



Evansville Vanderburgh School Corporation

**2008 - 2009
STUDENT CONDUCT RIGHTS, RESPONSIBILITIES,
DISCIPLINE POLICY, ONLINE NETWORK POLICY AND STUDENT RULES**

BELIEF STATEMENTS

We Believe:

- *Every person is important and is entitled to respect, understanding and appreciation for his/her uniqueness.*
- *Every person is entitled to a safe, caring, learning environment.*
- *The core business of schools is to ensure that every student, every day is provided challenging, engaging and satisfying work.*
- *Education of our students is the shared responsibility of everyone - the home, the school and the community.*

The Evansville Vanderburgh School Corporation does not discriminate against any individual because of race, age, gender, veteran status, religion, national origin, disability or limited English proficiency.

All students are responsible for knowing and observing these rules and the rules of behavior as published in the school board publication, School Information for Students and Parents of the Evansville Vanderburgh School Corporation.

Violation of these rules shall result in corrective disciplinary action. Discipline is to help students become responsible citizens and ensure order and safety in schools. Any one or a combination of the following actions may be used, not necessarily in the order in which they are listed; counseling, parent conference, detention, restriction of extra-curricular activities, suspension of privileges, suspension from class, suspension from school, suspension from the bus, expulsion from school, referral to juvenile court, a maximum of 120 hours of community service, or other reasonable disciplinary action which is left to the discretion of the teacher and/or building administrator.

Recognizing that the behavior of some students may be so disruptive that it interferes with school purposes or educational functions of the school corporation, school officials may find it necessary to remove a student from the school. In this event and in accordance with the provisions of **Indiana Code 20-33-8**, the Board of School Trustees authorizes administrators and staff members to take the following actions:

- **REMOVAL FROM CLASS OR ACTIVITY-TEACHER:** An Elementary teacher will have the right to remove a student from his/her class or activity for up to one (1) school day. A Middle School or High School teacher will have the right to remove a student from his/her class or activity for up to five (5) school periods. In multi-period classes the suspension would be for the length of the class, i.e. two or three periods.
- **SUSPENSION FROM SCHOOL-PRINCIPAL:** A school principal (or designee) may deny a student the right to attend school or take part in any school function for a time of up to five (5) school days or ten (10) school days with the approval of the Director of Student Services. **Students are not allowed on any EVSC property while on suspension and may not attend any activity sponsored by the EVSC.**
- **EXPULSION:** In accordance with the due process procedures defined in this policy, a student may be expelled from school for a period no longer than the remainder of the current semester plus the following semester, with the exception of a violation of **the weapons rule** listed under the grounds for Suspension and Expulsion in this policy which will result in a one year expulsion. **Students are not allowed on any EVSC property while expelled and may not attend any activity sponsored by the EVSC.**

GROUND FORS SUSPENSION OR EXPULSION:

Grounds for suspension or expulsion are **STUDENT MISCONDUCT** or **SUBSTANTIAL DISOBEDIENCE**. The grounds for suspension or expulsion listed below apply when a student is:

- On school grounds (including school buses) before, during, and after school hours and at any other time when the school is being used by a school group;
- To and from school

- Off school grounds at a school activity, function, or event, on the way to or from an event.
- In addition to the grounds listed above, a student may be suspended or expelled for engaging in unlawful activity on or off school grounds if the unlawful activity may reasonably be considered to be an interference with school purposes or an educational function, or the student's removal is necessary to restore order or protect persons on school property. This includes any unlawful activity meeting the above criteria which takes place during weekends, holidays, other school breaks, and the summer period when a student may not be attending classes or other school functions. The following include examples of student misconduct or substantial disobedience, but are not limited to:

RULE A. ALCOHOL

Possessing, using, transmitting or being under the influence of any alcoholic beverage. Students are responsible/accountable for all contents of: their assigned lockers, vehicles used for the purpose of transportation to or from school or school-sponsored activities, purse and/or book bags and any item found on their person.

- A1 Using or possessing alcohol**
- A2 Selling alcohol**
- A3 Providing alcohol**

RULE B. DRUGS

Possessing, using, transmitting or being under the influence of any narcotic drug, hallucinogenic drug, amphetamine, barbiturate, marijuana, or intoxicant of any kind, caffeine-based substances, substances containing phenylpropanolamine (P.P.A.), or stimulants of any kind, be they available with or without a prescription. (Note: Student shall surrender any prescription or non-prescription drugs in the original container to the school nurse or teacher upon arrival at school.)

Students are responsible/accountable for all contents of: their assigned lockers, vehicles used for the purpose of transportation to or from school or school-sponsored activities, purse and/or book bags and any item found on their person.

- B1 Possession using or under the influence of drugs**
- B2 Selling drugs**
- B3 Providing drugs**

RULE C. DEADLY WEAPON

Possession of a deadly weapon other than firearms.

RULE D. HANDGUN

No student shall possess, handle or transmit any firearm on school property.

RULE E. RIFLE-SHOTGUN

No student shall possess, handle or transmit any firearm on school property.

RULE F. OTHER FIREARMS

*No student shall possess, handle or transmit any firearm on school property. The following devices are considered to be a firearm as defined in **Section 921 of Title 18 of the United States Code**:*

Other firearms include:

- Any weapon (including a starter gun, taser, unloaded gun) which will, or is, designed to, or may readily be converted to expel a projectile by the action of an explosive.
- The frame or receiver of any weapon described above
- Any firearm muffler or firearm silencer
- Any destructive device, which includes:
 - Any explosive, incendiary, or poison gas
 - Bomb, bottle bomb, pipe bomb, Molotov cocktail, etc.
 - Grenade, M-120, M-80, pycadex (black powder), etc.
 - Rocket having a propellant charge of more than four ounces
 - Missile having an explosive or incendiary charge of more than one-quarter ounce Mine, or similar device
- Any weapon which will, or which may be readily converted to, expel a projectile by the action of an explosive or other propellant, and which has any barrel with a bore of more than one-half inch in diameter.
- Any combination of parts either designed or intended for use in converting any device into and destructive device described in the two immediately preceding examples, and from which a destructive device may be readily assembled.

The penalty for possession of a firearm: Ten (10) days suspension and expulsion from school for one calendar year. The length of the expulsion may be reduced by the superintendent if the circumstances warrant such reduction.

The superintendent shall notify the county prosecuting attorney's office when a student is expelled under rule C, D, E, or F.

Rule G. TOBACCO

Possessing, using, transmitting, tobacco or tobacco products. Students are responsible/ accountable for all contents of: their assigned lockers, vehicles used for the purpose of transportation to or from school or school-sponsored activities, purse and/or book bags and any item found on their person.

Rule H. DISRUPTIVE BEHAVIOR

Using violence, force, noise, coercion, fear, passive resistance, or other comparable conduct constituting an interference with school purposes, or urging other students to engage in such conduct. The following enumeration is only illustrative and not limited to the type of conduct prohibited by this subdivision:

- *Trespass on school property.*
- *Occupying any school building, school grounds, or part thereof with intent to deprive others of its use.*
- *Blocking the entrance or exits of any school building or corridor or room therein with intent to deprive others of lawful access to or from, or use of the building, corridor, or room.*
- *Prevention of or attempting to prevent by physical act, the convening, or continued functioning of any school or education function, or of any meeting or assembly on school property.*
- *Disrespect*
- *Violating or repeatedly violating any rules that are reasonably necessary in carrying out school purposes or an educational function and are validly adopted in accordance with Indiana law.*
- *Students who visit (other than on authorized school business) a school in which they are not enrolled shall follow the posted rules for visitors by reporting to the principal's office immediately upon arrival for approval and follow the instructions given to them by the principal or designee. Students on school property without proper authorization will be subject to trespass charges.*
- *Students shall adhere to safety practices and all other school rules during the school day, school activities, and during transportation to and from school and school sponsored activities.*
- *Students shall not cheat or use misrepresentation including, but not limited to forging and/or misuse of any document, excuse, official forms or records, assignments, homework i.e., Reason for Absence form, false telephone calls, etc.*
- *Students are to refrain from loud belligerent and boisterous behavior and running in the building.*
- *Students shall not litter school property.*
- *Students shall not bring food or drinks into the building except as authorized by school authorities. Students shall not chew gum on school premises.*
- *Students must ride their assigned buses unless a written request from their parent/guardian is submitted to the principal for approval.*
- *Students are expected to come prepared for and to participate in all classes. This rule also includes students who are auditing classes.*
- *Students are not permitted to sell items at school or bring large sums of money to school without the authorization of the building principal.*
- *Students may use pay and non-pay telephones only with staff permission during the instructional day.*
- *Forming secret societies, fraternities, or other similar organizations is forbidden. Use of signals related to membership in secret societies is prohibited. Writing gang signs or symbols on your person at school is prohibited. This includes gang-related tattoos.*
- *Creating, writing or distributing newspapers, bulletins or newsletters not authorized by the school administration is prohibited.*

- Students who are not riding a bus and who arrive before 7:45 a.m., or remain after school dismissal, except when participating in school sponsored activities, will be expected to enroll in the Extended Day Care Program and parents will be billed for time spent in day care. **(Elementary Only)**
- Students shall adhere to safety practices and all other school rules during the school day, school sponsored activities and during travel to and from school. Students shall obey crossing guards and safety patrol members. Bicycle safety rules should be observed.
- Toys or objects that interfere with the educational process are not permitted on school property or at school events. This includes, but is not limited to water guns, squirt guns and other squirting toys or equipment, trading cards, game cards, Pokémon cards, playing cards, dice, gambling devices or electronic/non electronic games.
- Students wishing to use the elevator or other lift equipment due to an injury or health problem must secure a pass from the assistant principal-dean.
- Aiding, assisting, or conspiring with another person to violate these student conduct rules or state or federal law.
- Failing to report the actions or plans of another person to a teacher or administrator where those actions or plans, if carried out, could result in harm to another person or persons or damage property when the student has information about such actions or plans.
- The Board of School Trustees supports the authority of individual schools to establish whatever rules, policies, and procedures deemed necessary pertaining to the carrying, storage, and use of book bags within their building and/or on school premises.
- Matches, lighters, fireworks are prohibited.
- No laser lights or attachments are permitted on school property or at any EVSC event.

RULE I. LEGAL SETTLEMENT-I.C. 20-33-8-17

20-8.1-5.1-11 A student may be expelled from school if the student's legal settlement is not in the attendance area of the school corporation where the student is enrolled (As added by P.L. 131-1995, sec 10)

RULE J. OTHER

J1 THEFT

Stealing or attempting to steal private or school property (items found by a student should be taken to the office immediately)

J2 POSSESSION OF A DANGEROUS INSTRUMENT.

Knowingly possessing, handling, using or transmitting a knife, bullet, chemical spray, (pepper spray, mace, etc.) Or any object that can reasonably be considered or used as a weapon or bomb that can be considered harmful to property or life. This includes a look alike weapon or object.

J3 VIOLATION OF STATE AND FEDERAL LAW-

Engaging in any activity forbidden by the **laws of Indiana** or the Federal Government that constitutes an interference with school purposes or an educational function including but not limited to (A) Gambling or gambling paraphernalia. (B) creating a false fire alarm or other false warning. (C) Criminal Trespass. (D) Destruction of school or personal property.

J4 UNAUTHORIZED ITEMS

Students shall not bring equipment or other objects to school or school activities which can be considered disruptive and/or are not being used in the educational process without permission from school personnel. (Example: but not limited to portable radios, record players, MP3 players, laptops, compact disc (CD), DVD, VHS tapes, cellular phone, flash drive (computer storage device), cassettes, cameras, electronic games, electronic toys, electronic communication equipment: e.g., paging devices and portable phones, camera phones, personal computer discs, sports equipment, skateboards or roller blades.) Information on paging devices confiscated by school officials are subject to being reviewed by the police liaison officer.

After school hours, with prior approval of the building principal or designee, the cell phone prohibitions may be relaxed if the student is involved in an extra-curricular activity after school hours and needs to communicate with his/her parent/guardian when the activity is ending so the student can be picked up. In such cases cellular telephones and ECDs must be kept out of sight and turned off (not just placed in vibrate or silent mode) during the school day. Students may not use a cell phone or ECD to record /store/send/transmit the spoken work or visual image of any person or educational document or to view internet web sites that are otherwise blocked to students at

school. Violation of this policy can result in discipline up to and including confiscation of the student's phone, suspension or expulsion, and notification of law enforcement authorities.

J5 LOOK ALIKE DRUGS/ DRUG PARAPHERNALIA

Any substance which is represented to be or looks like drugs, alcohol, or tobacco is prohibited. Possessing drug paraphernalia is also prohibited. If drug paraphernalia contains a drug residue it is also a violation of Rule B.

Students are responsible/accountable for all contents of: their assigned lockers, vehicles used for the purpose of transportation to or from school or school-sponsored activities, purse and/or book bags and any item found on their person.

J6 HARASSMENT

It is the policy of the Evansville Vanderburgh School Corporation to maintain a learning and working environment that is free from sexual harassment, or other harassment based on race, color, age, religion, national origin, disability, or any other reason protected by law.

It shall be a violation of the policy for any employee, student, or agent of the Evansville Vanderburgh School Corporation to harass another employee, student, or agent through conduct or communications of a sexual nature or other protected basis. The use of the term "employee" also includes non-employees and volunteers who work subject to control of school authorities.

Statement adopted by Board of School Trustees August 17, 1992

- A student shall not exhibit conduct which has the purpose or effect of unreasonably interfering with another student's academic development or creates an intimidating, hostile or offensive learning environment.
- A student shall not make unwelcome sexual advances, requests for sexual favors, or exhibit other verbal or physical conduct of a sexual nature.
- A student shall not engage in subtle forms of harassment such as unwelcome cartoons, caricatures, jokes of a sexual or racial nature, race or sex-oriented verbal kidding or abuse, and unwelcome, deliberate physical contact.
- Verbal or physical abuse, racial harassment, sexual or other types of harassment of others, any indecent language or gesture or act, threats of violence to the school staff or its body are prohibited.
- **SEXUAL AND/OR OTHER HARASSMENT COMPLAINT PROCEDURE INVOLVING AN EMPLOYEE OR AGENT OF THE EVSC:**

The process is designed to ensure fairness and objectivity and to protect the rights of all individuals. No individual shall be penalized for reporting a complaint of alleged harassment or for cooperating in the investigation of the reported complaint. However, any person who **knowingly** files false charges against an Evansville Vanderburgh School Corporation employee, student, or agent shall be subject to disciplinary action consistent with Evansville Vanderburgh School Corporation policy. Throughout the complaint procedure, the right of confidentiality, both of the complainant and of the accused, will be respected consistent with the Evansville Vanderburgh School Corporation's legal obligations and the necessity to investigate allegations of misconduct and to take corrective action when this conduct has occurred.

Any employee, student or agent alleging harassment by an Evansville Vanderburgh School Corporation employee or agent may report a complaint directly with any of the following individuals:

- Teacher
- Counselor
- Administrator
- Assistant Superintendent of Personnel and Finance, or his/her designee

Policy/procedure adopted by Board of School Trustees April 5, 1993 and revised 7/29/02 (to include other types of harassment)

J7 ATTENDANCE

REPORTED ABSENCES

Students whose parent or guardian contacts the school shall be counted as a reported absence, but not exempt.

- All Student absences shall be reported to the school by parent/guardian before 10:00 a.m. on the date of absence, or where circumstances require, a written note from the parent explaining the absence should be provided when the student returns to school. If the student's parent does not have contact with the school the student will be considered unexcused (elementary school) or considered truant (middle and high school).
- Reported absences will count in the determination of loss of credits for high school students.
- Non-exempt absences if excessive can lead to legal action under the compulsory school attendance law.

EXEMPT ABSENCES

The following absences are exempt and **will not** count in the determination of loss of credits (high school students only) or the pursuit of legal action due to violations of the compulsory school attendance law.

- Death in immediate family (this would include the death of a parent, grandparent or sibling)
- A medical or dental appointment (Written medical verification of illness & proof of medical visit must be provided.)
- Chronic Illness (School form must be filled out by Doctor **each year**)
- Legal Appointment (written legal verification must be provided)
- Religious holiday (must be verified by a note from the parent and/or religious leader and should be received by the administrator one week in advance of the event)
- Other activities as approved by the principal

STUDENTS WILL NOT BE COUNTED ABSENT IF ANY OF THE FOLLOWING APPLY;

According to state law students who are not in school due to the following reasons will not be counted absent. (It is the student's responsibility to provide official documentation)

- Service as a page or an honoree of the Indiana General Assembly.
- A high school student who serves on the precinct election board or as a helper to a political candidate or to a political party on the date of each general, city or town special, and primary election at which the student works. Prior to the date of the election, the student must submit a document signed by one (1) of the student's parents or guardians giving permission to participate in the election as provided in this section, and the student must verify to school authorities the performance of services by submitting document signed by the candidate, political party chairman, campaign manager, or precinct officer. The document must describe generally the duties of the student on the date of the election. Seventh and eighth grade students are approved under local policy and the above guidelines apply.
- A student who is issued a subpoena to appear in court as witness in a judicial proceeding.
- A high school student who is ordered to active duty with the Indiana Guard for not more than ten (10) days in a school year.
- A student who is serving out of school suspension shall not be counted absent from school.

PRE-COURT CONFERENCE

Students who accumulate 15 or more non-exempt absences or 5 or more unexcused or truant days may be referred for pre-court conference. **(Middle and Elementary).**

High school students who accumulate more than 10 non-exempt absences for the semester or 5 or more truantries may be referred for a pre-court conference.

Students who have been pre-courted due to a violation of the compulsory school attendance law are required to produce medical or legal documentation of any missed days for one calendar year. Students who do not provide proper documentation and continue to miss school after the pre-court conference will be counted as unexcused (elementary school) or truant (middle and high school) and the student and or their parent will be referred to the prosecutor's office.

Habitual Truancy: Please note that a student who accumulates five (5) or more truant days of absences will be considered an habitual truant.

DENIAL OF CREDIT (High School Only)

EACH SEMESTER A STUDENT MAY BE DENIED CREDIT AFTER THE TENTH ABSENCE OF A CLASS ON A STANDARD SCHEDULE, OR THE SIXTH ABSENCE OF A CLASS ON THE BLOCK SCHEDULE. Exempt absences which are accompanied by proper documentation will not be counted when determining loss of credit. Notes from doctors, dentists, or other health care providers must be received by the attendance office **WITHIN THREE SCHOOL DAYS OF THE DATE THE STUDENT RETURNS TO SCHOOL.** When a student is denied credit in all classes, he/she will be referred to the prosecutor's office or recommended for expulsion from school; or, if the student meets legal requirement and is of legal age, will have the option to withdraw.
***All credit appeals should be directed to the principal of the school.**

LATE (TARDY) POLICY

A student will be considered tardy when he/she is not in his/her assigned class when the tardy bell rings.

- Three (3) non-exempt tardies to a class will equal one (1) unexcused absence for that class period **(High School Only)**
- The accumulation of six (6) tardies in a semester will result in the loss of the citizenship rating

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

- Students shall attend all of the scheduled classes and activities to which they are assigned during the school day unless properly excused by school authority.
- A high school student who is suspended or expelled from a T&I program will be suspended or expelled from both schools.
- Vacations during school time are strongly discouraged. In Indiana, school attendance is mandatory and schools cannot give permission for absence beyond the law. Parents/guardians are advised to plan family activities when school is not in session.
- Students who find it necessary to leave school before the completion of their school day must receive the approval of the proper school authority and sign out in the school office. Once students arrive at school they must remain on school premises unless they have prior permission to leave from proper school authorities.
- Students who are excused early from school must leave school property immediately.
- Students who report to school late shall clear their absence by the appropriate procedure set forth by the school. The student is responsible for clearing any absence or tardiness in dispute.
- The student is responsible for requesting make-up work, including tests, by using the procedures set forth by the school. Make-up work will not be given for days students have been marked truant.
- Attendance is required at all school assemblies unless permission to be excused is obtained prior to the assembly.
- On the day of return from an out-of-school suspension a student may contact a teacher and request make up work for the time absent. The student will then have one day for each day of suspension to make-up work. The total number of days will not exceed 5 days to complete class work missed and turn it in to the teacher. A student who does not request the work on the day of return or turn the work in by the end of the required day will forfeit his/her rights to make up the work. Make-up work turned in under the above requirements will be graded by the teacher and student given full credit.
- In order for a student to participate in extra-curricular and co-curricular activities, the student must be in attendance in ALL classes on the day of the activity, unless excused by the principal.
- Athletes are expected to attend all classes. Athletes absent from classes will not be allowed to participate in a practice or contest on the day of the absence. Exceptions to this rule must be approved by the building principal. Athletes who are suspended from school may not practice or participate during the time of suspension.
- Decisions on attendance violations will be made by the principal/designee.
- No student may be absent more than five (5) times per semester. **(School of Academic & Career Development (SACD))**
- Students who arrive at school prior to 7:00 A.M. must remain in the link area only. **(Reitz)**

STUDENTS ARE NOT TO LEAVE THE BUILDING BETWEEN PERIODS WITH THESE EXCEPTIONS: (HIGH SCHOOL ONLY)

- Those who are enrolled in Interdisciplinary Cooperative Work Experience and Business Cooperative Work Experience and have course-related jobs.
- Those who have shortened day schedules, must leave the campus immediately at the end of their last class.
- Those who are ill and have been excused by the nurse or an administrator.
- Students going to the Field House for class. **(Reitz)**
- Students who are ill must sign out with the nurse **or procedures set forth by the school** before leaving school. Failure to do so will result in disciplinary action.
- Students leaving the building during the school day must sign out in the appropriate school office. The parent must contact the school either in writing or verbally before student leaves the building.

J8 BUILDING RULES

- Students shall not be inside an EVSC building without permission.
- Students shall not post advertising posters or other materials in the school without permission of an administrator
- Students shall not perform vandalism by either causing or attempting to cause damage to private or school property, setting fire to or damaging any school building, school property or private property.
- Students shall not write on walls, desks, lockers, books, or deface school property any way

HALLWAYS AND RESTROOMS

- Students without a hall pass are permitted only in designated hallways during passing periods or for special events
- After the tardy bell rings, students must have a hall pass to be in the halls.
- Students shall not block entrances, exits, or stairways.
- Students shall not congregate near the doorways.
- Students shall not loiter in restrooms, locker rooms, hallways, or other unauthorized areas.

CAFETERIA

Students shall eat food only in the cafeteria, courtyard, or other designated eating areas unless permission is granted by a staff member to do otherwise.

- Students shall enter and leave the cafeteria by designated entrances and exits at the specified times.
- Students who choose to eat in the courtyard are to remain there the entire lunch period. Styrofoam trays should be used.
- Students shall observe proper behavior and shall not create excessive noise, throw food, crowd in line, or engage in other disruptive acts.
- Students shall take trays, dishes, and refuse to the disposal area.
- Students must report to the cafeteria during lunch period unless they are excused by a staff member.
- During the lunch period, students are to remain in the cafeteria or on the patio until the end of the period. Students needing to do research, or study during lunch periods, may use the Media Center with a teacher's written permission **ONLY**. Phones and restrooms in the cafeteria are to be used.
- All students except those going to the field house for class must use the main exit located in the Link to leave school and they must have a permit. The permit should be secured from the office of the assistant principal-dean **each semester. (Reitz)**
- During the lunch period, students are to remain in the cafeteria or courtyard until the end of the period. Students needing to do research or study during lunch period may use the Media Center with the teacher's written permission **ONLY**. Phones and restrooms outside the cafeteria door are to be used. Students must clear their tables and then remain seated during the last five minutes of lunch period **(Reitz)**

OUTDOOR ACTIVITIES

- Students, unless they have valid excuses, shall participate in outdoor activities when scheduled. Tackling, keep away, and other dangerous contact games shall not be played.
- Students shall not go into streets or off-school property unless supervised by a staff member.
- Students shall not throw objects such as rocks, sticks, or snowballs.
- All athletic equipment and playground equipment shall be used in a safe and proper manner as directed by the school staff.

BOOK DAMAGE

- Students are responsible for books and equipment issued and loaned to them by the Evansville Vanderburgh School Corporation. **TEXTBOOKS AND LIBRARY BOOKS** that are damaged or lost must be paid for by the student. Fines are also charged for minor damage to rental or borrowed books.

- Students shall not damage or deface textbooks, computers or media material in any manner.

DRESS CODE

- Appropriate dress and personal grooming will be required of each student as a vital part of maintaining the educational environment. Modes of grooming or styles of attire which detract from a good teaching/learning situation are not acceptable. The building administrator shall determine what is inappropriate and may send a student home to correct the problem. **Extremes shall be avoided in all areas of dress and grooming.**
- Students in their dress and grooming must recognize the necessity for health, safety, cleanliness, and modesty at all times.
- **In Elementary and Middle School, body piercing is prohibited except for ears.**
- Costumes, garments or anything that detracts from the educational process should not be worn to school. Head covering, headbands and sunglasses are not to be worn in the school building during the school day.
- Students shall wear all items of clothing in the manner for which they are styled or designed.
- The wearing of any apparel that has on it any writing, printing, symbols or pictures that is judged by the building administrator of the school to be immoral, lewd, vulgar, or is suggestive and/or implies sex, drugs, alcohol, violence, or other subjects disruptive to the normal operation of the school is prohibited.
- The display of any object, symbol, or clothing that could reasonably be considered gang-related ***or could be used as a weapon*** is prohibited.
- Hats and heavy coats must be placed in lockers upon entering the school and remain there during the day.
- Students shall not wear "Heelys" or any other shoes that can accommodate wheels.
- Low-rise, baggy or sagging pants that reveal any skin or undergarments are prohibited. Loose fitting pants must be belted.
- Chains are prohibited.

HIGH SCHOOL DRESS CODE

The need to maintain appropriate discipline in schools favors more administrative discretion than might be permitted in other parts of society; therefore, each of the EVSC high schools seek to develop within each student an understanding and an appreciation of appropriate dress and grooming. Appropriate school dress is considered to be those articles of clothing which are clean, safe, modest and do not disrupt the learning environment.

Schools prohibit:

- clothing that contains symbols and/or words that promote values that are fundamentally contrary to the schools' mission.
- clothing that contains offensive illustrations and/or drug, alcohol, or tobacco slogans.
- shirts without sleeves and those that are not of an appropriate length so that they cover the midriff. (Shirts must be long enough so that they may be tucked into pants/skirts.)
- shirts of any kind that reveal the shoulders, chest or back.
- shorts and skirts that are not at least finger-tip length when arms are resting at the side of the body.
- low-rise, baggy or sagging pants that reveal any skin or undergarments.
- see-through or sheer garments.
- clothing worn differently than the manner for which it was designed.
- costumes or other garments that disrupt the learning environment.
- head coverings and sunglasses worn inside the school buildings.
- pajamas and house slippers.
- the wearing or display of any object, symbol, or clothing that could reasonably be considered gang-related or could be used as a weapon.
- chains or sharp objects.
- body piercing and/or unnatural hair coloring that disrupts the learning environment and/or is unsafe.

Furthermore:

- We ask that our students use good judgment when they select shoes. In doing so, they should consider the various activities they participate in and recognize the necessity for health and safety.
- It is required that coats and backpacks are secured in lockers upon arrival to school and remain there until the end of the school day. Students are permitted to wear sweatshirts, sweaters, and light warm-ups to class, anything heavier than these should be placed in lockers.

All decisions about appropriate dress and grooming will be made by the schools' administrators. Students found to be in violation of the dress code will be asked to correct the article found to be in violation prior to returning to the classroom and could face further disciplinary action.

MIDDLE SCHOOL DRESS CODE

Helfrich Park – McGary – Oak Hill – Perry Heights – Plaza Park – Thompkins - Washington

The need to maintain appropriate discipline in schools favors more administrative discretion than might be permitted in other parts of society; therefore, schools seek to develop within each student an understanding and an appreciation of appropriate dress and grooming. Appropriate school dress is considered to be those articles of clothing which are clean, safe, modest, and do not disrupt the learning environment. The following guidelines took effect in the 2007-2008 school year.

NO:

- Clothing that contains symbols and/or words that promote values that are fundamentally contrary to the school's mission.
- Tops of any kind that reveal shoulders, chest, underarms, cleavage, back, or midriff (halter, tank, tube, fishnet, see-through or sheer garments, spaghetti straps, or scoop/extremely low necklines).
- Tops that reveal any skin during normal movement (carrying books, sitting down, bending over, leaning forward). Shirts must be long enough to tuck into pants or skirts.
- Low rise, sagging pants that reveal any skin or undergarments during normal movement (bending at lockers, sitting down, etc.). Pants *must be* belted at the waist.
- Straps or chains on pants, shorts, or skirts.
- Chains of any kind or Mardi Gras beads.
- Short shorts, gym trunks, or abnormally short skirts – shorts and skirts *must be* at least fingertip-length when hands are resting at the side of the body.
- Torn clothing, pants with holes, cutoff or frayed jeans.
- Pajamas or house slippers.
- Clothing that contains lewd, crude, or suggestive language, offensive illustrations, musical group shirts, weapons, remarks, or violence.
- The wearing or display of any object, symbol, or clothing that could reasonably be considered gang-related or could be used as a weapon.
- Clothing that contains drug, alcohol, or tobacco advertisements.
- Shoes with wheels.
- Jackets and coats worn in classes.
- Body piercing excluding ears.
- Head coverings inside school (hats, bandannas, headbands, doo-rags, sunglasses).
- Unnatural hair color (such as but not limited to: blue, fuchsia, green, etc.) that disrupts the learning environment.
- Wearing clothing differently than the way it was designed to wear (such as sweatshirts on arms only).
- Student writing (e.g., drawing with pens/markers) on clothing or body.
- Athletic sweatbands/rubber bands/spike bracelets.

Furthermore:

Students must use good judgment when they select shoes. In doing so, they should consider the various activities they participate in and recognize the necessity for health and safety. Shoes must be tied, and Velcro must be fastened.

All decisions about appropriate dress and grooming will be made by the schools' administrators. Students found to be in violation of the dress code will be asked to correct the article found to be in violation prior to returning to the classroom and could face further disciplinary action.

SCHOOL LOCKERS

- All lockers made available for student use on the school premises are the property of the school corporation.
- Lockers are to be used to store school supplies and personal items necessary for use at school. Lockers shall not be used to store "items" that cause, or can reasonably be foreseen to cause, an interference with school purposes or an educational function, which are forbidden by state law or school rules.
- The student's use of the locker does not diminish the school corporation's ownership or control of the locker. The school corporation retains the right to inspect the locker and its contents to ensure that the locker is being used in accordance with its intended purpose, and to eliminate fire or other hazards, maintain sanitary conditions, attempt to locate lost or stolen materials, and to prevent use of the locker to store stolen items, prohibited or dangerous materials such as weapons, illegal drugs, or alcohol.
- Students will use only lockers assigned to them and locks approved by the principal/designee. Lockers are not to be shared. Students are not to pre-set their lockers and/or give their combinations out.
- Students shall not alter the appearance of lockers on the inside or outside with writing, drawing, stickers or pictures except with principal/designee approval.
- Students are responsible/accountable for all contents of: their assigned lockers, vehicles used for the purpose of transportation to or from school or school-sponsored activities, purse and/or book bags and any item found on their person.

DRIVING PRIVILEGES, SCHOOL PARKING LOTS

GENERAL

- Upon arrival to school by school bus, METS bus, walking, with parents or in personal vehicles, students should enter the building immediately and are not permitted to leave without authorization. This includes, but is not limited to, going to student's car, parking lot, home, store, etc. Students are to remain inside the building until they are dismissed. Loitering outside the school, in the bus loading zone, or in the parking lot, is not permitted.
- Students shall park only in designated student parking spaces and not in the teachers' parking lot. Student reserved parking spaces are for designated students only.
- The maximum speed on the parking lot is five (5) miles per hour.
- Food or drinks are not allowed on the parking lot.
- Students must park between the white line that designates parking spaces on the parking lot (one parking place per vehicle).
- Shared-time students who have access to the EVSC bus service will not be allowed to drive their car to school or park on the school parking lot without special permission from the administrator/designee of both the home school and the Southern Indiana Career & Technical Center.
- Only North junior and senior students will be allowed to buy parking stickers (one dollar \$1.00) and park on the student parking lots at North High School during school hours if space is available. Tags are to be hung on the rear view mirror with the number facing the front of the car. Tall vehicles, vehicles with long antennas and vehicles with vertical exhaust systems are not allowed under the **dining center. (North)**
- Students may not park motor vehicles on school property. **(Bosse)**
- Any car that is parked on the student lot must have a parking sticker affixed to the lower left hand corner of the front windshield. Parking stickers should be secured from the Attendance Office. **(Reitz)**
- Students should enter the parking lot only at the entrance off Austin Avenue. **(Reitz)**
- Sophomores driving to school must park on the parking lot below the bowl. **(Reitz)**

**CAREER AND TECHNICAL STUDENTS ATTENDING
THE SOUTHERN INDIANA CAREER AND TECHNICAL CENTER**

- **DRIVING PRIVILEGES** - Only those **students** with a driving pass are allowed to drive. No one is allowed to ride with another student. Permission to drive must be requested at least one day in advance from the home school and the Southern Indiana Career and Technical Center.
- **DRIVING PASSES** - Career and Technical driving passes to the Southern Indiana Career and Technical Center (SICTC) are to be administered by the SICTC principal or designee. Students seeking a driving pass should present their class schedule for screening.
- **DRIVING PASS EXCEPTION** - Auto service, auto collision, and diesel technology students who desire to work on their vehicles during class must get prior approval from their instructor. (This is the only time they are allowed to drive instead of riding the bus from home school.)

J9 BUS TRANSPORTATION

- The school bus is an extension of the classroom. All school rules apply to bus riders. Students shall follow rules of safety required for bus riders.
- Students will observe proper behavior while waiting at bus stop.
- Students must ride their assigned bus unless a written request from their parent/guardian is submitted to the principal for approval. Bus drivers may advise principal or designees if he/she feels request may cause a problem for him/her or student(s) assigned to ride that bus.
- The bus stop area is considered an extension of school property.

J10 SCHOOL COMPUTERS

- Do not access, upload, download, or distribute pornographic, obscene or sexually explicit materials.
- Do not transmit pornographic, obscene, abusive or sexually explicit materials, or “stalk” or harass others.
- Do not use the network to violate local, state or federal statutes.
- Do not vandalize, damage or disable or “hack” the files of others. Creation of a “virus” is considered vandalism.
- Do not access the files, information, or software of others without prior authorization.
- Do not upload, download or otherwise use copyrighted material or other intellectual property of others without prior authorization. Copyright violations can result in fines or imprisonment.
- Do not purchase any goods or services through any on-line service.
- No food, candy or gum will be allowed in a computer lab or computer classroom.

RULE K. FIGHTING

Level does not rise to the level of Battery.

RULE L. BATTERY

Student knowingly or intentionally touches another person in a rude, insolent, or angry manner causing or intent to cause bodily injury. I.C. 35-42-2-1

RULE M. INTIMIDATION/THREAT

Communicating a threat with the intent that the other person engage in conduct against their will or be placed in fear of retaliation. This includes threatening another student, threatening a school employee, and making threats on the computer or phone.

RULE N. VERBAL AGGRESSION OR PROFANITY

RULE P. DEFIANCE

Failing to comply with directions of teachers or other school personnel during any period of time when the student is properly under their supervision, where the failure constitutes an interference with school purposes or an educational function.

Failing to stop fighting when asked to stop by school personnel.

Failing to consent to a search when asked to do so by a school administrator.

Continuously and intentionally making noise or acting in any manner so as to interfere seriously with the ability of any teacher or any other school personnel to conduct the education function under their supervision.

SEARCH

- A. As used in this section, “reasonable cause for a search” means circumstances which would cause a reasonable person to believe that the search of a particular person, place, or thing will lead to the discovery of:
1. evidence of a violation of school rules contained in the student handbook;
 2. anything which might present an immediate danger of physical harm or illness to any person.
- B. All lockers and other storage areas provided for student use on school premises remain the property of the school corporation and are provided for the use of the student. Lockers are subject to inspection, access for maintenance, and search pursuant to this section. No student shall lock or otherwise block access to any locker or storage area except with a lock provided by or approved by the principal of the school in which the locker or storage area is located. Unapproved locks shall be removed and destroyed.
1. The principal, or principal’s designee may search a locker and its contents at any time.
 2. The principal, or a member of the administrative staff, or a teacher may search a desk or any other storage area on school premises at any time.
- C. Student searches are only conducted by the principal or principal’s designee.
1. Searches of the student shall be limited to:
 - a. Searches of the pockets of the student, and/or;
 - b. Any object in the possession of the student such as a purse or backpack, and/or;
 - c. A “pat down” of the exterior of the students clothing.
 2. Searches of the person of a student which require removal of clothing other than shoes, socks, coat or jacket shall be referred to a law enforcement officer. Searches of a student shall be conducted in a private room by a person of the same sex as the student being searched. At least one but not more than three additional persons of the same sex as the student being searched shall witness but not participate in the search.
- D. Driving a motor vehicle to school is a privilege. The principal or principal’s designee may search a motor vehicle on or near school property, or which has been driven to a school event, if the principal or principal’s designee has reasonable cause for the search.

CITIZENSHIP RATING (High School Only)

The citizenship rating is a prerequisite for participation in those school activities that exist under state or national charters which require citizenship ratings and for election or selection to positions such as those of class officers, student council officers, kings, queens, and courts of athletic events, and school-selected representatives for community recognition, and other school activities as designated by school principal/designee. The student must possess the rating to qualify for selected honorary positions. To serve in the above elected positions, the student must possess the rating the entire semester of election, for the semester prior to election, and while serving in the position.

REASONS FOR LOSING CITIZENSHIP RATING

- Suspension or expulsion from school
- Second assignment for In-School Suspension
- Second assignment to Saturday School
- *Six lates

- *Three periods of truancy
 - Citizenship rating may be revoked or restored by the principal or designee for justifiable reason.
- * Reinstatement of citizenship rating requires the student make an appeal to the principal and satisfactorily complete an approved community service project during the grading period the student lost the rating.
- * Reinstatement of the citizenship rating automatically occurs at the beginning of each semester.

PARENT/STUDENT RIGHTS IN IDENTIFICATION, EVALUATION, AND PLACEMENT

The following is a description of the rights granted by federal law to students with handicaps. The intent of the law is to keep you fully informed concerning decisions about your child and to inform you of your rights if you disagree with any of these decisions.

You have the right to the following:

1. Have your child take part in and receive benefits from public education programs without discrimination because of his/her handicapping condition.
2. Have the school district advise you of your rights under federal law.
3. Receive notice with respect to identification, evaluation, or placement of your child.
4. Have your child receive a free appropriate public education. This includes the right to be educated with non-handicapped students to the maximum extent appropriate. It also includes the right to have the school district make reasonable accommodations to allow your child an equal opportunity to participate in school and school-related activities.
5. Have your child educated in facilities and receive services comparable to those provided non-handicapped students.
6. Have your child receive special education and related services if she/he is found to be eligible under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), and/or general education interventions/modifications outside of special education under Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act.
7. Have evaluation, educational, and placement decisions made based upon a variety of information sources and by persons who know the student, the evaluation data, and placement options.
8. Have transportation provided to and from an alternative placement setting at no greater cost to you than would be incurred if the student were placed in a program operated by the district.
9. Have your child be given an equal opportunity to participate in nonacademic and extracurricular activities offered by the district.
10. Examine all relevant records relating to decisions regarding your child's identification, evaluation, educational program, and placement.
11. Obtain copies of educational records at a reasonable cost unless the fee would effectively deny you access to the records.
12. A response from the school district to reasonable requests for explanations and interpretations of your child's records.
13. Request amendment of your child's educational records if there is reasonable cause to believe that they are inaccurate, misleading, or otherwise in violation of the privacy rights of your child. If the school district refuses this request for amendment, it shall notify you within a reasonable time and advise you of the right to a hearing.
14. Request mediation, grievance, or an impartial due process hearing or appeal related to decisions or actions regarding your child's identification, evaluation, educational program, or placement. The costs for these due process procedures will be borne by the school corporation. You and the student may take part in the hearing and have an attorney represent you. Requests for mediation should be made to the school principal. Requests for grievance, hearing, or appeal should be made to the Chief Academic Officer.
15. Request a review (appeal) of the hearing should you not prevail.
16. Ask for payment of reasonable attorney fees if you are successful on your claim.

VIOLATION, OR REPEATED VIOLATION, OF ANY SCHOOL RULE IS GROUNDS FOR DISCIPLINARY ACTION INCLUDING SUSPENSION OR EXPULSION. SUSPENDED OR EXPELLED STUDENTS ARE NOT ALLOWED ON SCHOOL CORPORATION PROPERTY, OR AT SCHOOL FUNCTIONS OR ACTIVITIES.

NON-DISCRIMINATION

It is the policy of the Evansville-Vanderburgh School Corporation not to discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, gender, veteran status, national origin, age, limited English proficiency, or disability in its programs or employment policies as required by the Indiana Civil Rights Law (I.C.22-9-1), Title IV and Title VI (Civil Rights Act of 1964), the Equal Pay Act of 1973, Title IX (Educational Amendments), and Section 504 (Rehabilitation Act of 1973).

Questions concerning compliance with these laws should be directed to the Supervisor of Equity and Diversity, Evansville Vanderburgh School Corporation, 1 S.E. Ninth Street, Evansville, IN 47708, phone number 435-8451.

School Rules approved by the Board of School Trustees 04/21/08

EVANSVILLE VANDERBURGH SCHOOL CORPORATION
1 S.E. Ninth Street
Evansville, IN 47708
Phone 435-8453

DISCLAIMER CONCERNING USE OF ON-LINE SERVICES

The EVSC, its employees and agents, make no warranties of any kind, whether express or implied, concerning the on-line access it is providing. Furthermore, the EVSC will not be responsible for:

1. any damages suffered by a user, including but not limited to loss of data resulting from delays or interruptions in service, or computer "viruses";
2. the accuracy, nature, or quality of information stored on diskettes, hard drives or servers provided by the EVSC;
3. the accuracy, nature or quality of information gathered through the on-line access provided by the EVSC;
4. personal property used to access computers, networks or the on-line access provided by the EVSC;
5. unauthorized financial obligations of a student, or his or her parent or guardian, resulting from the on-line access provided by the EVSC.

RULES OF ON-LINE NETWORK ETIQUETTE

1. Be polite. Do not get abusive in your messages to others.
2. Use suitable language. Do not use profanity, vulgarities, sexually-oriented or other inappropriate language.
3. Do not reveal your personal address or phone number, or that of anyone else.
4. Remember that electronic mail messages are not guaranteed to be private. Those who operate the various on lines services have access to all messages and can report to the authorities messages which support illegal activities.
5. Do not use the network in a way that would disrupt the use of the network by others.
6. Assume that all communications, programs, and information which are accessible on-line are private property. As such, do not download any files without prior authorization.
7. Do not upload or download any software unless you're sure its free from any computer virus.

LIST OF PROHIBITED USES OF THE ON-LINE SERVICES

The following uses of any on-line services are prohibited by the EVSC. Moreover, this prohibited activity may be illegal and subject the offending user to criminal prosecution.

1. Do not access, upload, download, or distribute pornographic, obscene or sexually explicit materials.
2. Do not transmit pornographic, obscene, abusive or sexually explicit materials, or "stalk" or harass others.
3. Do not use the network to violate local, state or federal statutes.
4. Do not vandalize, damage or disable or "hack" the files of others. Creation of a "virus" is considered vandalism.
5. Do not access the files, information, or software of others without prior authorization.

6. Do not upload, download or otherwise use copyrighted material or other intellectual property of others without prior authorization. Copyright violations can result in fines or imprisonment.
7. Do not purchase any goods or services through any on-line service.

To all parents and guardians of students in the Evansville Vanderburgh School Corporation:

The Evansville Vanderburgh School Corporation is pleased to offer its students access to the Internet. The Internet is an electronic highway connecting hundreds of thousands of computers and millions of individual users all over the world. This computer technology will help propel our schools through the communication age by allowing students and staff to access and use resources from distant computers, communicate and collaborate with other individuals and groups around the world, and significantly expand their available information base. The Internet is a tool for life-long learning.

Families should be aware that some material accessible via the Internet may contain items that are illegal, defamatory, inaccurate, sexually explicit, or otherwise potentially offensive to some people. In addition, it is possible to purchase certain goods and services via the Internet which could result in unwanted financial obligations for which a student's parent or guardian would be liable.

While the District's intent is to make Internet access available in order to further educational goals and objectives, students may find ways to access other materials as well. Even should the District institute technical methods or systems to regulate students' Internet access, those methods could not guarantee compliance with the District's Acceptable Use Policy. That notwithstanding, the District believes that the benefits to students of access to the Internet exceed any disadvantages. Ultimately, however, parents and guardians of minors are responsible for setting and conveying the standards that their children should follow when using media and information sources. Toward that end, the Evansville-Vanderburgh School Corporation has included with this letter is the District's policy and procedures concerning use of on-line services for your review. The E-VSC also provides parents and guardians with the option of requesting for their minor children alternative activities not requiring Internet use.

NOTICE: This policy and all its provisions are subordinate to local, state, and federal statutes.

