



**A. CROSBY KENNETT MIDDLE SCHOOL
HANDBOOK FOR 2019-2020**

176 Main Street, Conway NH

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Greetings from the Principal

As we begin the 2019-20 school year, I would like to welcome you and enlist your support in making this a great year. Your experiences at A. Crosby Kennett Middle School will help to build a better future for you, for your classmates, and for other members of our community.

All members of our community need to develop working relationships with each other. Your safety and the efficient use of time and materials depend upon you understanding the policies and procedures that we use in the school each day. With this in mind, we are providing you with a Student Handbook. The handbook contains information on scheduling and services as well as information on students' rights and responsibilities.

YOU are responsible for the information in the handbook. Please read it carefully and discuss it with your parents or guardians. Please ask questions if you are unclear about any of this information.

Let's make the 2019-20 school year a great one at A. Crosby Kennett Middle School. Together, we build an excellent learning community. Please let me know how I can help you in this regard.

Mission Statement

Our mission is to develop a community in which students and staff are respectful and responsible and in which all members are valued and provided with opportunities for meaningful learning.

Core Values

What we believe

- Students will be active participants in academic, artistic, and athletic pursuits within a healthy community.
- Students will work productively with a variety of people and respect their differences.
- Students will make good choices regarding their learning and personal wellness.
- Students will take responsibility for contributing to a safe and caring environment.

Student Rights

All students at A. Crosby Kennett Middle School have the following rights:

1. The right to have ideas and feelings respected.
2. The right to have a quiet and orderly place in which to learn.
3. The right to personal safety.
4. The right to have individual and personal belongings protected.
5. The right to have questions answered in a timely fashion.

Student rights are for the protection of you and the entire student body to ensure everyone's right to an education. School rules must be obeyed at all times when you are under the supervision of the school. This includes behavior on buses, field trips, at dances, athletic events, and all other school-related activities.

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Faculty Roster

Mr. Rick Biche, Principal

Mr. Allan, Social Studies
Mrs. Allan, Essential Skills
Ms. Andrews, Reading
Mr. Bowen, Language Arts
Mrs. Burns, Receptionist
Mr. Carleton, Instrumental Music
Mrs. Carey, Language Arts
Ms. Chalmers, Science
Mrs. Crowley, Reading
Mr. Cullen, Technology Technician
Ms. Derse, LBM
Ms. Dowe, Family & Consumer Science/Health
Mrs. Dziedzic, Administrative Assistant
Ms. Foye, Learning through Connections
Mrs. Frankel, Science
Mr. Hardt, Technology Education
Mr. Goodwin, Mathematics
Mrs. Gould, Special Education

Ms. Gustafson, Librarian
Mrs. Jeffrey, School Nurse
Ms. Kucera, Paraprofessional
Mrs. Livingston, Mathematics
Ms. Lorusso, Science
Ms. Lucy, Art
Mrs. McAllister, Family Support Liaison
Mrs. Ouellette, Music and Chorus
Ms. Palma, Social Studies
Mrs. Panno, Paraprofessional
Mrs. Pilarcik, Reading
Mr. Richard – Physical Education
Mrs. Shaw, Athletic Coordinator
Ms. Smith, Computer Technician
Mr. Thompson, Mathematics
Mrs. Thornton, Guidance Counselor
Mr. Van Rossum, Language Arts
Mr. Weeder, Social Studies

Calendar

August 29	First Day of School		
September 2	Labor Day	January 20	Martin Luther King Jr. Day
October 3	Early Release for Students	February 17 - 21	February Vacation
October 4	Teacher Workshop Day	March 19	Early Release for Students
October 14	Columbus Day	March 20	Teacher Workshop Day
November 11	Veteran's Day	April 27 - May 1	Spring Vacation
November 27 - 29	Thanksgiving Recess	May 15	Early Release for Students
December 23 -	Holiday Recess	May 25	Memorial Day
January 1		June 15	Last Day of School for
January 17	Early Release for Students		Students if no make-up and Early Release

Daily Expectations

Schedule

School starts promptly at 7:45. Walkers, and pickups are dismissed at 2:35. Busses are dismissed at 2:45.

We use an alternating block schedule. Students will see half of their classes on a black day and the other half on a white day. In the event of school cancellation the schedule will pick up with the missed day when students return. The order of the blocks rotates weekly to allow students to be in classes at different times of day.

Regular School Day

7:45 – 8:15	Homeroom/RED/Band/Chorus
8:15 – 9:00	Block 1
9:00 - 9:45	Block 2
9:45 - 9:55	Break
9:55 - 10:40	Block 3
10:40 - 11:25	Block 4
11:25 – 11:50	Lunch A
11:25 - 11:55	Advisory B
11:50 - 12:20	Advisory A
11:55 - 12:20	Lunch B
12:20 - 1:05	Block 5
1:05 - 1:50	Block 6
1: 50 - 2:35	Block 7

Attendance Procedure

A note or a telephone call from home is required for all absences. A parent/guardian may call the office at 447-6364, to leave a message, or write a note indicating your name, date of absence, reason, and parent signature. Excused absences include those caused by personal illness, family crisis or exceptional circumstances approved by the principal or principal's designee. Examples of unexcused absences are truancy, babysitting, shopping, haircuts, running errands, etc.

Planned Absence from School

We encourage all family vacations to be planned during school vacation times. Many classroom experiences cannot be replicated. If you are going to be absent for one or more days for a vacation or family outing, you must pick up an Excused Absence Form from the office. The form must be signed by each teacher and returned to the office with a note from a parent at least five school days prior to the absence. Arrangements for make-up work will be your responsibility. You should make these arrangements with your teachers prior to leaving. Some work may be provided in advance, but most will have to be completed soon after returning and time for make-up work will be provided.

Early Dismissal

You must bring a signed note from your parent/guardian to the office before school if you need to be dismissed early. A dismissal slip will be given to you.

Absence Procedure

The purpose of the absence procedure is to ensure that you maintain a good attendance record and comply

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with New Hampshire State Law. The State and the Kennett Middle School community recognize the positive relationship between good attendance and success in our schools. We also understand that some absences are unavoidable and beyond your control. Therefore, these procedures have been developed to ensure you are attending school on a consistent and regular basis.

1. Your parent or guardian should call the office on the morning of each day's absence, whenever possible. Every effort will be made to contact your home on the day of the absence or the next day. If we do not hear from the parent or guardian after two attempts, the absence will be considered unexcused.
2. **After 10 consecutive or 20 total days absence**, a conference will be held with you, your parents/guardians, the Guidance Counselor, and the Nurse. A status report and action plan will be developed and forwarded to the office.

Leaving School Without Permission

Once on school grounds or on a school bus, you are considered to be "in school" and therefore subject to all school regulations. If you leave school grounds after you have arrived in the morning, you will be considered as leaving school without administrative approval. This would include after school as well as sports if you plan to return or take a late bus home. No one may leave school grounds during the day without administrative approval.

Violation of this policy will result in parental contact and consequences will range from detention, social restriction, superintendent or school board referral, and/or notification of outside legal or social agencies. There is no progression of consequences for this behavior and even initial violations can result in the most serious repercussions.

Tardy Procedure

The purpose of our tardy procedure is to develop the importance of responsibility and punctuality. We feel this is an important lesson for you to learn. However, we acknowledge that sometimes circumstances are beyond your control. These procedures are meant to help prepare you for both high school, as well as your life beyond school, and therefore, are designed as an intermediate step between your experience at elementary school and the practices used at Kennett High School.

You are on time for school if you are in homeroom by the start of school at 7:45 am. If you are tardy to school, you will wait in the reception area until you are issued a tardy slip. If you are tardy, you must have either a note from a parent or we must receive a telephone call explaining the reason for each late arrival. The first three (3) tardies of the quarter will be considered excused, no matter what the reason. Starting with the fourth tardy, all tardies will be considered unexcused unless you come with appropriate documentation. A tardy will be excused for health/medical related circumstances and other official appointments (i.e. court appearances) when the attendance office is provided with a note from a medical provider or court documentation upon the student's return to school. All other requests to excuse a tardy will require approval from the principal. After the first three (3) unexcused tardies during a single quarter you will receive a lunch detention. For every three (3) unexcused tardies afterward during a single quarter, you will receive an after school detention. When the quarter changes, the record resets back to zero (0) and you start over.

In order to be considered present for the full day you must be in your homeroom by 7:45 am and remain at school until 2:35 pm.

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Please note that as a student athlete you must be present for a full day the day of any practice, game, or event, in order to participate. You will be considered here for the full day if you meet any of the following:

1. You are actually present for the full day based on the definition above.
2. You are marked Tardy Excused based on the tardy procedure above.
3. You are dismissed and return to school with appropriate documentation.
4. You are dismissed and return for the event with appropriate documentation.

In all other circumstances you will not be considered present for the full day and therefore not allowed to attend the scheduled athletic event that day per Conway School Board Policy IGDK. If you are a student athlete and are marked tardy unexcused, every effort will be made to ensure you are able to contact home by 12:30 that day to inform your family of your situation.

Suggestions for habits that will get you to school on time:

1. Get a good night's sleep. While the exact time will vary from person to person, a bedtime with lights out and no electronics between 9:00 pm and 10:00 pm would usually allow you to get enough sleep and get up between 5:00 am and 6:00 am. Putting your phone away at least a half hour before bedtime and relaxing with family, or reading, will help your body shift into a rest mode.
2. Lay out clothes and pack anything that can be packed the night before. Trying to find where you left your shoes, or binder, or deciding what to wear in the morning can be tough. Get ahead of things by getting it ready the night before.
3. Set an alarm and put it out of reach of your bed. This makes it harder to shut the alarm off and roll over. Also, don't use your phone as an alarm clock. The temptation to check your phone might be too hard to resist.
4. Remember that you are most likely not the only one at your house who has some place to be in the morning. Begin to develop the skills necessary to get yourself ready on time so others can get themselves ready also.
5. Take the bus. The buses are always here on time. If for some reason one is late, you are automatically excused for being tardy.
6. Remember the phrase that says "On time means ten minutes early." The idea is that the extra ten minutes gives you time to be sure you are ready to start your day, whether at school or at work (yes, that is coming soon for most of you!). It also creates a little flexibility if you are delayed for some reason.
7. If you are being dropped off, remember that it will take you a few minutes to walk around the building and up to homeroom so plan for that time. Also remember, since we have buses your parent, guardian or family member doesn't have to drop you off, so show them you are grateful and thank them each day for taking the time to bring you in.
8. Build physical activity into your day, every day. That doesn't mean that you need to tire yourself out each day, although that doesn't hurt. Being physically active helps to put your internal clock in balance so that you are used to being active by day and resting at night. It will also help to increase your overall health so there are fewer mornings when you wake up feeling less than 100%
9. Lastly, remember that there will be days when you don't feel 100%. That is completely normal and happens to everyone. Unless you are really sick or feverish, you should still set the habit of getting up and getting going. If, at the end of the day, you still are not feeling your best, go to bed early and see what the next day brings!

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Truancy

Truancy is defined as any absence from school that is not authorized or sanctioned by a parent/guardian or the school administration.

First Offense: Two administrative detentions and a conference with your parent or guardian, Guidance Counselor, and Principal

Second Offense: One day Social Restriction for each day of truancy, two administrative detentions and a conference with your parent or guardian, Guidance Counselor and Principal

Beyond this level a parent conference will be held with the administrator and appropriate staff.

Consequences such as additional Social Restriction, superintendent or school board referral and involvement of outside legal and/or social agencies will be considered.

Corridor Passing

You should proceed from class to class in an orderly manner, respecting other students, faculty and school guests. Running, pushing and fooling around will not be permitted. Please do not litter the hallways. When moving through the corridors, do so quietly as other students may be in class. You must have a pass to be in the halls unless it is between class periods. A few basic rules are necessary in the hallways and on stairways: keep to the right, walk, refrain from activities that disrupt the flow of traffic or delay the passage between classes, and watch out for students using their lockers. Students should only use designated stairways or corridors.

Academic Requirements

Homework Policy

Homework serves an important function in the learning process, allowing you time to practice skills you have not yet mastered. Generally you should expect to receive homework assignments each day. Some assignments require reading and others require writing.

You should also plan to spend time studying and reviewing material for mastery of the subject content and allow for adequate preparation for assessments. Plan ahead. Long term reports or projects should not be left to the last minute. Budgeting or organizing your time is one skill you should develop during your middle school years.

All assignments are posted in classrooms and online each week. It is your responsibility to maintain an accurate record in your assignment book.

R.E.D. Time

Read Every Day (R.E.D.) time is after homeroom each day. This 25 minute block is for students and staff to be reading a book of his/her choosing. It is expected that all are actively engaged in reading. This is not the time to do homework or make-up work. It is recommended that students read the equivalent of 25 200-page books per year.

Advisory

Advisory meets from one to multiple days each week depending on the time of year. This will be an opportunity to develop connections with other students, review and reflect on your academic progress and set goals for your learning.

Flex Time

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This block of time is for individualized instruction or enrichment. Students are placed or can choose sections based on their prioritized needs. These needs are determined based on assessment and performance data .

Class Preparation

You are expected to be prepared for class. Successful students are those who come to class prepared with the necessary tools. You will need a 3-ring binder, paper, pencils, erasers, pen, and assignments due for each of your classes. Some of your teachers may require additional materials.

Staying After School

Only students who are in detention, have an appointment with a classroom teacher, are participating in the sports program, or are involved in a supervised activity may remain at Kennett after 2:45 P.M. Students must be under direct supervision by an adult after school. You may not leave the school grounds in the afternoon and then return to take a late bus. (See section on Leaving School Without Permission)

Program of Studies

The following courses are required for 7th grade students:

Language Arts	Art
Mathematics	FACS
Science	Health
Social Studies	Music
Reading	Physical Education
	Technology

The following courses are required for 8th grade students:

Language Arts	Art
Mathematics	FACS
Science	Health
Social Studies	Music
Spanish I/Reading	Physical Education
	Technology

Elective courses for both 7th and 8th graders: Band Chorus

Eighth graders who complete a high school class, such as Algebra I or Spanish I, may qualify for high school credit if the student passes the Kennett local summative assessment.

School Property

Property borrowed by you or issued to you by A. Crosby Kennett Middle School is YOUR responsibility. If your school property is damaged or lost you must pay for repairs or a replacement. Computer repairs outside of normal wear and tear will be made and charged before being returned to the student. These types of repair include but are not limited to screen breakage or damage, key breakage, case breakage, drops, and hinge breakage. Please take good care of everything issued to you, as it will be needed for other students in future years.

Grading

Online Grade Access

Your grades can be accessed at any time through the middle school website (<http://welcomekms.com>). Activation codes are assigned to both students and parents at the beginning of the year. Once you have activated your account, you and your parent can check grades and new assignments. Postings are updated by teachers bi-weekly.

Honor Roll Criteria

The honor roll requirements are based on both academic performance and Habits of Learning in regular and related unified arts classes. Honor roll is determined at the end of the year for both 7th and 8th grade by looking at data based on 8 class blocks. In order to earn Honor Roll students must:

1. Average 3.5 or greater on academic standards for each class block for the year.

AND

2. Average 3.0 or greater on Habits of Learning for each class block for the year.

Make-up Policy

You are responsible to check with your teacher after you have been absent to see what work you owe. Tests, projects, and other school assignments missed as a result of absences from school may be made up. The following time frame should be adhered to in planning make up work after approved absences:

1. One day of make-up will be provided for each day of absence.
2. For absences of four (4) consecutive days or more, special arrangements should be made between the individual teacher and you regarding the date by which work must be completed.

Promotion/Retention Policy

You may be considered for retention if you fail to meet the following requirements:

1. Maintain a pattern of reasonable attendance, behavioral performance, and participation in the middle school program as determined by your team, members of the administration, and teaching support team.
2. Student does not progress beyond a 2 on the majority of the standards in two or more courses.

If you do not successfully complete grade 7 or 8, your records will be reviewed by teams and administrative staff for the purpose of making accurate assessments of your situation. A. Crosby Kennett Middle School maintains a philosophy that retention is not appropriate for all students, often lowering self-esteem and contributing to dropouts. Each of you will be reviewed individually as academic, social, and emotional needs are assessed. Eighth graders who do not meet the requirements for promotion will not be allowed to participate in the Promotion activities.

Summer School

Students who do not successfully complete grade 7 or 8 may be offered the option of completing that grade during summer school. Summer school is offered to students once during their middle school years. It meets three mornings a week for five weeks.

Grading and Report Cards

Our grading system is founded on both rigorous expectations for each and every student, and current research on learning, intelligence and motivation. At the core of our system is an understanding of the knowledge, abilities, and skills required for task performance and mastery. The system is designed for individuals to demonstrate mastery of required tasks through application of both knowledge and reasoning.

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Each course has a set of established standards that describe what students are expected to know and be able to do as a result of completing the course. Rubrics are provided to students that describe and list specific objectives students must master in order to achieve each level of proficiency on our grading scale.

Each course reports grades for each standard assessed during a marking period using a four-point grading scale. Behaviors are separated from academic standards grades and reported as Habits of Learning. Grades are provided at the end of three marking periods as a means of communicating progress. Final standards grades are issued at the end of the year and are based on the best and most recent evidence of level of mastery. Grades from prior marking periods are not averaged.

Academic Content Number Descriptors

- 4 Thorough understanding and application of the standard
I can apply and extend my understanding to new situations
 - 3 General understanding and application of the standard
I can demonstrate my understanding with minimal guidance
 - 2 Partial understanding and application of the standard
I have an emerging understanding but need support and practice
 - 1 Minimal understanding and application of the standard
I have a limited understanding of the skills and content
- ENE Exposure no evidence
NYA Not Yet Assessed

Habits of Learning

Responsibility
Self-Advocacy
Perseverance and Effort
Respect
Citizenship
Organization

Habits of Learning Number Descriptors

- 4 Consistently meets expectations independently
- 3 Consistently meets expectations with minimal guidance
- 2 Inconsistently meets expectations
- 1 Does not meet expectations

Cheating and Plagiarism

A. Crosby Kennett Middle School attempts to create and maintain an educational community that is conducive to learning. Although grades are one evaluative tool to assess your growth and achievement, they should not be the primary reason you attend class.

Referencing Work

You may incorporate someone else's work into your projects provided that you give credit to the original source. If other's work is not referenced, it will be considered plagiarism.

Cheating is any form of intellectual dishonesty or misrepresentation. Cheating is presenting material produced by others as your own work or permitting others to present your work as theirs.

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Cheating has occurred:

- When a student turns in the work of another student or represents it as his or her own work.
- When a student knowingly permits another student to turn in his or her own work.
- When several students collaborate on an assignment (without the teacher's knowledge) and each student represents the work of the group as their own.

- When a student steals or obtains a test (or any assessment material), answer key, or other testing information from the teacher's files.
- When a student steals or obtains another student's work.
- When written material is used in a test situation without the teacher's permission.
- When a student copies the work of another person without giving appropriate credit.

If cheating occurs, the following steps will be taken not solely as a punitive measure, but to educate you in the appropriate procedures. The steps would be as follows:

1. The assignment cannot be used as evidence of learning towards a standard.
2. Depending upon the extent of the cheating, a conference may be held with the Team Leader and Principal.
3. Your parent/guardian will be notified.
4. If you continue to cheat, further consequences will occur.

Forgery

Students who represent themselves as someone else in writing or electronically will be considered as a forger. They will face disciplinary action.

Internet Use

All students, along with their parent/guardian, will be required to sign an agreement before using the Internet. Passwords should never be shared or given out and can be reset if needed.

It is the policy of the Conway School District to ensure that all Internet/online searches conducted by staff or you are accomplished with the same ethical and responsible behavior required of other media searches. Policies already established regarding responsible use of equipment, materials and learning resources apply. Inappropriate use of the Internet will result in loss of privilege. Use of non-academic apps or programs, games, or other non-approved material could result in additional disciplinary action.

Dances

Only KMS seventh and eighth graders are invited to school dances. Dances run from 6:30 to 8:30 P.M., and are held in the school cafeteria. If you are absent from school the day of a dance, you may not attend the dance unless you have prior permission from the Principal. Exceptions will not be made unless the circumstances of the absence are approved by the administration prior to the dance. Late arrivals must be accompanied to the door by a parent/guardian. You will not be allowed into the dance after 7:00 P.M. unless prior arrangements have been approved by the administration. Appropriate and polite behavior is expected at all school functions, including dances.

You are expected to adhere to the school dress code at dances. Any coats or bags brought to the dance will be secured in the teachers' room. Anyone who presents a discipline problem or fails to follow dance rules

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will be asked to leave the dance immediately. Anyone who leaves prior to the end of the dance must be picked up by a parent or guardian, unless other arrangements have been made with the administration. No one who has left the dance early may re-enter. Students who exhibit irresponsible school behavior or have been suspended in the previous month will not be permitted to attend.

Emergency Procedures

We hope there will not be a fire in our school, but precautions must be taken to guarantee your safety. You will be notified by your classroom teacher at the beginning of the school year of the proper exit path in the event the fire alarm sounds. You are to exit the building with your teacher in a quiet and orderly manner. No one is to re-enter the building until notified to do so by a school administrator. During an emergency requiring a lock-down, you are retained in the classroom.

During an emergency all students must follow drill protocols. All school rules apply (no cell phone use, etc.) during the emergency. Once the emergency is concluded students will return to regular school rules, protocols, and privileges.

The building may be locked down for medical emergencies. Students and staff should listen for announcements for further instructions.

Reunification – There may be a situation where we must evacuate the premises to another school or building. If this occurs, parents will be notified by our school-wide messaging system and further instructions will be given. Parents should not contact the school.

Field Trips

You must submit a signed parental consent form prior to participating in any field trip experience. There may also be grade level or all-school field trips throughout the year. When appropriate, teacher's permission and signature must also be obtained to ensure you have met all responsibilities in the classroom. You may be denied the privilege of participating in a field trip if these requirements have not been fulfilled. This also applies to other extra-curricular activities such as sports and performances. Recent discipline may also affect a student's privilege in participating in field trips or sporting events.

Throughout the year teams may plan team field trips. All students are expected to participate in the planned activities. Special concerns should be communicated to the Team Leader or office. All school rules and policies will be enforced while on the field trip.

Food Services

Breakfast and hot lunch are available at Kennett. Everyone has an assigned lunch period. We recognize that nutrition is an important part of making healthy choices. We encourage you to make good food choices at breakfast and lunch.

You are expected to behave in an orderly and polite manner in the cafeteria. Lunchtime rules will be explained at the beginning of the school year. You are asked to practice rules of good table manners such as respect your fellow classmates and school property, leave the table and surrounding area clean and orderly, deposit trash in the proper containers, and not leave the dining area while still eating. You should leave the cafeteria in the morning at 7:35 to go to class.

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All students are eligible to participate in the breakfast and lunch program. Free and reduced breakfast and lunch are available to students whose family meets the Federal Income Guidelines. Free and Reduced Lunch Applications are sent home with all students at the beginning of the school year and are available at any time during the year.

Free and Reduced Lunch Program

In accordance with federal regulations, the school district shall make available to all children of low economic means and children of moderate income families experiencing financial difficulties free or reduced priced lunches through the School Lunch Program in the local school. Parents/guardians who believe their children are eligible must complete an application. Parents/guardians may appeal a negative determination to the Superintendent of Schools. The only means of determining the children who are receiving free or reduced price lunches would be through the school office. This information will be confidential and the children will remain anonymous. We encourage all students who are eligible to apply.

Meal Charge Policy

Policy DFI

The Conway School District (“District”) encourages all parents and guardians (“parents”) to provide a healthy breakfast and lunch for their student(s). Parents are welcome to send students to school with a “brown bag/lunch box” meal. The District provides the opportunity to purchase breakfast and lunch, as well as a la carte items, from the school cafeteria. Each meal meets or exceeds federal nutrition standards. Payment is expected no later than when the meal is served. Payment may be in cash, check or as a debit against funds deposited into an established school lunch account.

Student Meal Accounts

The District uses a point-of-sale computerized meal payment system that has an account for all students. Parents of students who will be purchasing meals using this system are required to establish and maintain a positive balance in the student’s meal account. Funds may be deposited into a student lunch account by cash, check or on-line payment. Checks should be made out to Conway Food Service Program. The Conway School District utilizes EZSchoolpay.com for electronic payments. To access this option, you will need your student’s ID number, which is available from his or her school office. There is a fee of \$2.50 per deposit for adding funds using a debit or credit card. There will be no processing fee for deposits made to a student meal account made by cash or check.

A fee of \$25.00 will be charged to the parents for each check returned for insufficient funds. In accordance with RSA 358-C:5, notice of the fee charged for a check that is returned for insufficient funds shall be included in any letter sent to a parent seeking payment because the student meal account has a negative balance.

Parental Restrictions on the Use of Student Meal Accounts

Parents are responsible for establishing with their student any restrictions the parent chooses to place on

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the account. Unless restricted by the parent, a student may purchase a la carte items in addition to the regular meal choices. Students may purchase more than one meal at one sitting, as well as snacks. Parents must monitor the student's use of the meal account to ensure that a sufficient balance is available at all times for the student to purchase meals. (Parents may access information about their student's lunch account by logging on to EZSchoolpay.com.)

The District's policy is to ensure that all students have access to healthy meals and that no student will be subject to different treatment from the standard school meal or school cafeteria procedures. Therefore, the District allows students to purchase a meal, even if the student's meal account has insufficient funds. This policy's provisions pertain to regular school breakfast and lunch meals only. Students may not borrow money to pay, nor will schools permit use of the meal fund, for a la carte lunch items. Federal policy prohibits the withholding of meals from a child as a form of discipline. The Superintendent shall develop regulations and procedures to support this policy.

Balance Statements

The District will work proactively with parents to maintain a positive balance in their student's meal account. The Superintendent or designee shall establish a procedure at each school requiring that a notice be sent to parents whenever the balance in a student's meal account falls into a negative balance.

The notice will be sent by email when practical, otherwise by a note in a sealed envelope with the student. Only those District staff who have received training on the confidentiality requirements of the federal and state law, including the U.S. Department of Agriculture's ("USDA) guidance for school meal programs, and who have a need to access a child's account balance and eligibility information may communicate with parents regarding unpaid meal charges.

The District recognizes that unexpected financial hardships occur and will work with parents in this circumstance to limit the amount of accumulated debt.

Free and Reduced Lunch Program

The District participates in the federally supported program to provide free or reduced priced meals to student from families whose economic circumstances make paying for meals difficult. Income guidelines for eligibility are based on family size and are updated each year by the USDA. The District will ensure parents are informed of the eligibility requirements and the application procedures for free or reduced cost meals as well as the requirements of this policy.

Parents shall be provided with a copy of this policy and an application for free or reduced cost meals annually at the start of the school year, upon enrollment or transfer during the year. Information regarding free and/or reduced lunch applications as well as this policy will be a component of all notices sent to parents seeking payment to correct a negative balance in the student meal account. The policy and links to application materials for the free or reduced price meal program will be posted on the school website and made available to parents at each school.

As required by the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and USDA guidelines, parents with Limited English Proficiency ("LEP") will be provided with information on this policy and the free and reduced price meal program in a language the parents can understand.

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Students Without Cash in Hand or a Positive Account Balance

Regardless of whether a student has money to pay for a meal or a negative balance in the student meal account, a student requesting a meal shall be provided with a meal from among the choices available to all students. The only exception will be where the student's parents have provided the District with specific written direction that the student not be provided with a school lunch program meal, the student has a meal from home or otherwise has access to an appropriate meal. It is the parents' responsibility to provide their student with a meal from home or to pay for school prepared meals.

If a student with a negative balance in his or her meal account seeks to purchase a meal with cash or check, the student will be allowed to do so. There is no requirement that the funds be applied first to the debt.

Initial efforts to contact parents will be by e-mail or phone, however if those efforts are unsuccessful, letters to parents may be sent home in sealed envelopes with the student. Should the student's meal account balance fall below zero, a balance statement requesting immediate payment shall be sent to parents no less than once each week.

If the student's meal account balance debt grows to \$25.00 or more, a letter requesting immediate payment shall be sent by US mail to the parent, or the parent shall be contacted by the Food Service Director or Principal/designee by phone or in person. Where warranted, the Principal may arrange a payment schedule to address current meal consumption and arrearages while the school continues to provide the student with meals.

If the student's meal account debt grows to \$50.00 or more parents will be requested to meet with the school Principal or designee. When appropriate, the Principal or designee should explore with the parents whether an application for free or reduced cost meals is warranted. Where extenuating circumstances of financial hardship exist and the family is not eligible for free or reduced cost meals, the District will work with the parents to identify and engage governmental and charitable resources that are available to assist the family.

If the Principal determines that the best available information is that the parents are able to pay for the expenses of the student's meals and the parents decline to cooperate with resolving the debt in a timely manner, the Principal shall send a letter to the parents directing them to have their student bring meals from home and cease using the school meal program. The student may resume using the school meal program when a positive account balance is restored. If the student continues to use the school meal program without a positive balance, a second letter shall be sent to the parents using certified mail.

If the parent refuses to provide payment to address the negative balance in a student's lunch account, the Superintendent or designee may pursue payment through civil legal action, including filing a claim in small claims court pursuant to RSA Chapter 503. The Superintendent is delegated authority to assess the likelihood that claim action will lead to payment, the resources required to pursue collection, and to pursue such action only when doing so is in the best interest of the District. If a student who has been determined to be ineligible for free or reduced cost meals or whose parents have refused to complete an application for free or reduced cost meals is consistently not provided with meals either through a meal sent from home or the payment for a meal through the school meal program, the Principal will assess whether a report of child neglect is warranted to the New Hampshire Department of Health and Human Services, Division for Children, Youth, & Families, as required by RSA 169-C:29-31

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If at the end of the fiscal year uncollected debt in student meal accounts must, as a last resort to fulfill federal requirements, be paid to the school meal program from other District funds, the parents' debt for unpaid meal charged shall be owed to the District. Any payments collected on debt that has been offset with District funds shall be credited to the District. All debt collection efforts shall comply with RSA Chapter 358-C, New Hampshire's Unfair, Deceptive or Unreasonable Collection Practices Act.

Staff Enforcement of Policy/Training A copy of this policy and refresher training shall be provided annually to all food service and school staff responsible for serving student meals or enforcing this policy. New staff with those responsibilities shall be provided with a written copy of the policy and training on the policy during their initial training/orientation. In accordance with federal requirements, all trainings shall be documented.

Students with Special Dietary Needs Nothing in this policy prohibits providing an appropriate meal to a student with special dietary needs such as, but not limited to, diabetes, provided those needs have been documented in a health plan, Sec 504, or IEP. If the meal is medically required, and the student has a negative student meal balance, or does not have cash to purchase the meal, the necessary dietary needs will be met.

Nondiscrimination It is the District's policy that in the operation of child feeding programs, no child will be discriminated against because of race, sex, color, national origin, age, or disability. 7C.F.R. 245.5(a)(1)(viii).

Adopted by the Conway School Board – December 12, 2011 Revision Adopted – November 9, 2015
Revision Adopted – July 10, 2017

Overdue Lunch Account Procedures

1. The food service department will send out weekly reminders to parents regarding students who have a negative balance on their lunch accounts via email, phone call or note home with the student in a sealed envelope.
2. The food service director will communicate with building principals on a monthly basis. If a student's account reaches a negative balance of \$25.00, the Food Service Director or Principal will call the parent, documenting the dates and times of the call, or send a letter using U.S. Mail. The principal may work with the parent to establish a payment plan if appropriate.
3. If the account exceeds a \$50.00 balance, the principal or designee will request a meeting with the parent. When appropriate, the Principal or designee should explore with the parents whether an application for free or reduced cost meals is warranted. Where extenuating circumstances of financial hardship exist and the family is not eligible for free or reduced cost meals, the District will work with the parents to identify and engage governmental and charitable resources that are available to assist the family.
4. If the Principal determines that the best available information is that the parents are able to pay for the expenses of the student's meals and the parents decline to cooperate with resolving the debt in a timely manner, the Principal shall mail a letter to the parents directing them to have their student bring meals from home and cease using the school meal program.

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The student may resume using the school meal program when a positive account balance is restored. If the student continues to use the school meal program without a positive balance, a second letter shall be sent to the parents using certified mail.

5. If the parent refuses to provide payment to address the negative balance in a student's lunch account, the Superintendent or designee may pursue payment through civil legal action, including filing a claim in small claims court pursuant to RSA Chapter 503. If a student who has been determined to be ineligible for free or reduced cost meals or whose parents have refused to complete an application for free or reduced cost meals is consistently not provided with meals either through a meal sent from home or the payment for a meal through the school meal program, the Principal will assess whether a report of child neglect is warranted to the New Hampshire Department of Health and Human Services, Division for Children, Youth, & Families.

USDA Non-Discrimination Statement

In accordance with Federal civil rights law and U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) civil rights regulations and policies, the USDA, its Agencies, offices, and employees, and institutions participating in or administering USDA programs are prohibited from discriminating based on race, color, national origin, sex, religious creed, disability, age, political beliefs, or reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity in any program or activity conducted or funded by USDA.

Persons with disabilities who require alternative means of communication for program information (e.g. Braille, large print, audiotape, American Sign Language, etc.), should contact the Agency (State or local) where they applied for benefits. Individuals who are deaf, hard of hearing or have speech disabilities may contact USDA through the Federal Relay Service at (800) 877-8339. Additionally, program information may be made available in languages other than English.

To file a program complaint of discrimination, complete the [USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form](#), (AD-3027) found online at: [How to File a Complaint](#), and at any USDA office, or write a letter addressed to USDA and provide in the letter all of the information requested in the form. To request a copy of the complaint form, call (866) 632-9992. Submit your completed form or letter to USDA by:

- (1) mail: U.S. Department of Agriculture
Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights
1400 Independence Avenue, SW
Washington, D.C. 20250-9410;
- (2) fax: (202) 690-7442; or
- (3) email: program.intake@usda.gov.

This institution is an equal opportunity provider.

Resources for Students

Health Office

A nurse is available to you from 7:30 to 2:45. The nurse's primary responsibility is to administer emergency first aid and to counsel you in the areas of personal health and hygiene. If you become ill

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during the school day, you should request a pass from the classroom teacher to go to the nurse. The nurse will make a determination if the illness necessitates you being dismissed from school and will contact your parent or guardian. If the nurse is not available, you are to report to the office. **You should not call home for dismissal** without first visiting the nurse or the main office so that (s)/he may make a determination regarding your needs.

If you require medication during the school day, your parent must deliver the medication to the nurse in the original container. Students may not carry medications in or to school and must be delivered by the parent/guardian. Epipens and inhalers should be carried by the student at all times; a Permission for Prescription Medication Form must be completed by both the parent/guardian and the prescribing medical professional. The medication procedures adopted by the Conway School Board shall be followed. If needed, contact the nurse for more information.

There may be times when a student should meet with the school nurse before returning to class, such as following an injury or illness that may require special considerations. If a student is hospitalized for any reason, the parent shall contact the nurse to discuss any modifications or treatments as it relates to school.

Blood Borne Pathogen Safety Policy

Blood borne pathogens are disease-causing microorganisms that may be present in human blood. They may be transmitted with any exposure to blood or other potentially infectious materials. To minimize exposure to blood borne pathogens there are two strategies of prevention. These strategies are used in combination to offer you maximum protection.

1. Do not come into contact with blood or other body fluids.
2. If you come in contact with blood or other body fluids, you must exercise the universal precautions. This is a standardized approach. Wash hands with soap and warm water as soon as possible following contact.

Accidents

You should report any accident or injury occurring during school or at a school-sponsored activity to the activity advisor or teacher in charge, and to the school nurse.

Insurance

The Conway School District provides limited accident insurance for all students. This policy covers all activities within the school day and school sponsored extra-curricular activities and events. Additional coverage can be purchased at the beginning of the school year at modest rates to the parent/guardian.

NOTE: This is not a comprehensive accident insurance policy. This basic insurance is designed to supplement existing family policies.

Library

The Kennett Library is the center for resources in our school. Students are encouraged to consult with our librarian for assistance in regards to finding interesting leisure reading materials, completing research assignments, using computer technology and other research needs. The library contains books, periodicals, reference materials, newspapers, videos, DVD and audiotapes as well as Internet access. Students may use the library individually or in small groups with permission and a pass from their teacher or in a classroom setting. The library functions as a place for quiet reading, book check-out, studying and research. The library is open Mondays and Wednesdays through Fridays from 7:00 to 2:45, and Tuesdays

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from 7:20 to 2:45.

Lockers

You will be assigned a locker at the opening of school. You may be issued a school lock that must be used at all times. Replacement of a lost lock is \$5.00. A locker should be locked at all times. The school is NOT responsible for personal or school property missing from your locker. The school reserves the right to open and inspect lockers at any time. Non-school issued locks will be removed.

Lost and Found

Items found on school grounds or in the school building should be turned in to reception. If you are missing something, please check with reception. Unclaimed items will be donated to a local charity after 30 days.

School Services

Guidance Services

The guidance program offers a counselor who is here to help you with such services as ongoing personal and group counseling, crisis counseling, scheduling, referral process for special needs, and coordination of appropriate programming for incoming seventh graders and new students. Parents/guardians can feel free to make appointments with the Guidance Counselor by calling the school during school hours.

If you have a disability or medical condition that impacts your ability to learn, you may be eligible for a 504 plan. A 504 plan outlines accommodations that can be made within a classroom but does not require specialized instruction that is provided through special education services. Questions regarding this process should be addressed through the guidance department.

Special Education Services

The Special Education Program at Kennett is designed to provide individualized educational placements for students who are educationally handicapped. A range of educational programming is available, from full-time special education placement to supportive assistance for regular classes.

Your eligibility for this program is determined by the Pupil Evaluation and Placement Team, consisting of you, your parent or guardian, regular and special education teachers, guidance counselor, and school administrator. Each student involved in the Special Education Program will have an Individual Education Plan detailing his/her educational needs and specifics of the program in which he/she is involved.

If you are experiencing difficulties learning in school, you should discuss your concerns with your parent/guardian, your team of teachers, and/or guidance counselor. They will be able to assist you in determining whether you should be referred for individual evaluation and possible special education placement. Your parent/guardian may also make a referral directly by contacting the Special Education Department. Further information is available from the Special Education Department.

English as a Second Language Services

English as a Second Language support services are provided for limited English speaking students. The instruction includes in-class and out-of-class help with oral skills, reading, and writing. The ESL teacher uses interpreters and translators, if they are necessary, to help students and their parents understand enrollment forms, permission slips, and student report cards. Interpreters may also be used at parent/teacher conferences.

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School-Wide Messaging

Occasionally our school-wide messaging system will be used to get information to parents, guardians, or students. The system will be used in the event of cancellations, delayed openings, and early release situations. It is also recommended that you listen to local radio and television stations as well. We will use the home telephone number provided at the beginning of the school year unless otherwise indicated. Be sure to notify us of any change of telephone numbers.

Telephone Use and Messages

Telephones are available for student use in designated team rooms. Students needing to use the telephone during or at the end of the school day should seek permission from a team teacher. In case of an emergency you may use the reception telephone. Occasionally it is necessary for a parent to get a very important or emergency message to their child. The office is extremely busy during the school day and can only get messages to students on serious matters. Messages will be taken from a parent/guardian only. Cell phone use is not allowed during school hours. Students may use cell phones after dismissal.

Website

Our school website is www.welcomekms.com. Welcomekms.com is your portal to our online environment. Through Welcomekms.com you can:

- Obtain current school news and events
- Connect to our online grade reporting system
- Connect to team and class websites
- Find descriptions of programs
- Download needed forms
- Contact staff
- View exemplary student work
- Find fresh, new and interesting educational information

Extra-Curricular Activities

Eligibility Requirements for Participation

You must maintain a majority of grades at or above a “2”. Students with a majority of grades below a “2” in two or more classes will be ineligible for participation in interscholastic competition during the next progress report term. See the KMS Athletic Code for specific details on eligibility.

Interscholastic Sports

Interscholastic sports will be offered to all eligible students. Check with the Athletic Facilitator for more information.

Fall

Cross Country
Field Hockey
Football
Soccer

Winter

Boys’ Basketball
Girls’ Basketball
Skiing - Nordic and Alpine

Spring

Baseball
Softball
Track

Art Club

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Art Club is a group of students who are interested in pursuing artistic expression outside of the classroom setting. Art Club meets regularly and often has a year-end, culminating field trip.

Bioneers

The Bioneers are outdoor, science, agriculture and environmental enthusiasts. Students in this club meet weekly to explore the areas around the school including the fields, river, agricultural land and forest. This club gets outside all year and often has other extended day field trips to local areas of interest.

Builders Club

Builders Club is a service organization that is affiliated with Kiwanis Club. The club meets regularly to complete community service projects.

Drama Club

Drama Club is open to any 7th or 8th grade student and no prior acting experience is required. Two shows are performed during the year: one in the fall and one in the spring. Performances include short skits and one-act plays.

Mountain Biking Club

The Mountain Biking club offers students an opportunity to get out and ride on the trails adjacent to the middle school during the fall. This after school club is open to everyone. If you are in need of a bike or helmet let the office know so that they can try to find one for you to use on club days.

Student Council

Student Council is the primary means through which students influence their school community. Elected student representatives, in consultation with faculty advisors, coordinate school activities and events. Meetings are held weekly.

Behavioral Expectations

Cutting Class

If you are not in the class that you are assigned to, and you have not been dismissed, you will be considered to be cutting class. Cutting class will result in an office detention. If there is a second offense of cutting class, consequences will range from detention to suspension.

Backpacks and Large Bags

Backpacks and bags that do not fit in your desks are to be kept in your locker for the day. If your classes do not have storage area in the desks, the items are to be kept in your locker.

Bicycles and Skateboards

We are concerned about your safety and the safety of your property while you are here at school. We ask that you be responsible for your bike, place it in the bike rack and secure it. The school is not responsible for loss of, or damage to, bicycles. Bicycles are not to be ridden on school property during school hours (7 A.M. to 5 P.M.).

You may ride a skateboard to school but **MAY NOT** ride it on school grounds or in the building. Skateboards are to be locked in your locker during the day.

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Bus Procedure

Since the bus is considered an extension of the school, you are subject to all school rules once you board the bus. Additionally, you are responsible for following school bus rules as designated by each school district and the State of New Hampshire. These may include but are not limited to the following:

1. You must keep the aisle clear at all times.
2. You must remain seated while the bus is moving and until the bus stops.
3. You must keep your head, hands and arms inside the bus.
4. You must not eat on the bus.
5. You must be courteous and talk quietly with no foul language.
6. You must treat the driver and other students with respect.
7. You must not throw any objects.
8. You must treat the bus and equipment appropriately.
9. You must cross in front of the bus at the driver's signal.

While on the bus you are under the supervision of the bus driver. The bus driver will report incidents of inappropriate behavior to the school immediately by completing a written incident report. Upon a referral, the building principal or administrator may impose any of the following consequences for the first or subsequent offense, depending upon the severity of that offense and the necessity to protect the safety of other students who ride the bus. If at any time you are uncomfortable on the bus you should report this to the bus driver and/or the Principal.

First Incident

The Principal or his/her designee will meet with you. You will be assigned consequences depending upon the nature and severity of the incident. Consequences can range from a warning, detention, bus privilege suspension, or more. The bus driver or Transportation Coordinator will be informed of the status of the incident within 24 hours and each day thereafter until consequences are determined.

Second Incident

The principal will hold a meeting with you and your parent or guardian. Bus privileges will be suspended for up to 20 days.

Third Incident

The Principal will refer you to the superintendent and the school board with the recommendation of removal of transportation/bus privilege.

Late Buses

When a 4:45 P.M. late bus is provided and you stay after school to meet with a teacher or participate in an extra-curricular activity or athletic practice/event you must obtain a late bus pass from your teacher, club advisor or coach in order to ride the late bus. Check with the driver for the exact route as it is different than the regular route.

Transferring Buses

When you need to ride a different bus or get off at a different stop, you must bring a note (phone calls are not permitted) from your parent or guardian. Notes must be turned in by lunch time. The receptionist will issue a bus pass to you to present to the bus driver.

Appeals

Appeals of administrative decisions must be made within 24 hours; however, the original decision will remain

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in effect pending an appeal.

Discipline

The school is a community with rules and regulations. Those who enjoy the rights and privileges it provides must also accept the corresponding responsibilities including respect for and compliance with school rules. In order to ensure a high quality school climate, the Conway School District will not tolerate any disruption of the learning environment. Discipline will be just and uniform. Students who are disruptive will be removed so others can learn.

Lunch Detentions

Lunch detentions help students to learn from and correct minor infractions of school rules. Students serving lunch detention will eat in an area separated from their peers. Lunch detentions may be assigned by teachers or the administration. Failure to serve a lunch detention will result in an Administrative Detention.

Administrative Detentions

Administrative detentions are held after school on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Detention will be served on the next detention day. Administrative detentions will be kept on file in your discipline folder and reviewed periodically. Failure to serve an assigned detention will result in further disciplinary consequences.

Detentions assigned by classroom teachers and teams will be scheduled by the classroom teacher and served with that teacher in a timely manner. Twenty-four hours notice will be provided so that you may notify parents/guardians of your detention obligation. You may stay the same day for detention if your parent/guardian has been notified. Failure to serve teacher detention will result in an Administrative Detention.

Social Restriction (In-School Suspension)

A student may be placed in Social Restriction for a number of reasons. The area is an intermediary step between detention and external suspension. Students who are assigned Social Restriction will remain in the area at all times throughout the day. Students are not allowed to converse and will be working at all times.

Suspension

A student may be suspended externally for periods of one to five days for inappropriate behavior. Longer periods of suspensions may be imposed in special circumstances in consultation with the superintendent. Due process rights, as described in the New Hampshire RSA's will be afforded all students.

Causes for immediate suspension would be those of the following nature: Any physical force or threat by a student to a member of the staff or other student; any student who initiates a fight, or, when faced with an alternative to fighting, becomes involved in a fight; possession or use of fireworks, firearms, or weapons; violation of the Substance Abuse Policy; any obscene, insubordinate or defiant action toward any member of the staff.

Appeals Process

Any student or parent/guardian of a student who has been suspended for two or more days has the right to appeal that suspension to the superintendent. A student who has exhausted all administrative appeals may then appeal to the Conway School Board. During the appeal process the student will retain the right to attend school unless his/her presence would cause a danger to staff, students or the orderly operations of the school. If the suspension is not overturned, it shall begin the day after the student has been officially notified. All appeals must be made in writing to the superintendent within 24 hours of notification of suspension.

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Dress Code

Concern for personal appearance is an indication of self-respect and of courtesy toward others. The following list details what can be worn during the school day. Failure to comply with the dress code will be treated as insubordination. If a student is not sure if something may or may not be worn, he/she should check with a faculty member or administrator before wearing it to school.

Overall Expectations for All Students:

- All students are expected to be neat and clean.
- All should be modestly dressed in attire appropriate to the classroom. (Modesty means that no stomachs, breasts, buttocks, backs, or underwear should be showing.) This should be true when climbing stairs, sitting at a desk, as well as standing. Garments should not be transparent or sheer, without a dress code appropriate garment underneath.

Shirts, Blouses, Tops, Dresses:

Acceptable

- Full button down or polo style shirt, buttoned, sweaters, sweatshirts, turtlenecks, jersey dress shirts, or T-shirts
- Appropriate fit and adherence to modesty as previously defined
- Covers midriff – must be "tuckable" in length
- All tops must be held up by some type of supportive strap or sleeve that holds up the top as well as covers any and all undergarments
- All tops must be tight under the armpit
- Free from writing or graphics deemed offensive or in violation of school policy

Unacceptable

- Sheer (see-through) material
- Low neck lines (cleavage)
- Shirts that hang low under the armpit
- Visible undergarments
- Holes, rips, tattered, unsanitary clothes
- Tube tops and camisoles

Pants/Skirts/Shorts/Dresses:

Acceptable

- Dress/khaki pants, jeans, cargo pants, corduroy, shorts and skirts must be modest as previously defined and fall no shorter than mid-thigh.
- Appropriate fit
- Free from offensive writing or graphics of any kind

Unacceptable

- Visible undergarments, sheer material
- Pants/skirts/shorts worn lower than the hips
- Unsanitary clothes
- Holes and rips above mid-thigh
- Sweat pajamas

Shoes:

- Foot apparel must be worn at all times for safety purposes. For safety reasons, school administrators will use their discretion in prohibiting anything that interferes with safety.

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Accessories:

- Hoods, hats, and sunglasses cannot be worn in any building unless it is attire required as part of a specific program or curriculum.
- No materials that could pose a safety hazard including, but not limited to chains, spiked clothing and accessories.

Other Issues:

- Gang-related apparel, including insignias, bandanas, colors, mottos, or symbols, is considered inappropriate for school attire and is prohibited. School administrators have the authority to prohibit any other messages that they determine to be disruptive to the school's learning environment.
- At school-sponsored events, students must dress appropriately.

Electronic Use

All students will be assigned a Chromebook to be used at school only. Any damage will be the responsibility of the student, and restitution must be made. Any inappropriate internet use, such as games or searches, could result in the loss of the computer privilege. There will be no photography or videoing in school. Cell phones are banned during school hours.

Fighting Policy

A person shall not act or behave in such a manner that could cause or threaten to cause physical injury to another person. This includes verbal or written threats to another person's personal property or relatives. Any student who initiates a fight, or, when faced with an alternative to fighting, becomes involved in a fight, will receive an immediate suspension. Behavior, such as fighting, that may endanger the safety of others may result in being immediately removed from school until the Administration is assured that the behavior will not continue.

Food and Drink Policy

The only thing which students or staff may drink during class is water. No food is allowed in classrooms, library, or the gym unless it is being used as an education tool. Do not bring coffee, soda or energy drinks to school. They will be confiscated and thrown away.

Gang Activity

It is the policy of the District that membership in secret fraternities or sororities, or in other clubs or gangs not sponsored by established agencies or organizations, is prohibited. Gangs that initiate, advocate, or promote activities which threaten the safety or well-being of persons or property on school grounds or which disrupt the school environment are harmful to the educational process.

The use of hand signals, graffiti, or the presence of any apparel, jewelry, accessory, or manner of grooming which, by virtue of its color, arrangement, trademark, symbol or any other attribute which indicates or implies membership or affiliation with such a group, presents a clear and present danger to the school environment and educational objectives of the community and are forbidden.

Incidents involving initiations, hazing, intimidation, and/or activities of such group affiliations which are likely to cause bodily danger, physical harm, or personal degradation or disgrace resulting in physical or mental harm to students are prohibited.

Any student wearing, carrying, or displaying gang paraphernalia, or exhibiting behavior or gestures which symbolize gang membership, or causing and/or participating in activities which intimidate or affect the attendance of another student will be subject to disciplinary action, including suspension and expulsion.

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Principals may provide in-service training in gang behavior and characteristics to facilitate staff identification of students at-risk and promote membership in authorized school groups and activities as an alternative.

Profanity

Use of profanity/swearing will result in disciplinary consequences based on the language used. It may range from a detention to internal suspension. Use of profanity/swearing at a staff member will result in one day External Suspension. Any subsequent offense directed at a staff member will result in a three day External Suspension.

Prohibited Items

The following items are prohibited from school and should be left at home:

1. All items consistent with the Substance Abuse Policy
2. Electronic games, playing cards, collectible cards or any other materials that are not school related

Student use of electronic games (online, computer based, or portable), music playing devices, cell phones, laser lights, and other electronic and non-academic materials inside the school or in any class is prohibited. These devices are to be kept in locked lockers during the school day. Students using such devices in school for non-academic purposes, or displaying them, will have the items confiscated and returned at the end of the school day. Disciplinary consequences will result on the 2nd and subsequent offenses and parents will be notified. Cell phones may be used after dismissal.

Searches

The School Board attempts to provide a safe and healthy educational environment for all students. Therefore, the Board has authorized student conduct codes to limit anti-social behavior on the part of students. The administrators are charged with implementing effective, appropriate, preventive, and disciplinary measures to assure a good learning environment.

The lockers, desks, furniture, and equipment in the school are considered property of the school district; therefore, the Principal or designated administrator has the right to inspect and search any part of the school at any time.

Persons on school property or participating in school activities are subject to search and may have their backpacks, book bags, handbags, or other similar items, including but not limited to vehicles driven or parked on school property, searched by the school Principal or designee when there is reasonable suspicion that the search will turn up evidence that the individual has violated, or is violating, either the law or school rules. The administration will develop guidelines for implementation of this policy including procedures for those who refuse search until proper law enforcement authorities can be summoned.

The use of “sniffer” dogs trained for the identification of illegal substances will be permitted in the school to inspect the premises upon request by the building administrator or superintendent and with approval of the superintendent. Such inspection shall be conducted by a qualified law enforcement agency and the Principal or designated building administrator shall accompany the law enforcement officer.

Students who refuse to be searched and/or leave the premises to avoid a search will receive the same consequences they would have received had they been found to be in possession of the intended search items.

Pupil Safety and Violence Prevention Policy (Bullying)

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I. Statement Prohibiting Bullying or Cyberbullying of a Pupil

The Board is committed to providing all pupils a safe and secure school environment. This policy is intended to comply with RSA 193-F. Conduct constituting bullying and/or cyberbullying will not be tolerated and is hereby prohibited.

Further, in accordance with RSA 193-F:4, the District reserves the right to address bullying and, if necessary, impose discipline for bullying that:

- (1) occurs on, or is delivered to, school property or a school-sponsored activity or event on or off school property; or
- (2) occurs off school property or outside of a school-sponsored activity or event, if the conduct interferes with a pupil's educational opportunities or substantially disrupts the orderly operations of the school or school-sponsored activity or event.

II. Definitions (RSA 193-F:3)

Bullying. Bullying is hereby defined as a single significant incident or a pattern of incidents involving a written, verbal, or electronic communication, or a physical act or gesture, or any combination thereof, directed at another pupil which:

- (1) Physically harms a pupil or damages the pupil's property;
- (2) Causes emotional distress to a pupil;
- (3) Interferes with a pupil's educational opportunities;
- (4) Creates a hostile educational environment; or
- (5) Substantially disrupts the orderly operation of the school.

Bullying shall also include actions motivated by an imbalance of power based on a pupil's actual or perceived personal characteristics, behaviors, or beliefs, or motivated by the pupil's association with another person and based on the other person's characteristics, behaviors, or beliefs.

Cyberbullying. Cyberbullying is defined as any conduct defined as "bullying" in this policy that is undertaken through the use of electronic devices. For purposes of this policy, any references to the term bullying shall include cyberbullying.

Electronic devices. Electronic devices include, but are not limited to, telephones, cellular phones, computers, pagers, electronic mail, instant messaging, text messaging, and websites.

School property. School property means all real property and all physical plant and equipment used for school purposes, including public or private school buses or vans.

Any reference in this policy to "parent" shall include parents or legal guardians.

III. Statement prohibiting retaliation or false accusations (RSA 193-F:4, II (b))

False Reporting

A student found to have wrongfully and intentionally accused another of bullying may face discipline or other consequences ranging from positive behavioral interventions up to and including suspension or expulsion.

A school employee found to have wrongfully and intentionally accused a student of bullying shall face discipline or other consequences to be determined in accordance with applicable law, District policies, procedures and collective bargaining agreements.

Reprisal or Retaliation

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The District will discipline and take appropriate action against any student, teacher, administrator, volunteer, or other employee who retaliates against any person who makes a good faith report of alleged bullying or against any person who testifies, assists, or participates in a proceeding or hearing relating to such bullying.

1. The consequences and appropriate remedial action for a student, teacher, school administrator or school volunteer who engages in reprisal or retaliation shall be determined by the Principal after consideration of the nature, severity and circumstances of the act, in accordance with law, Board policies and any applicable collective bargaining agreements.
2. Any student found to have engaged in reprisal or retaliation in violation of this policy shall be subject to measures up to, and including, suspension and expulsion.
3. Any teacher or school administrator found to have engaged in reprisal or retaliation in violation of this policy shall be subject to discipline up to, and including, termination of employment.
4. Any school volunteer found to have engaged in reprisal or retaliation in violation of this policy shall be subject to measures up to, and including, exclusion from school grounds.

Process to Protect Pupils from Retaliation

If the alleged victim or any witness expresses to the Principal or other staff member that he/she believes he/she may be retaliated against, the Principal shall develop a process or plan to protect that student from possible retaliation.

Each process or plan may be developed on a case-by-case basis. Suggestions include, but are not limited to, re-arranging student class schedules to minimize their contact, stern warnings to alleged perpetrators, temporary removal of privileges, or other means necessary to protect against possible retaliation.

IV. Protection of all Pupils (RSA 193-F:4, II (c))

This policy shall apply to all pupils and school-aged persons on school district grounds and participating in school district functions, regardless of whether or not such pupil or school-aged person is a student within the District.

V. Disciplinary Consequences for Violations of This Policy (RSA 193-F:4, II(d))

The district reserves the right to impose disciplinary measures against any student who commits an act of bullying, falsely accuses another student of bullying, or who retaliates against any student or witness who provides information about an act of bullying.

VI. Distribution and Notice of This Policy (RSA 193-F:4, II(e))

Staff and Volunteers

All staff, students, and parents will be provided with a copy of this policy annually. The Superintendent may determine the method of providing the policy (employee handbook, hard copy, etc.).

VII. Procedure for Reporting Bullying (RSA 193-F:4, II(f))

At each school, the Principal shall be responsible for receiving complaints of alleged violations of this policy.

Student/Parent Reporting

1. Any student who believes he or she has been the victim of bullying should report the alleged acts immediately to the Principal. If the student is more comfortable reporting the alleged act to a person other than the Principal, the student may tell any school district employee or volunteer about the alleged bullying.
2. Any parent who believes his/her child has been the victim of bullying should report the alleged acts immediately to the Principal. If the parent is more comfortable reporting the alleged act to a person other than the Principal, the parent may tell any school district employee or volunteer about the alleged bullying.
3. Any school employee or volunteers who witnesses, receives a report of, or has knowledge or belief that

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bullying may have occurred shall inform the Principal as soon as possible, but no later than the end of the school day.

4. Upon receipt of a report of bullying, the Principal shall commence an investigation consistent with the provisions of Section XI of this policy.

Staff Reporting

1. An important duty of the staff is to report acts or behavior that they witness that appears to constitute bullying.

2. Any school employee or volunteers who witnesses, receives a report of, or has knowledge or belief that bullying may have occurred shall inform the Principal as soon as possible, but no later than the end of the school day.

3. Upon receipt of a report of bullying, the Principal shall commence an investigation consistent with the provisions of Section XI of this policy.

VIII. Procedure for Internal Reporting Requirements (RSA 193-F:4, II (g))

In order to satisfy the reporting requirements of RSA 193-F:6, the Principal or designee shall be responsible for completing all New Hampshire Department of Education forms and reporting documents of substantiated incidents of bullying.

IX. Notifying Parents of Alleged Bullying (RSA 193-F:4, II(h))

The Principal shall report to the parents of a student who has been reported as a victim of bullying and to the parents of a student who has been reported as a perpetrator of bullying within 48 hours of receiving the report. All notifications shall be consistent with the student privacy rights under the applicable provisions of the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974 (FERPA).

X. Waiver of Notification Requirement (RSA 193-F:4, II (i))

The Superintendent may, within a 48 hour time period, grant the Principal a waiver from the requirement that the parents of the alleged victim and the alleged perpetrator be notified of the filing of a report. A waiver may only be granted if the Superintendent deems such a waiver to be in the best interest of the victim or perpetrator. Any waiver granted shall be in writing.

XI. Investigative Procedures (RSA 193-F:4, II (j))

Upon receipt of a report of bullying, the Principal shall, within 5 school days, initiate an investigation into the alleged act. If the Principal needs more than 10 school days to complete the investigation, the Superintendent may grant an extension of up to 7 school days. In the event such extension is granted, the Principal shall notify in writing all parties involved of the granting of the extension.

XII. Response to Remediate Substantiated Instances of Bullying (RSA 193-F:4, II(k))

Consequences and appropriate remedial actions for a student or staff member who commits one or more acts of bullying or retaliation may range from positive behavioral interventions up to and including suspension or expulsion of students and dismissal from employment for staff members.

Consequences for a student who commits an act of bullying or retaliation shall be varied and graded according to the nature of the behavior, the developmental age of the student, and the student's history of problem behaviors and performance. Remedial measures shall be designed to correct the problem behavior, prevent another occurrence of the problem, protect and provide support for the victim, and take corrective action for documented systematic problems related to bullying.

XIII. Reporting of All Incidents to the Superintendent (RSA 193-F:4, II(l))

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The Principal shall forward all reports of bullying to the Superintendent upon completion of the Principal's investigation.

XIV. Communication With Parents Upon Completion of Investigation (RSA 193-F:4, II(m))

Within two school days of completing an investigation, the Principal will notify the students involved, and their parent, in person of his/her findings and the result of the investigation.

XV. School Officials (RSA 193-F:4, II(n))

The Superintendent of schools is responsible for ensuring that this policy is implemented.

XVI. Use of Video or Audio Recordings in Student Discipline Matters

The District reserves the right to use audio and/or video recording devices on District property (including school buses) to ensure the health, safety and welfare of all staff, students and visitors. Placement and location of such devices will be established in accordance with the provisions of Policies EEAA and EEAE.

In the event an audio or video recording is used as part of a student discipline proceeding, such video may become part of a student's education record. If an audio or video recording does become part of a student's education record, the provisions of Policy JRA shall apply.

Sexual Harassment

I. Purpose

Every student in SAU #9 should feel safe at all times when at school and everyone should understand that harassment will not be tolerated in any form. The purpose of this policy is to maintain a learning environment that is free from sexual harassment and violence, or other improper or inappropriate behavior that may constitute harassment as defined below.

Any form of sexual harassment or violence is strictly prohibited. It is a violation of this policy for any student to harass another student through conduct or communication of a sexual nature as defined by this policy. It is a violation of this policy for any student to be sexually violent toward another student.

The District will investigate all complaints, either formal or informal, verbal or written, of sexual harassment or sexual violence and will discipline any student who sexually harasses or is sexually violent toward another student.

II. Sexual Harassment/Sexual Violence Defined

Sexual harassment is defined as unwelcome sexual advances, requests for sexual favors, sexually motivated physical conduct or other verbal or physical conduct or communication of a sexual nature when:

1. Submission to that conduct or communication is made a term or condition, either explicitly or implicitly, of obtaining or retaining employment, or of obtaining an education; or
2. Submission to or rejection of that conduct or communication by an individual is used as a factor in decisions affecting that individual's employment or education; or
3. That conduct or communication has the purpose or effect of substantially or unreasonably interfering with an individual's employment or education, or creating an intimidating, hostile or offensive employment or education environment.

Sexual harassment may include, but is not limited to:

1. Verbal harassment and/or abuse of a sexual nature;
2. Subtle pressure for sexual activity;
3. Inappropriate patting, pinching or other touching;
4. Intentional brushing against a student's body;

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5. Demanding sexual favors accompanied by implied or overt threats;
6. Demanding sexual favors accompanied by implied or overt promises of preferential treatment;
7. Any sexually motivated unwelcome touching; or
8. Sexual violence that is a physical act of aggression that includes a sexual act or sexual purpose.

III. Reporting Procedures

Any student who believes he or she has been the victim of sexual harassment or sexual violence should report the alleged act(s) immediately to a school district employee. That employee shall then report the allegation immediately to an appropriate District official, as designated by this policy. The District encourages the reporting student to use the report form available from the Principal of each building or available from the Superintendent's office.

A. In each building, the Principal is the person responsible for receiving oral or written reports of sexual harassment or sexual violence. Upon receipt of a report, the Principal must notify the Superintendent immediately without screening or investigating the report. If the report was given verbally, the Principal shall reduce it to written form within 24 hours and forward it to the Superintendent. Failure to forward any sexual harassment or sexual violence report or complaint as provided herein will result in disciplinary action. If the complaint involves the building Principal, the complaint shall be filed directly with the Superintendent.

B, District-Wide. The Board designates the Superintendent as the District Human Rights Officer to receive any report or complaint of sexual harassment and sexual violence. If the complaint involves the Superintendent, the complaint shall be filed directly with the School Board. The District shall post the name of the Human Rights Officer in conspicuous places throughout school buildings, including a telephone number and mailing address.

C. Submission of a complaint or report of sexual harassment or sexual violence will not affect the student's standing in school, grades, assignments, or right to attend school and receive an education.

D. The use of formal reporting forms provided by the District is voluntary. The District will respect the confidentiality of the complainant and the individual(s) against whom the complaint is filed as much as possible, consistent with the School District's legal obligations and the necessity to investigate allegations of sexual harassment and sexual violence and take disciplinary action when the conduct has occurred.

IV. Investigation and Recommendation

The Human Rights Officer, upon receipt of a report or complaint alleging sexual harassment or sexual violence shall immediately authorize an investigation. The investigation may be conducted by District officials or by a third party designated by the School Board. The investigating party shall provide a written report of the status of the investigation within 10 working days to the Superintendent. If the Superintendent is the subject of the complaint, the report shall be submitted to the School Board.

In determining whether alleged conduct constitutes sexual harassment or sexual violence, the District should consider the surrounding circumstances, the nature of the sexual advances, relationships between the parties involved and the context in which the alleged incidents occurred. Whether a particular action or incident constitutes sexual harassment or sexual violence requires a determination based on all the facts and surrounding circumstances.

The investigation may consist of personal interviews with the complainant, the individual(s) against whom the complaint is filed, and others who may have knowledge of the alleged incident(s) or circumstances giving rise to the complaint. The investigation may also consist of any other methods and documents deemed pertinent by the investigator. Students who are interviewed may have a parent present during the interview.

In addition, the District may take immediate steps, at its discretion, to protect the complainant, students and employees pending completion of an investigation of alleged sexual harassment or sexual violence.

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V. School District Action

- A. Upon receipt of a recommendation that the complaint is valid, the District will take such action as appropriate based on the results of the investigation.
- B. The complainant may appeal the investigation recommendations to the Superintendent (or if the Superintendent is under investigation, appeal is made to the Board).
- C. The result of the investigation of each complaint filed under these procedures will be reported in writing to the complainant by the School District. The report will document any disciplinary action taken as a result of the complaint.

VI. Reprisal

The School District will discipline any individual who retaliates against any student who reports alleged sexual harassment or sexual violence or who retaliates against any person who testifies, assists or participates in an investigation, proceeding or hearing relating to a sexual harassment or sexual violence complaint. Retaliation includes, but is not limited to, any form of intimidation, reprisal or harassment.

VII. Right to Alternative Complaint Procedures

These procedures do not deny the right of any individual to pursue other avenues of recourse, which may include filing charges with the Commissioner of Education, initiating civil action or seeking redress under state criminal statutes and/or federal law.

VIII. Sexual Harassment or Sexual Violence as Sexual Abuse

Under certain circumstances, sexual harassment or sexual violence may constitute sexual abuse under New Hampshire law. In such situations, the District shall comply with said law.

Nothing in this policy will prohibit the School District from taking immediate action to protect victims of alleged sexual abuse.

IX. Discipline

The School District will take such disciplinary action it deems necessary and appropriate, including warning, suspension or immediate discharge to end sexual harassment and sexual violence and prevent its recurrence.

X. By-Pass of Policy

Any individual with a sexual harassment complaint may choose to bypass this Policy and accompanying regulation and proceed directly to: N.H. Commission on Human Rights, at 2 Chenelle Drive, Concord, NH 03301, phone 603-271-2767 or U.S. Department of Health & Human Services, Office for Civil Rights, Region 1, JFK Building, Room 1875, Boston, MA 02203, phone 617-565-1340.

Substance Abuse Policy

The Conway School District is committed to a school environment that is free from use, possession and/or distribution of tobacco, alcohol, and other drugs. For the purpose of this policy, the term drug means any addictive mood and/or body altering substance including, but not limited to, alcohol and substances purported or represented as mood and/or body altering. The Superintendent and administrative staff shall develop procedures to implement this policy.

I. Philosophy

The Conway School District acknowledges that use and abuse of alcohol and other drugs by minors is illegal and can drastically interfere with and impede learning, health, and the fullest possible development of students.

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Furthermore, the New Hampshire Law, RSA 78:12-b, states that no person under 18 years of age shall purchase, use, or possess tobacco products; and New Hampshire Law RSA 169-B:32 permits a juvenile age 12 or older, who is in possession of tobacco products, to be treated as an adult and given a District Court summons. In addition, this policy will include any new state or federal laws as they are enacted. All Conway School District properties are declared to be tobacco, alcohol and drug free areas as designated by the Drug Free Zones Act.

It is in violation of this policy to use, distribute, and/or sell any substances covered by this policy on school grounds or at school functions.

To ensure the safety and well being of the school population, the Conway School District is committed to a comprehensive policy that:

- (1) promotes a school environment free from use, possession, and/or distribution of alcohol and other drugs;
 - (2) encourages prevention, treatment, and educational programs that deal with the underlying causes of substance use and abuse;
 - (3) offers an understanding of the physical, psychological, social, and legal dangers associated with drug use.
- In addition, the Conway School District recognizes the negative impact to the home, school, and community resulting from substance use/abuse; and that the use of drugs can often lead to abuse and dependency. Alcohol and/or other drug dependencies are treatable health problems that are the primary responsibility of the home and community. The school system shares this responsibility; however, the primary obligation to seek assistance and resolve the substance abuse problems rests with the student and his/her parent/guardians.

The purpose of the procedures contained in this policy is to direct the school community with regard to prevention, intervention, discipline, after-care support, and interagency cooperation. It incorporates use by employees as well as students and includes rules for use during the school day, on school property, at extracurricular activities and school functions.

II. Prevention and Education

The purpose of the Conway School District Prevention Program is to provide students and employees with information and activities that promote positive health behaviors and discourage the use of alcohol and other drugs. The District's prevention program shall focus on classroom instruction, guidance, counseling, and school climate. Involvement of parents/guardians and other community members is essential for the success of district prevention activities.

A. Instruction Program

1. All schools, elementary and secondary, will have instructional programs that assist students in making responsible decisions regarding the use of alcohol and other drugs. Current and accurate information on drugs and their effect upon the body is one component of an instructional prevention program. Other components include instruction and skill development related to self-esteem, goal-setting, decision making, understanding feelings, conflict management, problem solving, refusal skills, and the development of communication skills.
2. Staff development will be offered regarding effective intervention and prevention strategies. Up to date substance abuse information will be available to employees.
3. All employees will receive training in how to deal with the effects of drug and alcohol use/abuse including poor school achievement, truancy, delinquency, poor relationships with family, peers and school personnel, and other behavior problems.

B. Guidance and Counseling

School counseling personnel are available to assist teachers with the implementation of classroom drug and alcohol prevention activities. Counselors will work with students individually and in small groups to

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supplement tobacco, drug and alcohol prevention instruction and skill development. Counselors will also work with staff and parents to maximize the prevention efforts of the school. The school counselors may also be used as a community referral source.

C. School Climate

School climate is an important element in the prevention of drug and alcohol use/abuse. Therefore, the District will encourage programs that foster positive school climate and student advocacy of substance abuse prevention. Building level prevention activities will be initiated under the leadership of the building

administrator and supported by staff, students, and parents/guardians. Community organizations will be invited and encouraged to offer their support.

III. Student Intervention

The Conway School District will maintain a student assistance referral team (START) in each school to deal with all substance abuse related referrals. The team(s) shall consist of administration, faculty, special education, guidance, and the school nurse. Separate student and parent/guardian teams may be formed to support and/or advise the core teams.

It is the START team's responsibility to review input and make appropriate referrals. The teams will meet on a regular basis and will be offered in-depth in-service training. All school personnel will receive training concerning specific guidelines for referrals, how and when to refer, and how to properly document a referral.

A. Self Referral

Students who are concerned about their involvement with alcohol and/or other drugs are encouraged to ask their school counselor for assistance. The counselor will first discuss the confidential nature of the counselor/student relationship.

Students may disclose their involvement with alcohol and/or other drugs to another staff person. If they do choose to disclose their involvement to another staff person, that staff person may be obligated to refer the student to a counselor. The staff person will inform the student of that responsibility.

All self referrals will be treated confidentially unless the student's actions present danger to self or others.

Students who are affected by another person's (friend or family member) substance use and/or abuse are also encouraged to make a confidential self referral.

B. Other Referrals

School personnel who suspect that a student is using alcohol or other drugs, or observe changes in academic, social, and/or personal behavior that may be related to the use of alcohol or other drugs, shall refer the student to the student's school counselor.

School personnel who suspect that a student is under the influence of alcohol or other drugs will immediately refer that student to the administration. Students who are found to be under the influence of alcohol or other drugs will be referred to the START team.

The START team shall review the referral and, if appropriate, make recommendations to assist the student in addressing the existing concerns. Recommendations will be communicated to the parents/guardians.

IV. Aftercare/Follow-up

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It is important that students returning to school from a treatment program be given aftercare support. Primary aftercare responsibility rests with the student, parent/guardian and treatment program personnel. School staff will work cooperatively with the student and parents/guardians to facilitate the aftercare plan. Parents/guardians must contact their school counselor before re-entry to school from a residential program. Parents/guardians will provide the student's school counselor and/or school nurse with a copy of after care recommendations of the treatment program.

V. Violations and Procedures

The use, possession, sale, or distribution of alcohol, other drugs, drug paraphernalia or any object utilized as drug paraphernalia in school, on school grounds, busses, or on grounds of any school-sponsored function is a violation of this policy. Unauthorized use or abuse of any over the counter product or prescribed medication,

including substances used as inhalants or used to cause mind or body altering effects, is a violation of this policy.

Over the counter and/or prescribed medicine must be registered with the school nurse who will establish a protocol for dispensing.

Students who suspect violations to this policy should contact any school employee. It is then the obligation of the school employee to immediately refer the information to the school administration.

When the administration has sufficient information to suspect that a probable violation has occurred, the student will be expected to cooperate fully. An administrative designee may be called upon to evaluate the behavior and condition, if necessary. Failure to submit to an independent evaluation will be considered an admission of guilt. The administration reserves the right to inspect a student's belongings, lockers, and vehicles on school property. If a student is to be sent home, a police officer will be requested to be present as the student leaves the building.

A. First Offense

The first offense violation will apply only once in the student's career at each educational level (K-6, 7-8, 9-12). Offenses at the elementary level are dealt with individually by the principal and the Superintendent.

1. Administration will have a hearing with the student involved.
2. Administration shall notify the parents/guardians, inform them of the school's procedures for both first and subsequent offenses and may require an immediate conference.
3. The police will be notified and contraband will be turned over to them. Their response will be guided by state and federal laws.
4. Administration will notify the Conway School Board via the Superintendent or his/her designee.
5. The student will be externally suspended for five days during which time s/he will not be eligible to participate in or attend school functions. Prior to his/her return to school, the student and his/her parent/guardian will meet with the administration to discuss the requirements of reentry.
6. The student will not be allowed to participate in co-curricular activities for 20 school/activity days or until such time as s/he has met with a professional who works with substance use/abuse clients for assessment and demonstrated that s/he has followed recommendations of that professional.
7. An immediate referral will be made to the Student/Teacher Assistance Referral Team (START) for recommendations. The team's recommendations will be communicated to the student and parents/guardians within ten working days of the referral.

B. Second Offense

The second offense violation will apply only once in the student's career at each educational level (K-6, 7-

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8, 9-12). Offenses at the elementary level are dealt with individually by the principal and the Superintendent.

1. Administration will have a hearing with the student involved.
2. Administration shall notify the parents/guardians, inform them of the school's procedures for both first and subsequent offenses, and require an immediate conference.
3. The police will be notified and the contraband will be turned over to them. Their response will be guided by state and federal laws.
4. Administration will notify the Conway School Board via the Superintendent or his/her designee.
5. The student will be externally suspended for ten days during which time s/he will not be eligible to participate in or attend school functions. Prior to his/her return to school, the student and his/her parent/guardian will meet with the administration to discuss the requirements of re-entry.
6. The student will not be allowed to participate in co-curricular activities for a total of 60 school/activity days or until s/he has met with a professional who works with substance use/abuse clients for assessment and demonstrated that s/he has followed recommendations of that professional for a minimum of thirty days.
7. An immediate referral will be made to the START team for recommendations. The team's recommendations will be communicated to the student and parents/guardians within ten working days of the referral.

C. Third Offense and Subsequent Offenses

The third offense violation will apply only once in the student's career at each educational level (K-6, 7-8, 9-12). Offenses at the elementary level are dealt with individually by the principal and the Superintendent.

1. Administration will have a hearing with the student involved.
2. Administration shall notify parents/guardians and request an immediate conference.
3. The police will be notified and the contraband will be turned over to them. Their response will be guided by state and federal laws.
4. Administration will notify the Conway School Board via the Superintendent or his/her designee.
5. The student will be externally suspended until there is an expulsion hearing at the School Board level.

D. Sales and/or Distribution

A student will be considered in violation of this policy if s/he is found in the act of or intent of:

1. selling or distributing alcohol, over the counter product(s) or prescribed medication, including substances used as inhalants or used to cause mind or body altering effects, or drug paraphernalia;
2. selling or distributing a substance purported to be a drug or an object used as drug paraphernalia.

The Conway School District recognizes that the sale of a controlled substance is a serious crime and, therefore, will treat such offenses in the following manner:

1. Administration is notified.
2. Administration will immediately investigate the situation and then call the Superintendent and police department within the same day.
3. Every effort will be made to notify the parents/guardian.
4. The student will be removed from school property.
5. Administration will notify the Conway School Board via the Superintendent or his/her designee.
6. The student will be externally suspended until there is an expulsion hearing.

E. Co-Curricular Codes

Students may be subject to additional codes or consequences regarding participation in co-curricular activities.

VI. Due Process/Appeals

The Conway School District is committed to administering and carrying out the full intent of this policy. In so

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doing, the district will protect the rights of the individual and ensure that all rights of due process will be observed.

A. Due Process

1. The individual will be given a hearing that will involve:
 - a. statement of the charges,
 - b. opportunity to respond,
 - c. statement of consequences.
2. The individual will be given a verbal and written notice of action to be taken.

B. Student Appeal Procedures

Any student who has been suspended from school for five (5) days or more under this policy or their parent/guardian has the right to appeal that suspension to the principal. If the student and/or his/her parent/guardian is dissatisfied with the outcome of the appeal to the principal, they may make an appeal to the Superintendent of schools. A student and/or parent/guardian who has exhausted all administrative appeals may appeal to the Conway School Board. The student will retain the right to attend school during the appeal process, unless his or her presence endangers the welfare of students, staff, or the orderly operations of the school. If the suspension is not overturned, it shall begin the day after the student has been officially notified.

All appeals of suspension must be made in writing within 24 hours of notification of suspension.

VII. Policy Review and Distribution

This policy will be distributed to all students, parents/guardians, at the beginning of every school year. It will be reviewed on an annual basis by the Conway School Board Policy Committee.

Tobacco Products Ban

Use of tobacco products is strictly prohibited in all school facilities and on school grounds. No person shall use any tobacco product in any facility maintained by the School District nor on any of the grounds of the District. "Tobacco products" means cigarettes, cigars, snuff, smokeless tobacco, smokeless cigarettes, products containing tobacco or nicotine, and tobacco or nicotine in any other form.

No student shall purchase, attempt to purchase, possess or use any tobacco product in any facility, in any school vehicle, or anywhere on school grounds maintained by the District. The principal will develop regulations which cover disciplinary action to be taken for violations of this policy. Consequences will range from social restriction to suspension. In addition to disciplinary actions taken by the school, criminal penalties and/or fines may result from violations of this policy. The police department shall be responsible for all proceedings and applicable fines and penalties.

Vandalism Policy

Vandalism is the intentional damaging or destruction of school property or the property of another. Students who vandalize or damage school property or items belonging to someone else will be required to pay for such damages. Acts of vandalism and/or theft of property that occur on school property will have a school consequence as well as be referred to the Conway Police Department. School consequences range from after school detention to suspension, depending on the crime.

Weapons

1. The Conway School Board, cognizant of its responsibilities to provide for a safe and healthy environment wherein students can learn, sets forth and establishes a policy prohibiting dangerous instruments and weapons in school.

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2. No student, staff member, or visitor shall possess upon school premises any dangerous instrument, firearm, dangerous chemical, explosive device, or weapon.
3. Any student, staff member, or visitor possessing any dangerous instrument, firearm, dangerous chemical, explosive device, or weapon will be reported to the local law enforcement officials and to the District Superintendent by the building administrator.
4. For the purpose of this policy, a firearm is any weapon, including a starter gun, which will, or is designed to, or may readily be converted to expel a projectile by the action of any explosive, the frame or receiver of such weapon; any firearm muffler or silencer; or any destructive device.
5. A weapon is defined as any instrument capable of inflicting bodily harm. Included within the definition of weapon, but not intended as a limitation of the definition, are switchblade knives, gravity knives, pilum ballistic knives, cane swords, electronic dart guns, chukka sticks and Kung-Fu stars. The aforesaid enumeration of weapons is not intended to be exhaustive but merely illustrative. Dangerous instruments are defined as items or implements which under the circumstances in which such instruments are used, attempted to be used, or threatened to be used are readily capable of inflicting bodily harm or threat of same.
6. School premises shall mean school grounds, buildings and/or facilities, whether owned by the School District or leased to the School District and shall also include school buses and vehicles parked on the school grounds.
7. An exception to the prohibition set forth in this policy may be made with prior approval and arrangements made with the principal, in an instance where a weapon is part of a dramatic or music performance, or is used as an artifact in an instructional unit.
8. New Hampshire State law enforcement officers are the only individuals permitted upon school premises to have a weapon, dangerous instrument or firearm in their possession.
9. After a hearing pursuant to New Hampshire RSA 193:13, any student having been found guilty of bringing a firearm or dangerous instruments and weapons upon school premises shall, as a penalty, be suspended for a period of one year, provided that the Superintendent, after considering the totality of the circumstances surrounding the offense, and the student's previous record, shall have the authority to modify the one year penalty on a case by case basis. Further, nothing in this policy shall be construed to limit any rights possessed by students classified as disabled.

Appointments with Teachers

Only your parent/guardian may visit a teacher during the workday. Appointments with a team of teachers should be scheduled through the Team Leader during team time. Appointments with individual teachers can be arranged by contacting the teacher directly. Visitors should report to the reception office upon arrival for their conference.

Non-Discrimination

The Conway School Board is committed to a policy of non-discrimination in relation to race, religion, sex, age, national origin, and handicap. In keeping with the requirements of federal and state law, this school district strives to remove any vestige of discrimination in employment, assignment, and promotion of personnel; in educational opportunities and services offered students, in their assignment to schools and classes, and in their discipline; in location and use of facilities; in educational offerings and materials. The Board encourages its staff to improve human relations within the schools and to establish channels through which citizens can communicate their human relations concerns to the administration and the Board.

Residency

For purposes of tuition, you will be considered a resident of the town in which your parent/guardian resides with the following exceptions:

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1. Parent/guardian(s) live apart but are not divorced—residence of the parent with whom child lives
2. Divorce decree granting joint legal custody—residence of the parent with whom child resides
3. One parent awarded sole or primary physical custody—residence of parent with sole or primary physical custody
4. In custody of legal guardian—residence of guardian
5. DCYF is legal guardian—residence where placed by department or court
6. Child placed in a home for children or health care facility by another state which charges New Hampshire—student is not a resident and cannot attend school unless the other state pays

Any changes to your residency or address should be reported promptly to the office. Failure to do so could result in tuition charges to your parent or guardian.

Visitors

Citizens are encouraged to visit the schools and to observe the school program. Persons wishing to meet with a teacher for the purpose of discussing a particular problem shall do so only at a time when it does not interrupt the normal school program. Persons wishing to make such arrangements may do so by securing an appointment with the teacher through the office of the principal or by direct contact with the teacher. No person shall visit a school without first reporting to reception as to the purpose and place of the visit.

Withdrawal Procedure

If you are considering withdrawing from A. Crosby Kennett Middle School, your parent/guardian should contact the Principal's office. The office will provide all necessary forms to you and your parent. The date the completed withdrawal forms are returned to the office is considered your last day of school. The School Counselor will provide the necessary information and act as a liaison for the transition to a new school. Records and information will be released to the new school when all of your obligations to A. Crosby Kennett Middle School have been met.