A seventh or eighth grade student must be passing in all subjects to be eligible to compete at any extracurricular activity at the varsity level.

Elementary students will be ineligible to compete if they have an F in any subject and/or two or more missing assignments.

## **5-07 EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES INFRACTIONS/SUSPENSIONS**

The following rules and regulations govern all the extracurricular activities at Ashley Public School including athletics, competitive music, Prom, Speech, Honor Society, Student Council, FBLA, Annual Staff, Drama, Science Fair, FFA and any other extra-curricular activities.

### **Section 1. OFFENSES:**

1.1 The use or possession of tobacco, alcohol, or any controlled substance as defined by North Dakota Law. Suspensions will follow NDHSAA guidelines.

### **Section 2. SUSPENSIONS:**

2.1 Any student will be suspended for a period of six (6) consecutive school weeks from participation in any extra-curricular activities in Ashley Public School for the first offense, as described in paragraph 1.1 above, and eighteen (18) weeks for the second offense and eighteen (18) weeks for any subsequent offenses.

### **Section 3 AWARDS PROGRAMS**

Students who are under extracurricular activity suspension for a tobacco, alcohol, or drug violation offense may be recognized at school awards programs only if they have chosen to remain in the activity, and have demonstrated their desire to remain in the activity by regularly attending practices and competitions, maintaining academic eligibility, and supporting fellow students who are participants.

## ***Section 6: STUDENT BEHAVIOR***

### **6-01 STUDENT BEHAVIOR**

Good student behavior is extremely important. Appropriate behavior in the classroom, on the school bus, and at all school functions and activities helps students become active, cooperative participants in all aspects of education at the Ashley Public School.

Unfortunately, sometimes a student's behavior requires school personnel to take disciplinary action. That action should be reasonable, appropriate for the offense, and in accordance with school policy and the law.

Principals and administrative staff are charged with maintaining a safe, friendly environment that is conducive to learning. All school employees are expected to help achieve that goal. Teachers are expected to assume the responsibility for managing student behavior within their classroom and to assist in monitoring the building. A teacher is responsible for the care, discipline, and instruction of student under his/her supervision as assigned by the principal. Teachers will enforce all rules governing student behavior with the support of the principal, the superintendent, and the school board.

School rules are applicable to student behavior on and off campus, including all school sponsored activities and field trips.



At Ashley Public School we strive to emphasize the constructive side of managing student behavior. We want a school climate that is friendly yet orderly, and one that encourages respect for others, pride in the school, and service to community. We want to prevent behavior problems if we can, and deal with those that do occur in a timely, professional manner.

Conferences with teachers, the principal, and parents should be held to help deal with a student's behavior in the classroom or in any school-related setting. A teacher or administrator may use reasonable force upon a minor child for the purpose of safeguarding or promoting the child's welfare, including the prevention of wrongful injury to the child, other persons, or property.

The use of corporal punishment, defined as punishment inflicted on the body of a student in order to modify behavior, is not allowed in the Ashley Public School District. The use of any instrument such as a paddle or stick on a student is strictly prohibited. Corporal punishment does not include action taken by an employee for self-defense, protection of persons or property, or obtaining possession of a weapon or other dangerous object. The School Board recognizes that reasonable physical force may occasionally be necessary to guard the safety and well-being of students or employees.

Parents will be advised when a student's behavioral issues require parental assistance. Complaints against a teacher regarding corporal punishment will be dealt with in accordance with school board policy on personnel complaints.

## **6-02 PROPER ATTIRE AND APPEARANCE**

Personal grooming and dress are usually matters of concern between students and their parents. It becomes a concern of the school, however, when grooming and dress patterns create a disruptive influence upon the total school program, or when the health or safety of a student is affected.

Students are encouraged to use good judgment in dress and grooming. Students are expected to wear clothing that is clean and comfortable, yet appropriate for a school setting. Dressing in a manner that is mainly to attract attention is something we discourage.

Caps/hoods are not to be worn in the building during the school day (8am-3:20pm). Tops or shirts that leave the entire shoulder exposed, or that are held up by 'spaghetti straps' are not permitted. Undergarments must not be exposed if a top or shirt does not naturally cover the midriff and the back. In addition, tops or shirts that show excessive skin must not be worn. Likewise, low-cut pants, shorts, or skirts that expose the back and/or buttocks are not allowed. Tee shirts and other clothing with vulgar, or demeaning statements, sexual innuendo, or that promote tobacco, alcoholic beverages, or controlled substances are not permitted.

The administration reserves the right to address violations by having the student change into appropriate clothing. Students who miss class time to go home and change will be counted absent. Persistent violations of the dress code by a student will be seen as insubordination and subject to disciplinary action, up to and including suspension from school.

While the school administration may require students participating in physical education classes to wear certain types of clothing such as sneakers, socks, shorts, and tee shirts, they may not prescribe a specific brand which students must buy. A teacher will be allowed to restrict manner of dress when it pertains to the health and/or safety of a student in that teacher's specific area. The administration may prohibit articles of clothing that are destructive to school property and/or cause excessive maintenance problems such as cleats on boots, shoes that scratch floors, trousers with metal inserts that scratch furniture, etc.

The administration will make provisions for notifying students of any such rules established at school and reserves the right to enforce the dress code as they see fit.

## **6-03 LOCKERS**

Each student is assigned a locker for the storage of books and equipment. Items are not allowed on top of the lockers. No one should leave classes to go to his/her locker except with the teacher's permission. It is the student's responsibility to see that his/her locker is kept in order at all times. Lockers should be kept locked to prevent theft of property and unauthorized entry. Students who "rig" their lockers in order to prevent them from locking are responsible for any items that are lost or stolen, including any school property.

Lockers are the property of the school and are provided for student use at the discretion of the administration. The school reserves the right to conduct periodic searches when there is a reasonable suspicion a locker or lockers contain items or evidence of a rules violation or criminal activity.

Locker rooms will be locked during the hours of 8:00 am – 3:20 pm.

## **6-04 SEARCH AND SEIZURE**

The courts have consistently upheld that school authority stand in place of parents in the matters of student search and seizure. When school officials have reasonable suspicion that contraband is hidden in a student's locker or on his person, they act upon that suspicion and search the locker or student without the student's consent. Any illegal materials that are found may be used as evidence against the student in disciplinary, juvenile or criminal proceedings. The courts have upheld the claim that school lockers are school property loaned to the students for his/her convenience. The search, therefore, is not illegal under the Fourth Amendment of the Federal Constitution, but reasonable exercise of board power in the interest of health and safety of all school children.

Students shall be free from unreasonable search and seizure. **To meet this standard, the following guidelines will be followed:**

1. Search of a student's person should be limited to a situation in which there is reasonable assumption that the student is hiding evidence of an illegal act.
2. Illegal items or other possessions reasonably determined by the proper school authorities to be a threat to the safety or security of the possessor or others may be confiscated.
3. The student should be given an opportunity to be present when a search of personal possessions is conducted unless an emergency exists.

4. Upon detection of illegal contraband the student should be provided due process.

## **6-05 DISRUPTIVE CLASSROOM BEHAVIOR**

The following strategies are corrective measures to prevent classroom disruption resulting in a student's removal from class.

The objective is to maintain, not hinder, other student's rights to learn. Any removal may result in:

The student is sent to the principal and the details of the incident are discussed with the student. The teacher is consulted in the same manner.

The student may be placed on a three day out of class suspension and parents are notified in writing. The student shall be readmitted to class after a conference with the principal, students, teacher and parents.

An alternative program will be discussed with the appropriate personnel. This plan clearly communicates to the student that the school is a place to learn and that the student will not be allowed to hinder other students' rights to learn.

Any exceptions to the above guidelines will be made by the administration.

## **6-06 SUSPENSION AND EXPULSION**

Students are expected to conduct themselves in a manner suitable to their age and grade. Students disobedient or disruptive of the educational process are subject to corrective discipline. Possession of a weapon or a firearm by a student on school property and at school functions is prohibited.

School property includes all land within the perimeter of the school site and all school buildings, structures, facilities, and school vehicles, whether owned or leased by the school district, and the site of any school-sponsored activity.

The School Board hereby delegates to the Superintendent and the principal the authority to deal with disciplinary problems in his/her school, including suspension. Suspension includes in-school suspension from classes as well as exclusion from school classes, buildings, grounds, and activities.

A principal or the Superintendent may suspend a student for up to ten (10) consecutive days or recommend expulsion of a student. Parents of the student shall be notified promptly if a suspension has been given. The Superintendent shall also be notified when a suspension has been imposed. The School Board [The Superintendent (or a principal), when acting as the School Board's hearing officer] may expel a student for conduct which violates this policy, after providing notice and a hearing as set forth in FHDA-R. When the conduct does not involve possession of a weapon, the expulsion may be for the remainder of the current school year. When the conduct violates the district policy on possession of a weapon and the weapon is a firearm as defined by that policy, the expulsion may be for one calendar year, subject to modification by the Superintendent on a case by case basis, in accordance with criteria established by the School Board herein. When the conduct violates the district policy on possession of a weapon which is not a firearm, then the expulsion may be for a period not to exceed twelve (12) months.

In instances of suspension, all homework must be completed upon the student returning to class. Tests must be made up as soon as possible or at the teacher's discretion. Students will not be given two days for each day absent to make up tests. Students will be given full credit for all homework, tests, projects, etc., upon returning to school.

### **Designation of Hearing Officer**

The District's administrators are hereby designated and authorized to serve as expulsion hearing officers, subject to the requirements for the hearing officer as set forth in FHDA-R.

## **6-07 WEAPONS**

The Ashley Public School Board determines that the possession and/or use of a weapon by a student is detrimental to the welfare and safety of the students and school personnel within the district.

No student will knowingly possess, handle, carry, or transmit any weapon or dangerous instrument in any school building, on school grounds, in any school vehicle or at any school sponsored activity. Such weapons include but are not limited to any knife, tazor, razor, ice pick, explosive smoke bomb, incendiary device, gun (including pellet gun), slingshot, bludgeon, brass knuckles, or artificial knuckles of any kind, or any object that can reasonably be considered a weapon or dangerous instrument.

Violation of this policy will require short-term suspension and a hearing will be conducted to determine if long-term suspension or expulsion of the student involved is warranted. The administration may notify appropriate authorities or agencies of the policy violation. All weapons will be confiscated and will be turned over to the student's parent/guardian or law enforcement officials at the discretion of the administration.

After the administration has determined the weapons policy has been violated by a student, the student's parent/guardian shall be notified of the determination and official action will be taken.

## **6-08 Substances**

The use of tobacco, drugs, nicotine, vape and alcohol are prohibited on school grounds, at all school functions and in all school owned vehicles.

## **6-09 PROFANE OR VULGAR LANGUAGE**

Use of profane or vulgar language will result in disciplinary action, which may include detention or suspension.

## **6-10 DETENTION**

Detention is defined as requiring a student to remain after normal school hours for minor infractions. Detention may be given by the principal or by any teacher with the provision in either case that the student be allowed a 24-hour leeway for transportation arrangements. A student refusing to make up detention will be disciplined accordingly. A student may be assigned detention by a teacher for inappropriate classroom behavior. Failing to serve the detention will result in a more severe penalty.

## **6-11 VIOLENT AND AGGRESSIVE BEHAVIOR**

It is the intention of the Ashley Public School Board that the learning environment shall be safe, drug free, and conducive to learning. The School Board recognizes that there are certain behaviors that, if tolerated, would quickly destroy the type of learning environment to which the students and staff are entitled within this school system. These behaviors, categorized as violent and aggressive, will not be tolerated and shall result in immediate action by the school administration.

Physical violence, including assault, will not be tolerated on school premises or at school activities, nor will disruptive behavior that is characterized by verbal or physical violence, even though not directed toward another person. Neither will the district tolerate threats of harm to self or others or other threatening behaviors, including threats to damage school property. Students shall inform a teacher, guidance counselor, or principal when they are in possession of knowledge of such threats. Staff shall immediately notify the principal of any threat or threatening behavior that they have knowledge of, have witnessed, or received. All such threats shall be promptly reported to the appropriate law enforcement agency.

All acts of violence and aggression, including, but not limited to: possession of a weapon or dangerous instrument, physical assault, verbal abuse, intimidation, extortion, bullying, gang activity, stalking, defiance, sexual harassment, terroristic acts and/or threats, shall result in specific consequences, determined by the seriousness of the act, including suspension from school and consideration of expulsion from school for students, disciplinary actions up to and including discharge for employees, and exclusion from school premises and possible legal action against other individuals.

Legal Ref: P.L. 107-110 No Child Left Behind Act of 2001

## **6-12 BULLYING**

See attachment-policy adopted 3/18

## **6-13 HAZING**

The purpose of this policy is to maintain a safe learning environment for students and staff that is free from hazing. Hazing activities of any type are inconsistent with the educational goals of the School District and are prohibited at all times.

No student, teacher, administrator, other employee, volunteer, or contractor of the School District shall plan, direct, encourage, aid, or engage in hazing. No teacher, administrator, other employee, volunteer, or contractor of the School District shall permit, condone, or tolerate hazing. Apparent permission or consent by a person being hazed does not lessen the prohibitions contained in this policy.

Hazing activities are seriously disruptive of the educational process in that they involve students and violence or threats of violence. This policy applies to behavior that occurs on or off school property and during and/or before or after school hours. A person who engages in an act that violates school policy or law in order to initiate another person or to be initiated into or affiliated with a student organization shall be subject to discipline for that act. The School District will act to investigate all complaints of hazing and will discipline or take appropriate action against any student, teacher, administrator, other employee, volunteer, or contractor of the School District who is found to have violated this policy.

Hazing means committing an act against a student, or coercing a student into committing an act, that creates a risk of harm to a person, in order for the student to be initiated into or affiliated with a student organization, or for any other purpose. The term hazing includes, but is not limited to:

- Any type of physical brutality such as whipping, beating, striking, branding, electronic shocking, or placing a harmful substance on the body.
- Any type of physical activity such as sleep deprivation, exposure to weather, confinement in a restricted area, calisthenics, or other activity that subjects the student to a risk of harm or that adversely affects the mental or physical health or safety of the student.
- Any activity involving the consumption of any alcoholic beverage, drug, tobacco product or any other food, liquid, or substance that subjects the student to an unreasonable risk of harm or that adversely affects the mental or physical health or safety of the student.
- Any activity that intimidates or threatens the student with ostracism, that subjects a student to stress, embarrassment, shame or humiliation, that adversely affects the mental health or dignity of the student or discourages the student from remaining in school.
- Any activity that causes or requires the student to perform a task that involves violation of state or federal law, or of school district policies or regulations.

Any person who believes he or she has been the victim of hazing or any person with knowledge or belief of conduct which may constitute hazing shall report the alleged acts immediately to a teacher, building principal, or other administrator. Any person may report hazing directly to the Principal or Superintendent.

Teachers, administrators, other employees, volunteers, or contractors of the School District shall be particularly alert to possible situations, circumstances or events which might include hazing. Any such person who receives a report of, observes, or has other knowledge or belief of conduct which may constitute hazing shall inform the building principal immediately. Submission of a good faith complaint or report of hazing will not affect the complainant or reporter's future employment, grades, or work assignments.

Every report of hazing shall be investigated by the principal. The principal may request assistance or designate a third party to conduct the investigation. The school District may take immediate steps, at its discretion, to protect the complainant, reporter, students, or others pending completion of an investigation of hazing.

Upon completion of the investigation, the School District will take appropriate action. Such action may include, but is not limited to, warning, in-school or out-of-school suspension, expulsion, transfer, remediation, termination, or discharge. Disciplinary consequences will be sufficiently severe to deter violations and to appropriately discipline prohibited behavior. School District action taken for violation of this policy will be consistent with applicable statutory authority, including school district policies and regulations.

The School District will discipline or take appropriate action against any student, teacher, administrator, other employee, volunteer, or contractor of the School District who retaliates against any person who makes a good faith report of alleged hazing or against any person who testifies, assists, or participates in a proceeding or hearing relating to such hazing. Retaliation includes, but is not limited to, any form of intimidation, reprisal, or harassment.

## **6-14 STUDENT USE OF ELECTRONIC DEVICES**

The use of personal communication devices at the Ashley Public School is only allowed in the hallway before school, between periods, during lunch. Students should not have personal electronic devices in the classroom, the devices should remain in the student's lockers.

Possession and/or use of any electronic device in an area where there is a reasonable expectation of privacy, such as a locker room or bathroom is strictly prohibited and will result in confiscation of the device.

Students in violation of any portion of this policy will be subject to disciplinary procedures and confiscation of the electronic device. If a student's cell phone or other electronic device is confiscated, the building principal or Superintendent may search the confiscated device in accordance with policy 6-04 Search and Seizure. If a school official suspects that a student possesses or is disseminating an image that potentially violates NDCC 12.1-27.1-03.3 he may report this matter to law enforcement for investigation. Disciplinary action up to and including suspension and/or expulsion may also be taken against any student using an electronic device in a manner that causes substantial disruption to the educational environment.

The Superintendent and/or his designee is authorized to make exceptions to the prohibitions set forth in this policy for health, safety, or emergency reasons, for students in attendance as active members of a volunteer firefighting organization or volunteer emergency medical service organization, and when use of electronic devices is provided for in a student's individualized education program (IEP).

Any School Employee will be able to confiscate such devices during the school day.

Confiscation of these devices will be dealt with as follows:

- 1) First offense will result in loss of the device for the day. Students can pick the device up in the office at the end of the day.
- 2) Second offense will result in loss of the device for the day. Parents can pick the device up in the office at the end of the day.
- 3) Third offense will result in loss of the device for the remainder of the school year in all areas of school, if the phone is confiscated the student will then have a detention. Parents can pick the device up in the office at the end of the day.

## ***Section 7: GENERAL GUIDELINES***

### **7-01 CHILD NEGLECT AND ABUSE**

Any Ashley Public School District employee, who knows or reasonably suspects that a child's health or welfare has been or appears to have been harmed as a result of neglect, abuse, or sexual molestation, shall immediately make a report to the Superintendent. In addition, the district employee shall make a report to the County Social Services Officer pursuant to NDCC 50-25.1.

### **7-02 PUBLIC COMPLAINTS**

Complaints and grievances about instructional personnel including extra-curricular directors and coaches shall be handled and resolved, whenever possible, as close to their origin as possible. The Board advises the public that the proper order of channeling of complaints involving instruction, discipline, or learning materials is as follows:

1. Teacher or Coach/Advisor
2. Principal
3. Superintendent
4. School Board

Any complaint about school personnel will be investigated by the administration before consideration and action by the school board. Ashley School District will follow all century codes.

### **7-03 REGISTRATION**

Each student is required to enroll in the required courses for his/her grade level. A student must enroll in a sufficient number of classes to give him/her 6 classes in the Ashley Public School each semester for four years. Students have ten school days to add or drop a class at the beginning of each semester. For online and ITV classes, see appendix 8-13 and 8-14. A transcript for each student is kept in the main office. The

North Dakota Department of Public Instruction encourages no more than one full study hall each day. Exceptions will be made at the discretion of the administration.

#### **7-04 FINAL AUTHORITY WHEN RULES ARE NOT WRITTEN**

Each student has the responsibility to check with the principal when in doubt about any rule or regulation. This handbook does not cover every aspect of student life and activities in the school year. It is written to be a guideline. The principal may hold assemblies to provide detailed explanations of school events or regulations.

When there are no rules written to cover a certain aspect or behavior, the person in charge such as a teacher has the right of "in loco parentis," (a legal term meaning in place of the parents). This means that the teacher can make a rule to control the specific situation. The same is true for a principal or superintendent who is in a legal sense the same as a teacher.

Every student in the school has the right to simple due process. They have the right to be heard, to know who their accuser is, and the right to have their parents or another adult present when facing a serious charge.

## Section 8: Appendix

### **8-07 ANNUAL NOTIFICATION REGARDING PARENTS' RIGHT OF ACCESS TO STUDENT RECORDS**

Each year parents and students need to be reminded of the student records policy of the Ashley Public School District. Parents of students or 18-year-old students who wish to review any or all of the school records pertaining to the student should contact the building principal for an appointment. The records will be reviewed with school personnel, and parents may have copies of the records for the cost of copying.

If parents or adult students believe something in the records is inaccurate or misleading, they may request that it be corrected or they may have comments added to the record. If the principal and parent or adult student cannot agree, the latter may contact the superintendent for a hearing.

Record information will not be released to most persons or agencies without the written consent of parents. Nonetheless, it is the policy of this district to forward school records, without parent consent, to schools in another district to which a student transfers. This is to facilitate the prompt placement of the student in the new school. However, parents may request a copy of the record. Similarly, without parent consent, the district forwards transcripts, or other information requested by high school students, to colleges and other educational institutions to which the students are applying.

For a complete copy of the district's student record policy, contact your school principal. Parents who have questions or concerns about the record policy may direct them to the building principal, the superintendent, or the U.S. Office of Education.

Also, federal law permits a school district to identify certain information as "directory information" which may be publicly released without permission of the parents. Ashley Public School identifies this information as the following: name, address, telephone number, date and place of birth, major field of study, participation in activities and sports, weight and height of members of athletic teams, dates of attendance, diplomas and awards received, and most recent previous school attended. If you do not want this information released, please complete the form below and return within ten (10) school days. If we do not receive your notice by that date, we will assume that you have no objection to the release of such information. We believe that it is in the student's best interest to have such information released in school and community newspapers because of the recognition it gives them. We make every reasonable effort to protect our students' privacy. For example, it is our policy not to release information to businesses for commercial purposes or to individuals without good reason. Therefore, most parents do not restrict the release of directory information.

#### **Release of Directory Information**

To: Principal of Ashley Public School

I do not wish Directory Information, as defined in Ashley Public School's records policy, concerning \_\_\_\_\_  
(Student) to be released from school records without my prior written consent. I understand this will exclude my youngster's name from parent organization mailing lists, school annual and newspaper, commencement programs, publication of honor roll and other school information about students in the public media.

\_\_\_\_\_  
SIGNATURE OF PARENT/GUARDIAN

\_\_\_\_\_  
DATE

## **8-08 Medication Form**

### **ASHLEY PUBLIC SCHOOL Request to Administer Medication at School**

-----Code: ACBD-E2-----  
Student's Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_ Allergies: \_\_\_\_\_

-----  
Parent/Guardian's Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Daytime Phone # : \_\_\_\_\_

-----  
Medication: \_\_\_\_\_ Dosage: \_\_\_\_\_ Date Started: \_\_\_\_\_

-----  
Time to be given: \_\_\_\_\_ Route of Administration: \_\_\_\_\_ Possible Side Effects: \_\_\_\_\_

-----  
Termination Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Special Instructions: \_\_\_\_\_

-----  
Health Care Provider's Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Clinic Name: \_\_\_\_\_

-----  
Clinic Phone# : \_\_\_\_\_ Clinic Fax # : \_\_\_\_\_

- ❖ I authorize the following individuals to administer the above medication as directed:  
Teresa Dockter \_\_\_\_\_ (parent initials)
- ❖ By signing this form, I authorize the release of my child's health information to appropriate school staff and request that this medication is administered to my child as prescribed. I authorize the prescriber and the school designee to exchange information necessary for the safe administration of this medication.
- ❖ I release school personnel from liability in the event adverse reactions result from medication(s) and/or treatment(s)/procedure(s).
- ❖ Student Self-Administration: The student has received education on any side effects or adverse interactions associated with the medication and how to prevent them: YES \_\_\_\_\_ NO \_\_\_\_\_
- ❖ The student is capable of self-administering this medication in a secure manner: NO \_\_\_\_\_  
YES—Supervised \_\_\_\_\_ YES—Unsupervised \_\_\_\_\_
- ❖ The student may carry this medication: YES \_\_\_\_\_ NO \_\_\_\_\_ If carrying medication, student agrees not to leave the medication unattended or unsecured and accessible to other students. MEDICATION PASS IS REQUIRED (ISSUED FROM SCHOOL OFFICE).

Parent/Guardian Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Student Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

\*Health Care Provider Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

\*(Only required for prescription medication or Over-the-counter medication if it is to be provided in a manner inconsistent with manufacturer's recommendation.)

No Medications (including over-the-counter meds such as Tylenol) will be given without consent from Parent

And Health Care Provider (when applicable as stated above). A supply of the properly labeled prescription from the pharmacy should be left at school. It is the parent's responsibility to supply medications for administration to the school and gather the medication supply when discontinued or at the end of the school year (whichever is first). Medications that are left after the school year will be destroyed.

Please return completed form to Ashley School office: Fax 701-288-3457

Email: [teresa.dockter@k12.nd.us](mailto:teresa.dockter@k12.nd.us)

## **8-12 Technology Usage**

### **TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND OTHER ELECTRONIC INFORMATION SYSTEMS ACCEPTABLE USE POLICY**

The Ashley Public School District #9 considers the computer network and the Internet to be valuable tools for education and encourages their use in the classrooms and labs. The purpose of the District's computer system is educational. In the past, instructional materials and library media materials could be screened to insure that the material was consistent with district adopted guidelines. Telecommunications, because it may lead to any publicly available file-server in the world, will open classrooms to electronic information resources that have not been screened by educators for use by students of various ages.

Internet access is a privilege, not a right. Students are responsible for good behavior on school computer networks just as they are in a classroom or a school hallway. General school rules for behavior and communications apply. The network and Internet access is provided for students to conduct research and communicate with others. Access to network services and the Internet will be provided to students who agree to act in a considerate and responsible manner.

Network administrators may review files and communications to maintain system integrity and insure that users are using the system responsibly. Users should not expect that files stored on district servers will always be private.

During school, teachers of younger students will guide them toward appropriate materials. Outside of school, families bear the responsibility. The family must exercise the same caution with the Internet as they do with other potentially offensive media such as television, telephone, movies, radio, magazines and books.

The following are not permitted:

- \*Sending or displaying offensive messages or pictures
- \*Using chat rooms
- \*Using obscene language
- \*Harassing, insulting or attacking others
- \*Damaging computers, computer systems or computer networks
- \*Violating copyright laws
- \*Using others' passwords
- \*Trespassing in others' folders, work or files
- \*Intentionally wasting limited resources
- \*Employing the network for commercial purposes
- \*Revealing the full name, personal address or phone number of yourself or any other person
- \*Using E-Mail will not be allowed unless an assigned project requires it

Sanctions

Violations will result in a loss of access.

Additional disciplinary action may be determined at the building level in line with existing practice regarding inappropriate language or behavior.

When applicable, law enforcement agencies may be involved.

The Ashley Public School District #9 will make no warranties of any kind, whether expressed or implied, for the service it is providing. The District will not be responsible for any damage a user may suffer, including loss of data. The District will not be responsible for the accuracy or quality of information obtained through this Internet connection. The District will not be responsible for financial obligations arising through the unauthorized use of the system.

I have read the rules for acceptable online behavior and acknowledge the waiver of warranty. I understand the rules and I agree to comply with the above stated rules. Should I violate the rules, I understand that I may lose network and Internet privileges at my school. Further, I acknowledge and agree that no warranties of any kind, whether expressed or implied, are made by the school district

***Signatures of the student and parent/guardian indicate that each has reviewed and understands the content of the Ashley Public School Student Handbook.***

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Student Signature

---

Parent or Guardian Signature



## PERSONAL ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATION DEVICES PROHIBITION DURING INSTRUCTIONAL TIME

The Ashley School District is committed to providing the necessary support for academics and student well-being in a positive educational environment that is free from unnecessary, non-educational distractions. Personal electronic communication devices can be a distraction during instructional time and counterproductive to student focus and engagement. By prohibiting and limiting the use of personal electronic devices during the school day, this policy aims to provide students with more opportunities to engage in meaningful interactions, collaborate with peers, and cultivate the essential skills necessary for academic and life-long success. Therefore, it is the position of the State of North Dakota and the District that students and school employees shall abide by this policy, which prohibits the use of personal electronic communication devices as outlined herein.

### Definitions

For the purposes of this policy and in accordance with North Dakota law, the following terms are defined as follows:

- a. Instructional time means the time from the start of the school day until dismissal at the end of the school day on school premises, for which the signal may be the ringing of a bell, including a structured or unstructured learning experience, recess, a lunch period, and time in between classes. The term does not include private student travel time to and from an area career and technology center or other offsite learning experience or instructional time occurring in virtual environments off school premises.
- b. Parent means a parent or guardian of a student who is authorized to make decisions regarding education for the student.
- c. Personal electronic communication device means a portable electronic device capable of communication by voice, text, or other data with one or more other parties or devices, or capable of connection to a smartphone, the internet, or a cellular or wireless fidelity network, including a smartphone, cell phone, bluetooth-enabled device, tablet, smartwatch or other wearable device, and gaming device. The term does not include:
  - School-owned devices provided to a student and school-approved devices used by a student in accordance with this section.
  - Portable devices that meet the definition of a medical device under the federal Food, Drug and Cosmetic Act [21 U.S.C. 9 et seq.].
- d. School means a public school providing prekindergarten, elementary, or secondary education, including area career and technology centers. The term does not include virtual schools, virtual instruction, the North Dakota center for distance education, or education occurring in a home-school environment.
- e. School-related activity means a school sanctioned activity, event, or function, occurring outside of instructional time, at which students are under supervision of the school, whether on or off school premises, including a bus ride, field trip, sporting event, and school dance.
- f. Student means an individual currently enrolled or registered at a public school as defined under this policy.

- g. Inappropriate content is defined as content that:
- Violates a district student conduct policy;
  - Attacks race, color, national origin, ancestry, religion, sex, disability, or other status protected by law;
  - Promotes violence, terrorism, or other illegal activities including, but not limited to, tobacco, drug, and/or alcohol use by minors;
  - Is obscene or pornographic as defined by community standards.
  - Is reasonably forecasted to materially or substantially disrupt the educational environment;
  - Poses a direct threat to the physical safety of the school population; and
  - Infringes on the rights of others, such as (but not limited to) material that is potentially libelous or invades an individual's privacy.

#### Prohibitions

In compliance with N.D.C.C. § 15.1-07-39, the Ashley School District prohibits students from using personal electronic communications devices during instructional time. Prohibited devices include the following:

1. Smartphones
2. Cell phones
3. Bluetooth-enabled devices
4. Tablets
5. Smartwatches or other wearable devices
6. Gaming devices
7. Any other devices as defined under N.D.C.C. § 15.1-07-39

All personal electronic communication devices identified above must be:

1. Silenced or turned off, and
2. Securely stowed away, and
3. Inaccessible to students during instructional time.

The District may develop additional administrative regulations or rules, which outline the specific procedures each school building will follow to ensure all three legal requirements are met during instructional time.

Exceptions from this policy's prohibitions may be made only as outlined below.

#### Device Exceptions

The District provides specific device exceptions and will not prohibit a student from possessing or using a personal electronic communication device under this policy in each of the following circumstances:

- a. School-owned devices provided to a student, including school-issued laptops, tablets, or any other electronic device capable of communication as defined under this policy.
- b. School-approved devices used by a student, including personal electronic communication devices that have been approved by administration to be used during instructional time for an educational-related purpose. Such approval shall be limited in scope and time according to the specific educational-related use of the approved device. Students using a school-approved device shall only use that device for the educational-related purpose for which the device received approval. Any violation of this provision by the student or employee may result in approval being rescinded, and the student and/or employee being subject to discipline as identified in this policy.
- c. Medical-provider recommendation, which includes a medical provider licensed under [N.D.C.C. Title 43](#) (Occupations and Professions) who determines the possession or use of a personal electronic communication device is necessary for the health or well-being of the student.
- d. Required accommodation, which authorizes the possession or use of a personal electronic communication device when required by the student's individual education program under the:
  - The Individuals with Disabilities Education Act [[20 U.S.C. 1400](#)];
  - Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 [[29 U.S.C. 794](#)]; or
  - A plan developed in accordance with state or federal law requiring accommodation.
- e. Any other need approved by administration.

#### Limitations/ Allowances for School-Related Activities

The District may limit or allow student access to personal electronic communication devices outside of instructional time, during a "school-related activity" as defined in this policy. Such approval may be provided to a student(s) by administration.

School-related activities where students may be allowed limited or full access to personal electronic communication devices include:

- a. Bus rides
- b. Field trips
- c. Sporting events
- d. School dances
- e. Other activities where students are under the supervision of the school, whether on or off school premises

The District may develop and enforce specific limitations and allowances under administrative regulations or rules. Any time a student is using a school owned or approved device, a personal device on a limited or allowed basis, or a personal device that falls under another exception in this policy, the following prohibitions apply:

1. Students are prohibited from using any devices or technology to violate a student conduct policy including, but not limited to, policies on cheating and bullying while on school property or at a school-sponsored event;
2. Students are prohibited from using any devices or technology to photograph or video record any person during the school day. Students are furthermore prohibited from transmitting any photo or video using personal technology during the school day. Building principals are authorized to make exceptions to this rule for bona fide classroom activities and in accordance with the "exceptions" section of this policy;
3. Students are prohibited from using any devices or technology to photograph or video record inappropriate content and/or transmit inappropriate content while on school property and/or participating in school-sponsored events;
4. Students are prohibited from displaying and/or using any devices or technology in areas where there is a reasonable expectation of privacy by others on school property and at school-sponsored events. Students are also strongly discouraged from possessing personal technology in areas where there is a reasonable expectation of privacy by others on school property and at school-sponsored events;
5. Students are prohibited from using any devices or technology to compromise district networks or access confidential material on district networks. The District may also take disciplinary action against a student who has used personal technology to engage in hacking, trolling, accessing or transmitting inappropriate material, spamming, sending viruses, and/or engaging in illegal or other inappropriate activity while on school property or participating in school-sponsored event; and
6. Students are prohibited from using any devices or technology disruptively or in a manner that potentially compromises the safety of others on school property and during school sponsored events.

#### Student Contact with Parents/ Caregivers

A student may contact the student's parent or authorized caregiver during the school day if needed by using a school telephone made available to the student in a manner and location designated by the building administration. Student contact with parents/ caregivers will not be unreasonably withheld, but the Superintendent may develop administrative policies and rules to ensure the orderly operation of the District and the educational process is not unnecessarily disrupted.

Parents and staff should refer to other District policies and regulations which may apply in the event of District-wide emergencies, student emergencies, and other health and safety events that may occur.

#### Enforcement Provisions

The District enacts the following enforcement provisions to ensure strict compliance with the law and this policy by students and school employees:

1. **Employee Expectations and Disciplinary Measures.** The District requires strict compliance with state law and this policy by school employees. Any employee who knowingly allows students to access and use personal electronic communication devices (that do not fall under a policy exception) during instructional time in violation of this policy while under the employee's supervision may be subject to discipline, up to and including termination.

In complying with this policy, the following school employee expectations apply:

- a. *School Staff Reporting Requirements.* School staff must direct students under their supervision and/or instruction to comply with this policy and shall require students' personal devices to be silenced or turned off, securely stowed away, and inaccessible during instructional time. Staff shall report to administration alleged student infractions of this policy (as defined in the next section: "Student Expectations and Disciplinary Measures").
  - b. Any alleged school staff violations of this policy should be addressed in accordance with applicable complaint and investigation policies or procedures.
  - c. *Administration Investigation and Response.* Upon receipt of a report of an alleged policy violation/ infraction, administration must investigate and make a determination as to whether the student has committed an infraction (as defined in the next section: "Student Expectations and Disciplinary Measures").
  - d. Any alleged administrator violations of this policy should be addressed in accordance with applicable policies or procedures.
  - e. *Identification of Policy Exceptions.* All school employees who instruct or who are entitled to information regarding a student who has an Individual Education Program ("IEP"), Section 504 plan, medical accommodation, or other plan requiring accommodation must identify and review any exceptions under this policy that are listed in the student's program or plan.
  - f. *Compliance with Policy Exceptions.* The District requires strict compliance with policy exceptions, including those exceptions made for school-owned and school-approved devices; medical devices; and possession or use of a device required under the IDEA, Section 504, or a plan developed in accordance with state or federal law requiring accommodation. To that extent, the District expressly prohibits school employees from confronting, disciplining, or removing a student's approved electronic device when that device may fall under an exception under this policy.  
School employees are expressly prohibited from openly/ publicly discussing students' medical conditions, accommodations, or other legally-protected confidential information. Inquiries or concerns may be directed to administration, particularly when a staff member observes a student with a personal electronic device (that may fall under an exception), and the staff member does not directly instruct or supervise that student and may not be entitled to the student's confidential information protected under state or federal law.
  - g. *Employee Use of Personal Electronic Communication Devices.* Employees are also expected to follow acceptable use of technology and professional code of conduct policies when using their own personal electronic communication devices during instructional time. Employees are expressly prohibited from using personal electronic communication devices during instructional time for non-instructional or education-related purposes, including personal texting, e-mailing, phone calls, and social media. Employees are expected to use personal devices during non-instructional times and other breaks in the school day unless approved by administration.
1. **Student Expectations and Disciplinary Measures.** The District requires strict compliance with state law and this policy by students. Students who administration has found to have

violated this policy may be subject to disciplinary consequences and/or corrective measures. When determining the appropriate response to violations of this policy, administration shall take into account the totality of circumstances surrounding the violation. Infractions of policy occur when a student knowingly and willfully violates this policy as determined by administration.

**Measures that will be imposed by administration include, but are not limited to:**

- a. **Level 1 Infraction:**
  - **First violation:** confiscate device, contact parent, administrator returns device to parent at the end of the day.
  - **Second violation:** confiscate device, contact parent, 30 minute detention, administrator and parent have a conference/meeting. Administrator returns device to parents at end of meeting.
  - **Third violation:** confiscate device, contact parent, administrator returns device to parent after another conference/meeting, in-school suspension ("ISS"). Student cannot participate in any extra-curricular practice's or events day of ISS.
  - **Fourth violation and beyond:** Each additional violation will result in an extra day of ISS. A parent conference will be required for the return of the device, and the student will remain ineligible for extra-curricular activities on each day of suspension.

In administering the disciplinary measures above, administrators and school staff must adhere to the following guidelines:

- a. Staff members shall direct students to comply with policy and should address alleged infractions with administration.
- b. Only administration may determine an actual infraction of this policy and administer discipline.
- c. If administration determines that a student is in violation of this policy and the student refuses to turn over the device to administration, the infraction may move to the next level.
- d. At no time should a District administrator or staff member attempt to physically or forcibly take an electronic device from a student.
- e. Administration may also respond under other conduct and disciplinary policies and regulations when a student's conduct implicates additional policies, including violence, threats of violence, harassment, bullying, or any other unlawful conduct or student code of conduct violations.
- f. Administration is required to identify students with disabilities (including those covered under the IDEA, Section 504, the ADA, and any child-find obligations) and must address any alleged student infractions in compliance with special education policies, regulations, and applicable laws.

If a student is using a school owned or approved device, a personal device on a limited or allowed basis, or a personal device that falls under another exception under this policy, then administration is authorized to search the device when there is reasonable suspicion of the following:

1. The device contains evidence of conduct or activity that may constitute a violation of policy or the law; or
2. There is a threat of danger or potential harm to self or others.

Only areas of the device reasonably related in scope to the purpose of the search will be subject to a search (e.g., if a student is texting inappropriate photos, only the device's text messages will be searched). Administration is authorized to contact legal counsel to help determine the appropriate scope of the search.

If administration suspects or finds that a device contains content that violates N.D.C.C. § 12.1-27.1-03.3 or other laws, they shall contact law enforcement. Under no circumstances shall school officials download or transfer sexually explicit content from a student's personal technology. Law enforcement, including school resource officers, may communicate the need for probable cause to search a device and may provide a student or the District with a search warrant or subpoena for information or records.

### **Dissemination and Education**

Upon the adoption and implementation of this policy, the District shall:

- a. Ensure the policy is communicated to students, parents, and authorized caregivers; and
- b. Publish the policy in student and personnel handbooks.

The District shall review and revise this policy as it determines necessary. The District shall also develop and implement electronic communication device education programs for students and staff professional development activities. School administration may develop guidelines to assist students and staff with complying with this policy.

### **Annual Data Collection & Documentation**

In accordance with state law, the District must collect data annually with the goal of measuring the impact of this policy on student behavior, mental health, disciplinary incidents, school attendance, and academic performance.

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### **Complementing NDSBA Templates (may contain items not adopted by the Board)**

- AAC, Nondiscrimination and Anti-Harassment Policy
- AACA, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act
- ACAA, Emergency Closings
- ACDA, Acceptable Use
- DE, Staff Code of Conduct
- FDE, Education of Special Education/ Disabled Students
- FGA, Student Education Records and Privacy
- FGDB, Student Handbooks
- FF, Student Conduct and Discipline

- FFK-BR, Suspension and Expulsion Regulations
- FFK-AR1, Suggested Procedure for Conducting an Expulsion Hearing
- FFK-AR2, Suspension and Expulsion of Special Education Students
- KACB, Complaints about Personnel

#### Legal References

- 20 U.S.C. 1400, Individuals with Disabilities Education Act
- 21 U.S.C. 9 et seq., Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act
- 29 U.S.C. 794, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973
- NDCC ch.15.1-07, School Districts
- NDCC Title 43, Occupations and Professions

**End of Ashley School District #9 Policy FFI .....Adopted: July 16, 2025**



## **8-14 STUDENT HANDBOOK SIGN-OFF AND COMMENT SHEET**

Dear Parents and Students:

Please take the time to go through this student handbook and become familiar with the rules and policies that govern Ashley Public School. It is especially helpful when parents and students review the handbook together. If you have any comments, please include them when you return this signed acknowledgement to the school office. Feel free to contact Mr. Doane at the high school office if you have any questions. Thank you

A complete set of policies for the School Board, Administration, Teachers, and Non-Certified Staff is available in the office.

Thank you.

### **COMMENTS:**

***Signatures of the student and parent/guardian indicate that each has reviewed and understands the content of the Ashley Public School Student Handbook.***

\_\_\_\_\_  
Student Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent or Guardian Signature