

Auburn – Washburn School District USD 437
Inspiring and Challenging Every Child, Every Day

Tallgrass Student Learning Center

5740 SW 61st Street Topeka, Kansas 66619

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2010 - 2011

Student Handbook



***Where the Difficult is done immediately,
and the Impossible..... just takes a little longer.***

THIS HANDBOOK BELONGS TO:

NAME: _____ DATE: ____ / ____ / ____

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WELCOME TO YOUR SCHOOL

The staff at the Tallgrass Student Learning Center welcomes you to another new school year. We hope that this year will be educationally profitable for you. We look forward to a great year and to the **wonderful** challenges **to improve yourself** that it will present.

The purpose of this handbook is to acquaint all students, parents, and staff with the basic policies and procedures at this school. Parents, please take the time to go over the handbook with your student. Students are responsible for knowing the contents of their handbooks.

Good luck in your year with us at Tallgrass Student Learning Center. Please let me know if I can do anything to help you have a successful school year.

David Cromer - Principal

STATEMENT OF NON-DISCRIMINATION

The Auburn-Washburn School District, USD #437, does not discriminate against any applicant, employee, or student in the admission or access to educational programs, activities, or employment on the basis of race, color, religion, creed, national origin, marital status, veteran status, gender, age, or the presence of a non-job related medical condition or disability. The Superintendent Designee, 5928 SW 53rd St, Topeka, KS (1-785-339-4000) has been designated to coordinate compliance with nondiscrimination requirements.

DISTRICT OFFICE PERSONNEL: Shuler Education Center 5928 SW 53rd Street Topeka, KS 66610 (785) 339-4000

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Denise Taylor	2632 SW Gainsboro	Topeka	66614	273-4087	tayloden@usd437.net

USD 437's MISSION STATEMENT

The Mission of the Auburn-Washburn School District is to deliver an exemplary, world-class education for all students, instilling in them the knowledge, skills, and character required to be responsible and productive citizens.

USD 437's VISION STATEMENT

The Auburn-Washburn School District will provide all children a safe, enjoyable, and challenging school environment where they have the opportunity to achieve their maximum individual education potential. All students will receive a balanced education where traditional scholastics are taught, creativity and innovation are cultivated, and life skills are learned; preparing them to assume roles as responsible citizens in a global community.

USD 437's CORE VALUES

We believe learning is a lifelong process.
The following values will help realize our Vision:

We believe in the value and uniqueness of each STUDENT.

- * Each Student –
 - has different needs
 - should have the opportunity and be encouraged to reach his/her potential
 - is entitled to a safe and secure school environment

We believe that EXCELLENCE in education is a multifaceted process.

- * Excellence –
 - requires the commitment and judicious stewardship of community resources
 - prepares students to become productive members of a global society; to live and work in a complex, ever changing world
 - should be grounded in fundamental skills
 - is a dynamic process in order to meet changing needs
 - requires rigorous assessment and feedback to both students and faculty
 - requires focus on the future
 - depends upon effectively managed financial and physical resources
 - academic excellence and good citizenship should be recognized and rewarded

We believe that RESPECT and RESPONSIBILITY are essential components of an excellent education.

- * Students, parents, faculty and staff all deserve to be treated with dignity and respect
- * Communication enhances trust and cooperation
- * Each student is responsible for his/her own actions
- * Responsibility for public education rests jointly with students, parents, teachers and community

PROMISE STATEMENT

Tallgrass Student Learning Center

We will provide a safe structured environment in which to build lasting academic achievement and responsible social skills with all students.

SPECIAL EDUCATION ADVISORY COUNCIL (SEAC)

The USD 437 Auburn-Washburn Special Education Advisory Council offers information and resources for students with exceptionalities. The SEAC is comprised of parents, educators and administration working together to build a strong support for students in special education.

STUDENTS ATTENDING TALLGRASS

All students attending the Tallgrass Student Learning Center are officially students of Washburn Rural Middle School if they are 7th or 8th graders, and, are officially students of Washburn Rural High School if they are 9th, 10th, 11th or 12th graders. Each student at the TSLC has an Individual Education Plan (IEP) which states the student's placement is at the TSLC and special education services are being provided at the TSLC. Therefore, students who meet graduation requirements will receive their diploma and transcript from WRHS.

A TSLC student's IEP Team may determine that a student can take a specific class(es) at either the WRMS or WRHS. In this situation, such student must comply and will be held accountable with all the rules, procedures, and expectations in that school's Student Handbook and the school's administration / staff expectations. Of specific note for parents/student are the rules regarding class attendance, grades, and Code of Conduct. These students, and parents, will receive from the TSLC principal the school's (WRHS or WRMS) Student Handbook upon such placement by the IEP Team.

TALLGRASS' OFFICE HOURS

The school's main office is open during school days from 7:30 – 3:30pm. Please feel comfortable contacting the school regarding any question or comment you may have.

TALLGRASS' DAILY SCHEDULE

The school has a seven-period school day. The core academic classes are offered the first five periods of the school day. These core academic classes include reading, math, science, social studies, and English.

During 6th period, all students are enrolled in the course Enrichment and Review (ER). This course focuses on improving each student's math, reading, and writing skills so that each student is prepared for the Kansas Assessments, will reach competent levels of achievement, and be exposed to enriched content learning. Students will also work on academic and behavior goals, anger management, organizational and time management skills, academic learning skills, and social skills.

The 7th period is designed to deliver elective courses for the students. Each elective course offers hands-on learning opportunities, which build upon the content learning and skills within the core curriculum.

TALLGRASS DAILY SCHEDULE	
PERIOD	TIME
Students Check-In	7:30 – 8:00
1st Period (Core Class)	8:00 – 8:55
2nd Period (Core Class)	8:55 – 9:45
3rd Period (Core Class)	9:45– 10:35
4th Period (Core Class)	10:35 – 11:25
5th Period 11:25 – 12:25 (Lunch: 30 min & KS Assessment Tutoring 30 min) 1st Lunch: 11:25 – 11:55 2nd Lunch: 11:55 – 12:25	
6th Period (Thematic Projects)	12:30 – 1:20
7th Period (Practical Arts)	1:25 – 2:50

The TSLC does not have student-passing periods between classes. Students are expected to go to their next class period without delay.

Dedicated Staff of the Tallgrass Student Learning Center

James Bauck – Social Studies Teacher	Connie Swedlund – Para Professional
Myron Stucky – Math Teacher	Bruce Canady– Para Professional
Emily Moore –Language Arts Teacher	Jeremy Stephenson – Para Professional
Nolar Neugebauer – Science Teacher	Dawn Goertzen– Para Professional

Andrea Clifton – School Nurse
 Mary McManus – School Secretary
 David Cromer – Principal

SEVERE WEATHER OR DISASTER

Severe Weather Warning: Students will remain at Tallgrass during a tornado warning, unless a parent comes to the school to take them home. An announcement will be made for a tornado drill or warning. All staff and students are to take cover in the designated areas within the Tallgrass building. Your classroom teacher will give you directions and correct procedures. The principal, or his designee, will inform students and staff when they may return to their classes and other areas.

SEVERE WEATHER – SNOWSTORMS

The decision to close school because of severe weather is made by the superintendent. School closing will be announced over WIBW radio and TV, KSNT-TV, KTKA-TV, and WIBW's Cityline. During inclement weather, calling 339-4000 can access a recorded message containing school closing information.

It will always be the right and privilege of parents to call for children at the school during severe weather, extreme heat, or any other good reason when the pupil's health and safety may be questioned.

EMERGENCY DIRECTORY

LIFE THREATENING EMERGENCIES

Ambulance Service	911
Fire Department (Rescue Squad)	911
Life Star	862-5433
Police Department	911

EMERGENCY SERVICES

Pediatric Urgent Care Clinic	354-6100
St. Francis Hospital - EMERGENCY DEPT.	295-8090
Stormont-Vail Hospital - EMERGENCY DEPT.	354-6100

SUICIDE PREVENTION SERVICES (24 hours)

Shawnee County Mental Health Center	233-1730
Valeo Behavioral Health Care	234-3300

HOSPITALS

St. Francis Hospital & Medical Center	295-8000
Stormont-Vail Regional Medical Center	354-6000
Veteran's Administration Medical Center	350-3111

EMERGENCY HOTLINES

Crimestoppers Hotline	339-4140
Emergency Preparedness	291-4150
Emergency Gas Shutoff - Auburn Gas Co.	256-2426
Emergency Electric Shutoff – Kaw Valley Electric	478-3444
Parental Stress Hotline	267-7277
School Safety (Kansas)	877-626-8203
Youth Hotline	35409254

ENROLLMENT PROCESS AT TALLGRASS

The Tallgrass Student Learning Center (TSLC) provides special education services for students who have severe emotional and/or behavioral disorders. All students attending the TSLC receive special education services and have an Individualized Education Plan (IEP). For students previously placed at Tallgrass, yearly enrollment takes place in August. Students new to Tallgrass will undergo the enrollment process upon placement at the school from their IEP.

Enrollment Fees: All enrollment fees are due at the time of enrollment. A payment plan **must** be signed with the school bookkeeper if the total amount due cannot be paid at enrollment. Any missed payment voids the payment plan and the total amount is due immediately.

Outstanding Fees: A notice of outstanding fees will be mailed to your home at the end of the school year. This notice will be in addition to any other notices parents have received during the school year. If these debts to the school are not taken care of by the parent or student, the school will turn these over to a collection agency.

UNRETURNED OR DAMAGED PROPERTY

Any school property not returned or returned damaged will result in the replacement cost of the item being charged. Any amount not paid after 30 days will be turned over to CheckRite for collection proceedings.

RETURNED CHECKS

Checks returned for any reason are sent directly to CheckRite for collection. CheckRite does add a service fee to the amount of the check. The total amount of the check and service fee may be electronically debited from your checking account by CheckRite.

DISTRICT / BOE POLICY

USD 437 STUDENT ACCEPTABLE USE POLICY

Every student who attends a school in the Auburn-Washburn School District is expected to use technology to conduct research, complete curricular objectives, and communicate with others in the educational world. Electronic information use and research skills are fundamental to preparation of citizens and future employees during this Age of Information.

Access to technology resources enables students to explore thousands of libraries, databases, and electronic resources while exchanging messages with people throughout the world. The Auburn-Washburn School District believes that the benefits to students from the access of electronic information resources and opportunities for collaboration are mandatory in the 21st century.

Access to district technology services include but are not limited to:

1. Internet access
2. Wireless and wired computer access
3. Interactive Distance Learning opportunities
4. E-mail
5. WIKIs and Blogs
6. Electronic blackboards
7. Required local and State testing
8. Computer based instructional programs and curriculum

As a technology user in the Auburn-Washburn School District you should be aware:

1. The District wide-area network is used by staff and student to communicate with others in a manner that is consistent in an educational environment. Student communications using networked resources will be considered publications and be governed by Board Policy regarding Student Publications.
2. Communication using district technology resources should not be considered private. Network supervision and maintenance may require review and inspection of directories or messages. Students are responsible for good behavior when using district technology resources, just as they are in a classroom or a school hallway. Communications on the network are often public in nature. Board Policy that dictates general school rules for behavior and communications applies when using district technology resources.
3. Any user identified as a security risk or having a history of problems with other computer systems may be denied access.
4. Unsupervised student use of any faculty computer in the classroom is prohibited. No user may disclose, use, or disseminate unauthorized personal identification information regarding minors.
5. Use of district technology resources must be in support of educational goals. The district reserves the right to prioritize use and access to the system.
6. Only software (computer programs) legally licensed and owned by the Auburn-Washburn School District may be installed on computers in the school district. This includes lab computers, faculty computers, and office computers. The district technology department will provide a list of educational programs approved for use on all district computers.
7. As mandated by the federal law enacted by Congress to address concerns about access to offensive content over the Internet on school and library computers, the Children's Internet Protection Act (CIPA) was passed. All Internet access provided by the Auburn-Washburn School District is filtered to protect the students and staff in the district from viewing objectionable materials easily. However, the Internet is designed in such a manner that all materials contained within it are accessible using various search and retrieval tools. Inappropriate materials could be encountered during students' research required to achieve valid instructional objectives. Families should be aware that some material accessible over the Internet may contain items that are illegal, defamatory, inaccurate, or potentially offensive to some people. In addition, it is possible to purchase certain goods and services over the Internet which could result in unwanted financial obligations for which a student's parent or guardian would be liable. If such inappropriate material is inadvertently encountered, it shall be disengaged from immediately. Students and teachers will be instructed in the necessary procedures of evaluation of information and resources as part of their ongoing education for life in modern society.

8. Students in the Auburn-Washburn School District may bring wireless devices to school for educational use only. Students using their personal computer on the district wireless network will not have access to any district technology resources such as printers and personal files. Internet access will be available for educational use, but filtered at its most restrictive level.
9. The Auburn-Washburn School District makes no warranties of any kind, neither expressed nor implied, for the technology resources it is providing. The District will not be responsible for any damages users suffer, including--but not limited to--loss of data resulting from delays or interruptions in service. The District will not be responsible for the accuracy, nature, or quality of information stored on District storage devices, hard drives, or servers; nor for the accuracy, nature, or quality of information gathered through District-provided Internet access. The District will not be responsible for personal property used to access District computers or networks or for District-provided Internet access. The District will not be responsible for unauthorized financial obligations resulting from District-provided access to the Internet.
10. This policy and all its provisions are subordinate to Board of Education Policy, local, state, and federal statutes.

All district technology users are responsible for maintaining an environment that is free of malicious, inappropriate or illegal acts, and is conducive to learning. Use of Auburn-Washburn School District technology resources implies the user inherently agrees to abide by this policy. Failing to abide by this policy may result in removal of privileges to access all technology resources, as well as other disciplinary or legal action.

Access to district technology resources may be revoked for abusive or inappropriate conduct. Such conduct would include, but is not limited to:

- Sending or displaying offensive messages or pictures
- Using obscene language
- The placing of unlawful information on or through the computer system
- Harassing, insulting or attacking others
- Damaging computers, computer systems or computer networks
- Violating copyright laws
- Unauthorized installation of software
- Using another's password
- Unauthorized access including "hacking" and other unlawful activities by minors online
- Trespassing in another's folder, work or files
- Deletion, examination, copying, or modification of files and/or data belonging to other users without their prior consent
- Intentionally wasting limited resources
- Using the network for commercial purposes
- Attempt to alter or disrupt the Districts technology services from a remote location.
- Downloading music, videos, and other copyrighted material for personal use
- Using school networks to enter billable areas or purchase or attempt to purchase products/services
- Share confidential information on students or employees

Be advised that loss of computer network privileges may make it very difficult or impossible to satisfy the educational program requirements of some classes. Some examples are:

- Business or Technology classes
- Computer Programming classes
- Classes requiring use of district or Internet databases for research
- Classes requiring district software to create papers, brochures, etc.
- Computer-based instructional programs
- Required local and state testing

STUDENT OPT-OUT POLICY

Parents or guardians may obtain a form to request to opt a student out from using technology resources while at school. The form may be obtained from any school office. After meeting with the principal to review aspects of the child's educational program that will be affected as a result of the child not having access to instructional and assessment technology, the parent may sign the form and return it to the school office. The signed form will be kept on file in the school office.

The building principal shall receive a copy of the signed form so the named student shall be excluded from all access to computer technology. All appropriate staff shall be notified and alternate instructional methods will be implemented where possible.

Opt-out requests shall be required annually and are valid only for the school year in which they are submitted.

DISTRICT - TRANSPORTATION POLICY

The Auburn-Washburn USD #437 Board of Education policy states that transported students are entitled to only one designated pick-up address and one designated drop-off address per student. The pick-up and drop-off locations may be different, but each must remain constant.

Occasionally, your child may need to ride a different bus home to a different location. In this situation, you must send a note of permission with your child to be signed or stamped in the school office. Your child will then give the note to the driver as he/she boards the bus in the afternoon. Phone calls by the student's parent/guardian may be made to the Principal if needed.

If an emergency arises and your child must ride a different bus or get off at a different location on their own route, please contact the school or the Transportation Department at 339-4270 to notify them of the situation. The driver will in turn be notified as to where your child is to be delivered.

The purpose of this policy is to insure accurate accountability of students on the buses. We appreciate your cooperation in understanding and abiding by this policy.

TO CANCEL THE BUS, CALL:

Transportation Department: 339-4050

On-Bus Safety Regulations

1. The driver is in charge of the students. Students must obey the driver promptly.
2. Unnecessary conversation with the driver is prohibited. Do not talk loudly or distract the driver's attention.
3. The driver may assign a specific seat to a student whenever necessary.
4. Keep arms and head inside the bus at all times.
5. Assist to keep the bus clean and free from trash.
6. Any vandalism to the bus will be paid by the offender.
7. Students should never tamper with the controls of the equipment on the bus.
8. Do not throw anything inside the bus or out of the bus windows.
9. Keep books, packages, coats, feet and all other objects out of the aisle. Balloons, large stuffed animals, skateboards, and large objects made in wood or metal shop will not be allowed on the bus.
10. Students are to remain seated while the bus is in motion.
11. Absolute quiet is necessary when approaching a railroad crossing.
12. No glass containers, animals, firearms, explosives or other dangerous objects are permitted on the bus.
13. Smoking and possession of liquor or illegal drugs are prohibited.
14. Students are not permitted to eat or drink on the bus.
15. Musical instruments may be transported on route buses if space is available. Small instruments may be held on the student's lap. Large musical instruments must be placed beside the student either on the floor or on the seat but not directly in front of the student. The bus driver will determine space availability.

DISTRICT - DRUG FREE SCHOOLS POLICY

Maintaining drug free schools is important in establishing an appropriate learning environment for the district's students. The unlawful possession, use, sale or distribution of illicit drugs and alcohol by students on school premises or as a part of any school activity is prohibited. This policy is required by the 1989 amendments to the Drug Free Schools and Communities Act, P.L. 102-226, 103 St. 1928. Approved: KASB Recommendation 7/97; 9/97.

Student Conduct: As a condition of continued enrollment in the district, students shall abide by the terms of this policy.

Controlled substances policy (drugs). USD #437 is committed to the education of every student in drug/abuse awareness and zero substance abuse. USD #437 will enforce the following policy:

1. The possession, use, consumption, distribution or sale of drugs, or intent to distribute or sell drugs (controlled substances as defined by the Uniform Controlled Substances Act, K.S.A. 65-4101 et seq.), the distribution or consumption of non-prescription medicines or drugs that exceeds the manufacturer's recommended dosage on public school property or at public school activities is strictly prohibited.
2. In the event any student violates the controlled substances section of this regulation, such student will be suspended from school immediately for a short term and will be:
 - a. recommended for an extended term suspension from school and all related school activities for possession, use or consumption of drugs, or
 - b. recommended for expulsion from school and all related school activities for distribution and/or sale of drugs, or intent to distribute or sell drugs.
3. Any student who comes onto school property or attends public school activities, having used or consumed substances as defined in paragraph 1 above, will be suspended from school immediately for a short term and will be recommended for an extended term suspension from school and all related school activities.
4. Any punishment, suspension, or expulsion may be deferred by the appropriate Administrative Hearing Officer or Board of Education or their designee. The student involved, after the appropriate hearings, as set forth by Kansas Statutes and found to be placed either on suspension or expulsion may at the option of the appropriate Administrative Hearing Officer or Board of Education be offered an opportunity for probation for a set period of time. The balance of the punishment, suspension or expulsion shall remain deferred as long as the student meets the conditions of the probation agreement. If a student agrees to a probationary period, a written agreement shall be signed by the student and the student's parents or guardians outlining the appropriate conditions of said probation and the duration thereof. Any probationary student accused of being in violation of the conditions of probation shall be afforded a limited hearing to the appropriate Administrative Hearing Officer or the Board of Education who agreed to the probationary conditions. Conditions of probation may include, but not limited to, drug counseling, of student's choice, expenses to be borne by the student; random drug testing, expenses to be borne by the student; restriction from school activities and any other conditions that the appropriate Hearing Officer or Board of Education agree would aid and assist the student and continue to provide a drug free school environment.

DISTRICT – ALCOHOL / CEREAL MALT BEVERAGES POLICY

USD #437 is committed to the education of every student in alcohol abuse awareness. USD #437 will enforce the following policy:

1. The possession, use consumption or sale of alcoholic liquor (as defined by K.S.A. 41-102) or cereal malt beverages (as defined by K.S.A. 41-2701) on public school property or at public school activities is strictly prohibited and any such possession, use consumption, sale shall result in immediate suspension from school according to 1a and 1b below. Any student, who comes onto public school property or attends public school activities, having used alcoholic liquor or cereal malt beverages as defined herein, shall be suspended from school immediately according to 1a and 1b listed below:
 - First violation – five days suspension from school and all school related activities.
 - Second violation – five-day suspension from school and all school related activities and will be recommended for extended term suspension or expulsion.
2. Any student in violation of the alcohol/cereal malt beverage policy shall be suspended from all student extra-curricular performances, competitions or social functions for thirty school days on the first violation of said policy.
3. If a student is long term suspended for violation of this regulation, said student shall have the opportunity, of the Hearing Officer's and/or Board of Education's discretion, to attend a counseling session with a qualified professional counselor, skilled in substance abuse counseling and comply with said counselor's recommendations, thereby being allowed an opportunity for a probationary period for the balance of said suspension. A student may use a counselor of their choice or may use the service provided free from a local Human Service Agency designated by the School District and said expense and costs are to be born by the parents and/or guardians of the student. Subsequent violation of the agreed probationary period will result in the balance of the suspension being enforced.

DISTRICT - TOBACCO POLICY

In order to facilitate a healthy educational environment, at no time are students permitted to possess or use tobacco products on the school grounds or in the building. The use or possession of tobacco products is also prohibited while in attendance at any school-sponsored activities regardless of the location of the activity. Use of tobacco products as a method of vandalism may result in suspension from school.

As per K.S.A. 79-3321, it is illegal for any person under the age of 18 to possess and/or use any tobacco products. It is a class B person misdemeanor punishable by a minimum fine of \$200.00 for any person, directly or indirectly, to (A) sell, give or furnish any cigarettes or tobacco products to any person under 18 years of age; or (B) buy any cigarettes or tobacco products for any person under 18 years of age. Acts classified as cigarette or tobacco infractions (possession or use for persons under the age of 18) per K.S.A. 79-3321 and amendments thereto shall be classified as ordinances prohibiting such acts. The fine for an ordinance cigarette or tobacco infraction (possession or use) shall be imposed by the court (K.S.A. 79-3322).

WEAPONS OR DANGEROUS MATERIALS: THIS POLICY IS IN EFFECT 24 HOURS A DAY EVERY DAY OF THE YEAR.

USD 437 will not tolerate any possession or use of any weapons and/or dangerous materials on school property at any time or at school activities. —“Any time” means 365 days a year, whether school is in session or not. A student shall not knowingly possess, handle or transmit any object that can reasonably be considered a weapon or dangerous materials at school, on school property or at a school-sponsored event.

1. Definition of weapons and/or destructive devices means: 1) Any weapon which will or is designed to or may readily be converted to expel a projectile by the action of an explosive; 2) The frame or receiver of any weapon described in the preceding example; 3) Any firearm muffler or firearm silencer; 4) Any explosive, incendiary or poison gas, (A) bomb, (B) grenade, (C) rocket having a propellant charge of more than four ounces, (D) missile having an explosive or incendiary charge of more than a quarter ounce, (E) mine or (F) similar device; 5) Any weapon which will, or which may be readily converted to, expel a projectile by the action of an explosive or other propellant, and which has any barrel with a bore of more than a ½ inch in diameter; 6) Any combination of parts either designed or intended for use in converting any device into a destructive device described in the two immediately preceding examples, and from which a destructive device may be readily assembled; 7) Any bludgeon, sand club, metal knuckles or throwing star; 8) Any knife, 9) Any electronic device designed to discharge immobilizing levels of electricity, commonly known as a stun gun.

2. A facsimile weapon, a replica of a firearm which is so substantially similar in physical properties to an existing firearm as to lead a reasonable person to conclude that the replica is a firearm; including, but not limited to pellet guns, (including air soft pellet guns), regardless of how the pellet or projectile is expelled, starter pistols, air rifles and pistols and any other object which is designed to replicate any weapon or firearm, regardless of the presence of any color coding which may be placed on the replica by the manufacturer or another to indicate the weapon is a facsimile.

3. Penalties for possession of a weapon as defined in K.S.A. 72-89a02 shall result in expulsion from school for a period of one calendar year, except the Superintendent may recommend this expulsion requirement be modified on a case-by-case basis. Expulsion hearings for possession of a weapon or dangerous materials shall be conducted by the Superintendent or the Superintendent's designee. Students violating this policy shall be referred to the appropriate law enforcement agency(ies) and, if a juvenile, to SRS. (Board Policy JCDBB)

BULLYING / HARASSMENT

The Board of Education is committed to providing a positive and productive working and learning environment, free from discrimination. The Superintendent or Superintendent's Designee, 5928 SW 53rd, Topeka, KS (1-785-339-4000) has been designated to coordinate compliance with nondiscrimination requirements. Harassment may address race, religion, sex, national origin, physical attributes or disabilities, scholastic aptitude, sexual orientation, or age. Harassment of employees or students of the district by board members, administrators, certified and support personnel, students, vendors, and any others having business or other contact with the school district is strictly prohibited. All forms of harassment will not be tolerated and are prohibited at school, on school property, and at all school-sponsored activities, programs or events. Harassment against individuals associated with the school is prohibited, whether or not the harassment occurs on school grounds. It shall be a violation of this policy for any student, employee or third party (visitor, vendor, etc.) to harass any student, employee, or other individual associated with the school. It shall further be a violation for any employee to discourage a student from filing a complaint, or to fail to investigate or refer for investigation any complaint lodged under the provision of this policy. (JDDC Bullying (See GAAB, GAAE, JCE, JGEC, JGECA and JDD)). The Board of Education prohibits bullying in any form, including electronic means, while using or on school property, in a school vehicle or at a school-sponsored activity or event. Students who have bullied others in violation of this policy may be subject to disciplinary action, up to and including suspension and expulsion. If appropriate, students who violate the bullying prohibition shall be reported to local law enforcement. This may include, but not be limited to, the following:

- verbal, physical, written or electronic intimidation or abuse
- derogatory name calling
- insults
- practical jokes which may result in awkwardness or embarrassment
- unwelcome remarks or innuendoes
- taunting or ridicule of any individual
- derogatory or offensive pictures, drawings, and materials
- use of derisive slang terms concerning another individual

Sexual harassment is unlawful discrimination on the basis of sex under Title IX of the Education Amendment of 1972, Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, and the Kansas Acts Against Discrimination. The Superintendent or Superintendent's Designee, 5928 SW 53rd, Topeka, KS (1-785-339-4000) has been designated to coordinate compliance with nondiscrimination requirements. Sexual harassment is unwelcome sexual advances, requests for sexual favors and other inappropriate oral, written or physical conduct of a sexual nature when made by a member of the school staff to a student or when made by any student to another student when: (1) submission to such conduct is made, explicitly or implicitly, a term or condition of the individual's education; (2) submission to or rejection of such conduct by an individual is used as the basis for academic decisions affecting that individual or (3) such conduct has the purpose or effect of interfering with an individual's academic or professional performance or creating an intimidating, hostile or offensive environment. Sexual harassment may result from verbal or physical conduct or written or graphic material. Sexual harassment may include, but is not limited to the following:

- verbal harassment or abuse
- pressure for sexual activity
- repeated remarks to a person with sexual or demeaning implication
- unwelcome touching
- suggesting or demanding sexual involvement accompanied by implied or explicit threats concerning a student's grades, participation in extracurricular activities, etc.

- **Racial harassment is unlawful discrimination on the basis of race, color or national origin** under Titles VI and VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and the Kansas Acts Against Discrimination. Racial harassment is racially motivated conduct which:
 - Affords a student different treatment, solely on the basis of race, color or national origin, in a manner which interferes with or limits the ability of the student to participate in or benefit from the services, activities or programs of the school.
 - Is sufficiently severe, pervasive or persistent so as to have the purpose or effect of creating a hostile academic environment.
 - Is sufficiently severe, pervasive or persistent so as to have the purpose or effect of interfering with a student's academic performance or ability to participate in or benefit from the services, activities or programs of the school.

Racial harassment may result from verbal or physical conduct or written graphic material. **The district encourages all victims of general, sexual or racial harassment and persons with knowledge of such harassment to report the harassment immediately.** The district will promptly investigate all complaints of harassment and take prompt corrective action to end the harassment.

Any student, who believes he or she has been subject to general, sexual, or racial harassment or has witnessed an act of alleged general, sexual, or racial harassment, shall discuss the alleged harassment with the building principal, another administrator, guidance counselor or another certified staff member. Any school employee who receives a complaint of harassment from a student shall inform the student of the employee's obligation to report the complaint and any proposed resolution of the complaint to the building principal. If the building principal is the alleged harasser, the complaint will be reported to the district compliance coordinator. The building principal or district compliance coordinator shall discuss the complaint with the student to determine if it can be resolved. If the matter is not resolved to the satisfaction of the student in this meeting, the student may initiate a formal complaint under the district's discrimination complaint procedure (see Board Policy KN).

Complaints received will be investigated to determine whether, under the totality of the circumstances, the alleged behavior constitutes harassment under the definitions outlined above. Unacceptable student conduct may or may not constitute harassment, depending on the nature of the conduct and its severity, pervasiveness and persistence. Behaviors, which are unacceptable but do not constitute harassment, may provide grounds for discipline under the code of student conduct. The discipline of a student for violation of any provision of the code of student conduct (see Board Policy JCDA) may be enhanced if the conduct is generally, sexually or racially motivated.

An employee who witnesses an act of general, sexual or racial harassment shall report the incident to the building principal. Employees who fail to report complaints or incidents of general, sexual, or racial harassment to appropriate school officials may face disciplinary action. School administrators who fail to investigate and take appropriate corrective action in response to complaints of harassment may also face disciplinary action.

When a complaint contains evidence of criminal activity or child abuse, the building or district coordinator shall report such conduct to the appropriate law enforcement or SRS authorities (see Board Policy GAAD). To the extent possible, confidentiality will be maintained throughout the investigation of a complaint. The desire for confidentiality must be balanced with the district's obligation to conduct a thorough investigation, to take appropriate corrective action or to provide a process to the accused.

The filing of a complaint or otherwise reporting of harassment shall not reflect upon a student's status or grades. Any act of retaliation against any person who has filed a complaint or testified, assisted or participated in an investigation of a general, sexual or racial harassment complaint is prohibited. Any person who retaliates is subject to immediate disciplinary action, up to and including expulsion for a student or termination of employment for an employee. False or malicious complaints of general, sexual or racial harassment may result in corrective or disciplinary action against the complainant.

A summary of this policy and related materials is posted in each district facility. The policy is also published in student, parent and employee handbooks as directed by the district compliance coordinator. Notification of the policy shall also be included in the school newsletter or published in the local newspaper annually.

DISTRICT – STUDENT DIRECTORY INFORMATION DESIGNATED:

The USD 437 board and administration have determined that the following data will be designated “directory information”.

- a. student’s name, address, telephone number, date of birth, and parent’s name
- b. student’s participation in officially recognized school activities and sports
- c. the weight, height and grade of members of athletic teams
- d. date of attendance
- e. scholarships and awards received
- f. the most recent previous school district attended by the student
- g. audio or visual recording, photograph, or image of student

This information is considered public information, which may be released by the school district without parent’s prior consent. Patrons have until September 1st to inform the school district that any or all of the directory information about their student should not be released with parent’s prior consent.

HS/MS ATHLETICS PARTICIPATION

In order to participate in any activity, a student must attend at least four of his or her classes on the day of participation; or be excused from this requirement by the administration; or attend four periods the day prior to the activity if the event is an all school day or Saturday event.

An event associated with an academic class takes precedence over an extra-curricular (non-class) connected event. Any student that has been suspended from school cannot attend or participate in any school function while under suspension.

All students participating in a school-sponsored event are expected to travel with the team/group to the event. In the event a student cannot travel with the team/group, prior written approval must be granted by the principal and the sponsoring event coach/teacher. Under no circumstances shall a student transport other students to an event.

Physical forms and Emergency Medical Cards must be turned in to the office or appropriate coach or sponsor before a student may practice or participate in any school activity. (Kansas State High School Activities Association (KSHSAA)).

Participants in all KSHSAA recognized activities must conform to ALL KSHSAA eligibility regulations. USD 437 students transferring to another school district but whose parents/guardians still reside within USD 437 will be ineligible for eighteen weeks.

Students who participate or wish to participate in KSHSAA activities must successfully earn at least 2.5 credits of unit weight in at least five or more courses the semester prior to any and all such participation. [These credits can be earned off campus, i.e. college courses.] WRHS students must be enrolled in 2.5 credits of course work. It is strongly recommended that students who participate in activities enroll in a least 3.5 credits. Credits are determined using the grades received at the end of each semester (NC’s and IN’s are calculated as zero credit). Incomplete grades completed after the end of a semester are not allowed to be counted for the prior semester’s credit total. This is a KSHSAA rule. (Also, see Grading Policy, pp. 15-16.)

WRHS has a Substance Abuse Policy that applies to ALL participants in activities/sports. The policy is designed to attempt to help students make good decisions to not become involved with illegal substances (alcohol, drugs, and tobacco). Involvement with illegal substances at school or at school activities is covered in the school’s discipline policy. Additionally there are established consequences for participants who involve themselves with substances while they are not at school. This policy provides participants and coaches at least a minimum set of consequences that will occur when a student is believed to be and admits to being involved with illegal substances. This policy will be explained to participants and they and their parents sign a card indicating that they understand their obligation to follow the policy.

It is important to note that ANY violation of the school’s substance policy OR a violation of the school’s community policy on illegal substances carries a minimum of the following:

- | | |
|-------------------------|---|
| 1 st offense | Loss of privilege to participate in games/contests |
| 2 nd offense | Loss of privilege to participate in <u>ANY</u> sport or activity for <u>ONE</u> calendar year. |
| 3 rd offense | Loss of privilege to participate in <u>ANY</u> sport or activity for remainder of high school attendance. |

TRUANCY

Excessive or unexcused absences may cause the student to be considered truant. Every parent/guardian has the responsibility to require their child to attend school regularly each year. After three consecutive unexcused absences, five nonconsecutive unexcused absences in one semester, or seven (7) or more days in any school year, shall be reported to the appropriate state agency. The truancy will be reported to SRS (for students 12 years and younger) or to the District Attorney's Office (for students 13 years and older).

SCHOOL POLICY / PROCEDURES

VISITORS

All visitors are required to report to the school's main office immediately upon arrival into the building. Students not attending TSLC or guests of students are not allowed at the TSLC. All visitors are allowed to enter the building only upon the administration's permission.

SECURITY CAMERAS -- Video Monitoring

TSLC buildings and grounds are monitored by closed circuit TV. Video tapes of student activities may be used for disciplinary action and/or criminal prosecution.

PHYSICAL INTERVENTION

Physical intervention of behavior will only be used as a last resort, after non-physical strategies have been attempted. Physical management may be used under the following conditions: the student is an immediate threat to himself, a threat to others, or poses a continued threat to property.

Every effort will be made to limit the use of hands-on intervention techniques. At all times, staff is to ensure that students are managed in a safe and proper manner. Security or Law Enforcement may be called.

INTERROGATION POLICY: Interrogation of a student by school officials and/or law enforcement officers shall be conducted in accordance with board policy JCAC.

METAL DETECTORS

Hand-held metal detectors are used at the TSLC as a means of providing a safe and secure learning environment for all students and all staff. The school's student check-in procedure uses a hand-held metal detector on each student prior to them entering the school area and classrooms. (See Check-in procedures)

STUDENT DRIVING RESPONSIBILITIES

Some high school students attending TSLC may be allowed to drive to school. The driving privilege will be revoked if the student's IEP team determines that this privilege has a detrimental effect on the school's ability to deliver the student's IEP. (*Example: lack of attendance.*)

TRAFFIC REGULATIONS: Violation of any of the rules listed below may result in suspension from school and/or suspension of driving privileges:

1. Students are to park their cars in the EAST parking lot **ONLY** and lock them. A permit must be purchased from the high school for \$10 and displayed in the vehicle.
2. Students found parking outside the East parking lot may receive automatic detention and repeated offenses will result in the loss of driving privileges.
3. All other lots and the North drive are closed to student traffic.
4. A speed limit of 10 miles per hour is to be observed on campus at all times.
5. Reckless or unsafe driving will result in disciplinary action.

6. Students are not allowed to go to their automobiles during the school day unless they have a Blue Pass and/or permission from the administration.
7. The student parking lot is off limits during the entire school day. A student's day starts when the student arrives on school grounds. No loitering will be allowed in the parking lot.
8. Violation of any state or federal law on school grounds may result in suspension.
9. Freshmen are not allowed to drive to school or school activities.
10. Students who ride the bus are not allowed in the parking lot before or after school.

ATTENDANCE

The responsibility for attending classes lies with the student and the parent/guardian. Only through regular class attendance and a commitment to personal and educational growth can students achieve optimum benefits. Our attendance policy is not intended to penalize students who have an occasional illness or who miss infrequently for approved reasons. This policy does emphasize that students are responsible for their attendance, including excessive absences.

Parents, and/or guardians, of students who are absent are to call their local district bus transportation department as early as 6:45 AM. After contacting the transportation department, please call the school's main office after 7:30 AM. If we have not heard from a parent/guardian by 8:00 AM, school personnel will attempt to reach the parent at home or at work. If there is no verification of the reason for the absence, it will be labeled as unexcused.

Important Telephone Numbers for Attendance Notifications

Tallgrass Student Learning Center: 339 - 4270
District's Transportation Department: 339 - 4050

MAKE-UP WORK

Students are expected to complete work missed. Arrangements must be made with each teacher. If missed work is not completed, students will receive a zero for that portion of their grade.

ABSENCE FROM SCHOOL

When a student's absence extends beyond *three consecutive school days or a pattern of absences (excused or unexcused) exists, the school may request a written statement verifying the necessity of the student's absence from a medical agency, court service agency, etc.* When school officials believe a student's absences have seriously affected the student's achievement, the school will arrange a conference with the parent/guardian to determine what action to take.

Excused Absence. Some examples for excused absences are:

- a. Illness of the student which causes him/her to remain at home or a serious illness in the family demanding the student's presence at home.
- b. Medical or dental treatment, examination or recuperation.
- c. Family emergencies.
- d. Required court appearances.
- e. Psychological treatment.
- f. Circumstances or conditions, which, in the opinion of the Principal are appropriate.

Unexcused Absence. Students that receive an unexcused absence are given a TSLC Discipline Referral with a 100 point fine and the student earns zero (0) points for the day on their daily behavior point sheet.

The SCHOOL will determine whether the absence is excused or unexcused. BOE policy allows USD 437 to accept only the following as valid reasons for excusing an absence:

1. Illness – Short or long-term illness (verified by notification from doctor)
2. Medical Appointment - Appointment for medical treatment (an appointment card must accompany the student upon return and be given to the school secretary).
3. Family Crisis
4. Extended absences – (i.e.: family vacation) of the student when expressly requested by the parents or guardian and prior arrangements have been made in preparation for the absences.
5. School approved activities
6. Obligatory religious observances

Excessive Absences. If the school staff determines that a student has a total number of excused or unexcused absences that is having a negative effect on the student's ability to earn a passing grade in one or more classes, then the staff will meet with the student and/or parent/guardian to determine a specific plan of action. This plan would include specific due dates for missed assignments, support interventions when appropriate, and a specific plan of action for the student.

Students sent home from school. Students may be sent home from school for two reasons: first, when a student has become ill or has come to school ill; and second, when a student has been displaying unmanageable behavior or has done something that has resulted in the student being suspended out-of-school. **It is the parent/guardian's responsibility to transport the student home upon notification by the school.**

TARDIES

All tardies are classified as excused or unexcused. Students are expected to arrive to school and to class on time, be prepared to engage in active learning with appropriate assignments and materials, including textbooks, paper, pencils or pen, or project materials. Teachers will assess a 10-point fine penalty for unexcused tardiness to class. If a staff member delays you and causes you to be tardy, please ask the staff person to notify the teacher of the next class.

Unexcused Tardies To School:

Students are issued an unexcused tardy to school if they arrive after 8:00 AM without a valid notification from a parent/guardian **that is approved and determined reasonable justification for the tardy to be excused by the principal.**

Unexcused Tardies To Class:

Students are issued an unexcused tardy to class (or lunch) if they arrive late or not prepared to engage in active learning. (Other specific behaviors that will result in an unexcused tardy are: not going directly to the next class period, going to the restroom between classes without permission, not entering the classroom with appropriate behavior.)

Excessive Tardies

Excessive unexcused tardies may be issued a discipline referral, a 100-point fine, and/or an AEC suspension.

CLOSED CAMPUS

TSLC has a **CLOSED CAMPUS**. Once students arrive on campus for their school day, they may leave campus ONLY WITH PRIOR PARENTAL PERMISSION AND WITH A "PERMIT TO LEAVE BUILDING" (Blue Pass) that can only be obtained from the Main Office. The following student checkout procedure will be as follows:

1. Parents are to notify the TSLC Main Office (339-4270) and explain why their student must leave campus during the day.
2. Before a student leaves campus, he/she must first go to the Main Office and pick up their BLUE pass. No student is to leave the campus until they have been approved to do so through the Main Office. If a parent cannot be reached, the principal can give permission if there is a legitimate reason.
3. The principal will contact the district's security officers when a student leaves campus without permission or is unaccounted for after reporting to school.
4. Upon returning to school, at any time, students are to check in at the Main Office and go through the Check-in procedures.

HEALTH SERVICES

Our school nurse, located next to the office, is available to students for confidential health counseling, illness and first aid emergencies. A student should obtain a pass from his/her teacher before coming to see the nurse, except in an emergency. During the school year the nurse and health staff will conduct vision and hearing screening, as required by state law, or upon request of the parent or teacher.

Illnesses: Please do not send your child to school if he/she has been ill (vomiting, diarrhea, etc.) or has had a fever within the last 24 hours. When at school, students will be expected to participate in all areas, including physical education, unless we receive a written request from your child's physician. Please have the physician communicate with the school nurse if the inability to participate will be lengthy. NOTE: Missed physical

education classes (even with a physician's excuse) will need to be made up in order to receive credit since the grade in physical education class is based mainly on participation.

Immunizations: All students must have written proof (from a physician or health department) of the state required immunizations before enrolling for the school year. Failure to provide said proof will result in the student not being allowed to enroll and/or allowed to continue attending. The school nurse can provide further information on medical and religious exemption.

Medications: Students taking medications at school must bring the medication to school in the prescription bottle that indicates the dosage level and times of day to be given. Once medications for a student have been sent to school, we cannot release them to anyone but a parent/guardian or someone who has written parental consent. Students should not bring any other medicines (prescription or otherwise) to school in their pockets, purses, etc. Any such medicine brought will be confiscated.

Health Procedures: Any student requiring finger sticks for glucose monitoring and/or insulin injections will be required to perform those procedures in the school Health Room under the supervision of the Health Room staff or their designate.

LUNCHES

Lunch will be served on site. Students will remain on the premises during lunchtime unless given permission by the administration.

TELEPHONE CALLS

STUDENTS ARE NOT ALLOWED TO USE SCHOOL TELEPHONES. Students may receive phone calls in the main office, but only in emergencies; otherwise a message will be taken. To use an office phone, the student must have permission from the principal. Staff will dial telephone numbers and verify reason for use.

FIRE / TORNADO ALERT OR DRILL

Fire Alert/Drill: When the fire alarm is sounded, all students and staff will need to exit the building. It is best to stay together as a class unit. Should this be a fire drill, the Principal or his designee, will let students and staff know when to enter the building.

Tornado Alert/Drill: A siren will be sounded for a tornado drill or warning. All staff and students are to take cover in the designated area within the TSLC building. Your classroom teacher will give you directions and correct procedures. The Principal, or his designee, will inform the students and staff when they may return to their classes and other areas.

HOSTILE INTRUDER ALERT OR SCHOOL LOCKDOWN

Procedure for the hostile intruder or a school lockdown drill will be as follows: The signal for the drill is an announcement via phone or intercom system. All teachers will be responsible for locking the classroom doors and accounting for all students while instructing students where to relocate in the room away from the doors and windows. No one is to leave a locked area unless directed to do so by the school administrator or law enforcement officers. The lockdown will be cancelled only by a very specific announcement made either by law enforcement or a school administrator.

AUTHORIZATION TO PICK UP STUDENTS

In order to avoid problems getting students home at the end of the day or to appointments during the day, anyone other than a parent picking up a student requires a verbal authorization from the parent **to the TG main office.** For someone other than parents to pick up a student, please call the school's office (339-4270) stating the authorization and specifically indicating whom has authorization. Written notification alone is not allowed due to the restricted setting of the school. Verbal confirmation with a parent is required for the student to be released. The school will make attempts to assist this verification if the situation allows. Once verified, the office will issue to the student a building pass authorizing the student to leave the HS/MS property.

STUDENT CHECK-IN PROCEDURES

In order to help increase the safety of all students and staff, all students will be scanned with a hand held metal detector each day. Each daily check-in event is held in a positive manner to not only assist in providing a secure learning environment, but to also greet and welcome the students to the school.

Daily procedure:

1. Upon arrival to school, the students will be asked to follow the school's check-in procedures. Students must empty all of their pockets and demonstrate that they are empty to the check-in staff. The staff will then place their contents in their personal locker container. All book bags (and similar bags) are kept in their secured locker. All items that students bring to school are reviewed and searched. Students should not bring any personal items to school unless they have permission from the principal. Students may have access to these at appropriate times during the day. Those possessions that are not allowable (ex. lighters, cigarettes) will be held until a parent or guardian retrieves the items from school. In some cases, property may not be returned. Any containers, purses, and other possessions the student brings will also be searched / checked. The school provides a secure restricted area for all personal items and valuables to be stored during the school day.

2. After placing their personal items in their student container, a staff member will use a hand-held metal detector to scan the student. The staff positively greets students during this process. Students remove their shoes to demonstrate that they are not bringing anything inappropriate to school in a concealed manner.

3. If the metal detector is activated during the scanning, the student will again be asked to remove and give to the staff any object from their person. If the student refuses, or if the metal detector is activated again after the student claims he/she has no more metal containing possessions, the student will be told that the next step is a pat-down search. The student will be given a third chance to turn in all possessions. If the student complies, a third scan will be done. If this scan continues to activate the detector, then the student will be subject to a pat-down search.

Students that do not comply or do not complete the security check-in process will not be allowed to enter the school classroom area and will be kept supervised in a containment area until district security arrives to assist.

Violation of the school's check-in procedures will result in a discipline referral, which may result in AEC or Out-Of-School Suspension.

If a weapon is found, the school administration staff will notify legal authorities and will handle the incident as dictated by state and federal law and by school policies, JCDBB: Weapons, and JDD: Suspension and Expulsion Procedures.

AFTER CHECK-IN PROCEDURES

Students that are on Level 3 may go to the lunchroom to socialize with peers, play games, or use the fitness equipment until school begins. Students on Level 2 and Level 1 must go to their first hour class and remain there unless staff gives permission to leave the classroom.

Level 3 students may eat a school breakfast in the lunchroom and socialize with their peers upon their arrival to school. Students on Level 2 or Level 1 may come to the lunchroom (upon requesting permission from staff), to get a school breakfast (if desired) and then eat in the assigned area.

STUDENT SALES

The sale of non-school sponsored fund raising items is prohibited.

FIELD TRIPS

In order to enrich the school program, teachers may arrange for field trips for the students. All field trips off school property will require a permission form be signed. Students may not participate in this activity unless parental/guardian gives permission. The school's behavioral level system may govern the student's participation in any field trips.

MS/HS DANCE PARTICIPATION

Students at the TSLC may participate in student life activities at the WRMS and WRHS. Students at TSLC in the 7-8th grades may participate at the WRMS and students in the 9-12th grades may participate at the WRHS. To participate, students must meet the following TSLC requirements.

1. Notify the main office of your desire to attend.
2. The TSLC principal must receive confirmation for the student's attendance from the hosting school (WRMS or WRHS).

3. Upon the TSLC principal's approval, the school will purchase a dance admission ticket if one is required for the student's attendance. The student must provide the money for this ticket.
4. Be in good behavior standing at TSLC. The student must be on Level 3 at the end of the school day for which the dance occurs. If the student received a ticket they purchased in advance, but does not meet this requirement, then the ticket price is not refundable and is forfeited.
5. Meet any specially assigned requirements that the principal deems necessary for an individual student.
6. Follow all WRMS or WRHS school rules while at the dance.
7. The TSLC principal assists WRMS and WRHS principals supervise all attending TSLC students while at these dances. If the student's behavior is not appropriate, the student will be removed from the dance and be assigned appropriate consequences.
8. *Parents/guardians are responsible for timely transportation for the student.

SEARCH OF STUDENTS AND PROPERTY

As stated in this handbook's section on Student Check-In Procedures (page 18-19), all items that students of the Tallgrass Student Learning Center bring to the school building are searched as part of the daily check-in process for all students.

1. School officials have the right to search student's person and property on school premises, with reasonable suspicion.
2. School officials have the right to search student lockers at any time.
3. The school supports and encourages the Shawnee County Sheriffs' department in cooperation with other law enforcement agencies, to conduct random canine searches of lockers and possibly book bags, purses and other personal items, as well as the parking lots, for illegal drugs and/or weapons.
4. The school administration may contact the Shawnee County Sheriff's department to assist in the search of student's person and property with probable cause.
5. Metal detectors will be used to assist in random searches during the normal school day and events outside the normal school day.

ALTERNATE EDUCATION CENTER (AEC): In – School Suspension

Students may be assigned AEC (In-School Suspension) as a consequence for inappropriate behavior(s). Students that are in AEC are under constant supervision. Daily work and instructional assistance is provided to each student in AEC.

Students in AEC are assigned a specific number of days or class periods by the principal. Each period has a specific number of required points that must be earned by the student for that period to be considered served by the student. If a student does not earn the required points, then that period must be reserved successfully before the student can leave the AEC assignment. These points earned will count for behavior level points and for student store points.

Students assigned AEC will drop one behavior level. Students that demonstrate extreme inappropriate behavior in AEC will be assigned an Out-of-School Suspension.

Students that choose to sleep, or exhibit similar behavior, during a whole or partial class period while in AEC will be assigned an additional period and will have to redo the original period.

OUT-OF-SCHOOL SUSPENSION (OSS)

Students may be assigned OSS as a consequence for inappropriate behavior(s). Students assigned OSS receives zero points for their assigned day's behavior points. Upon returning from school following an OSS, students may be assigned AEC to demonstrate compliant school behavior before returning to the TSLC's classrooms. Students assigned OSS are also assigned the Level 1 behavior category.

BEHAVIOR LEVEL CATEGORIES

Students are assigned behavior levels each day. These behavior levels are determined by an average of their daily point sheets. Unexcused absences are assigned zero points for the given day and receive a penalty of 100 points.

The school has three behavior level categories. Level 3 is the highest level and is assigned to students that have demonstrated appropriate school behavior. Each behavior has reward privileges or consequences for the assigned day.

Level 3: Daily average is 95% or higher

Status: **Outstanding** School Behavior.

Privileges: Participate in the School Reward Store
Allowed to participate in social time and treats in the lunchroom from 7:30 – 8:00am.
HS / MS Dance participation is possible with Principal's approval.
Participation possible in special activities.
Allowed to leave their assigned seat for Social Time during lunch period

Level 2: Daily average is 90% to 94%

Status: **Good** School Behavior.

Privileges: Allowed to leave their assigned seat for Social Time during lunch period

Level 1: Daily average is below 90%

Status: **Poor** School Behavior.

Privileges: none

Students at this level are escorted directly to their 1st hour class (or assigned area) after completing check in. A staff member throughout the school day also escorts students.

Special Note: Students that are assigned OSS are also immediately assigned the Level 1 category upon their return to school. Students that are assigned AEC are also immediately lowered one behavior level. These reassigned levels remain until the principal determines otherwise and/or new daily levels are assigned. (The principal may reassign behavior levels as needed, to any student, at any time.)

STUDENT REWARD STORE

Students have earned the opportunity to go to the Student Store each time they have earned five days of Level 3 Behavior Privileges. The points that the student has earned on their Daily Point Sheets can be used to purchase items in the store.

MATERIALS BROUGHT TO SCHOOL

Due to the restrictive and highly structured environment of the TSLC, many restrictions are in place to insure student safety and the integrity of the learning environment of the classroom.

Personal Items: Students should not bring personal items to school. The TSLC provides all materials necessary for students to learn and enjoy the school. The school provides notebooks, pencils, paper, etc. as needed. Any personal items (CD players, cell phones, radios, magazines, books, etc.) brought to school must be approved by staff. Items not approved may be held until parent/guardian retrieves them. Cigarettes, lighters, and other contraband will be disposed of and not returned.

Money at School: Students should not bring money to school unless they are adding money to their meal account. Students can only purchase food items via their meal account. The school does not have the means or district procedures to accept cash during food serving situation. There are no situations where students can use money to other purchase items. This includes on field trips or class outings. The school does not have vending machines.

ACADEMIC INFORMATION

POST SECONDARY EDUCATION OPPORTUNITIES

Students are encouraged to visit the Main Office to discuss post-secondary plans. The High School Guidance Office maintains a library of materials describing various post secondary opportunities. The students are encouraged to read the materials and visit with the guidance counselors about post secondary plans. These arrangements can be made with the principal.

TECHNICAL EDUCATION

Today, a high school diploma alone is no longer adequate for the jobs of tomorrow. Many jobs will require technical knowledge as well as problem solving, decision making and teamwork. Even though successful completion of WRHS graduation requirements will allow a student to enter college, this is not necessarily the best option for every student. Today's students must seriously consider the need for at least 14 years of formal training and a commitment of lifelong learning. Whether students attend a technical school, a community college or a four-year university, they should acquire the skills that will be necessary for success.

GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS through the Class of 2009 and Beyond

SUBJECT AREA	CREDITS	SPECIFICALLY
English/Reading	4	3 credits must be in English Comp and Lit ½ credit must be in Speech (Debate, Forensics or Drama II will substitute for Speech) ½ English elective
Social Studies	3	1 credit must be in American History ½ credit must be in American Government 1 credit must be in World History ½ additional social studies credit
Science	3	Credits must include Biological, Physical and Earth/Space Concepts
Mathematics	3	Any 3 Math credits will fulfill this requirement
Physical Education/Health	1	This must be fulfilled by taking 3 quarters of Basic PE and 1 quarter of Health
Fine Arts	1	1 credit in Music, Drama or Art
Practical Arts	1/2	A class in Business, Industrial Technology, Family and Consumer Science, or Ag Ed
Computer Technology	1/2	One class in the computer area
Electives	9	All other classes besides those listed above will be considered elective classes
TOTAL CREDITS REQUIRED	25	

RECOMMENDED HIGH SCHOOL COURSES FOR COLLEGE PREPARATION

The high school preparation necessary for college will vary, depending mainly upon two factors: (1) choice of college or university, and (2) choice of major. Since few high school students are completely sure of these factors, it is recommended that they take as many college prep courses as possible in high school so that their choice of a college and of a major may be kept as broad as possible. Many college catalogs are available in the Guidance Office; the college-bound student should investigate the recommended high school courses which are listed for the school(s) of his/her choice.

WRHS students take the following tests:

ACT (American College Testing) and **SAT** (Scholastic Aptitude Test) for college-bound juniors and seniors. Most colleges require one or the other of these tests for admission. Universities in the Kansas Regents System accept the ACT for admission. Students should find out what test is required by the college or colleges they are considering and register to take the appropriate test(s). Registration forms are available in the Guidance Office. These forms take some time to complete and have mailing deadlines. It is the student's responsibility to complete the forms and mail them. It is recommended that these tests be taken either in the spring of a student's junior year and as early as possible in the senior year. This is especially true if the student is applying to an out-of-state college or if the student is applying for some scholarships or other types of financial aid. Taking the test early also gives students more opportunity to retake the test if they need to try to raise their scores. This is especially important if a student's first set of scores is slightly lower than those required for admission to a college, meeting a scholarship standard, or participation in intercollegiate athletics at a NCAA Division I or Division II school.

The TSLC main office will provide registration deadlines and test dates.

KANSAS ASSESSMENT TESTS will be given in academic areas according to state guidelines. These assessments are designed to measure student achievement.

PLAN will be given in the fall for all sophomores. It serves as our nationally normed assessment. It is a preparatory examination for the ACT college admission test and also has a component designed to assist students in career decision making. The fee for the test is paid for by our district.

MS PROMOTION / HS GRADUATION EXERCISES

Eight grade and twelfth grade students at the TSLC may participate in the assigned graduation exercises for their grade level. Eight grade students may participate in the WRMS Eighth Grade Promotion and twelfth grade students may participate in the WRHS Graduation Exercises. TSLC students must meet the assigned school's requirements to attend.

WRHS GRADUATION EXERCISE PARTICIPATION: To participate in the Commencement ceremony a student must have successfully completed the graduation requirements set forth by the Kansas State and USD #437 Boards of Education (see pgs 8 and 11 of HS Student Handbook). While the IEP Team has the primary responsibility of tracking each student's progress toward graduation requirements, students are expected to monitor their own progress by periodically checking with the principal in regards to timely completion of all graduation requirements.

A student that is one unit of credit short may still participate in the graduation ceremony. Students who do not have the required number of credits are encouraged to enroll in summer school, night school, or a correspondence program. The student will receive a diploma when the graduation requirements have been completed and recorded on the transcript.

Students under suspension or expulsion will not be allowed to participate in the graduation ceremony of WRHS.

WRMS PROMOTION EXERCISES: To participate in the Promotion ceremony an 8th grade students must successfully complete the 8th grade. The student will receive a promotion certificate and have their named called at the ceremony. Permission to participate in the ceremony from the TSLC and WRMS administration is required. Students are expected to be in good behavior standing.

TRANSCRIPTS

FEE: WRHS will mail, at no charge, transcripts to universities and colleges upon proper request. A written or in person request must be made when a transcript is requested for personal use. A charge of \$1.00 will be assessed for transcripts requested for personal use.

TRANSFER CREDITS: TSLC will accept all transfer credits from other accredited high schools and middle schools.

GRADING POLICY

The grading policy is based on the belief that all students can learn and succeed. Students may learn at different rates and in different ways. The school has clarified the instructional strategies, learning activities, and

the system for assessing student learning that align with the approved learner outcomes. Learner outcomes, minimum requirements outlined for each course, reflect the school's high expectations. Appropriate interventions will be implemented if a student does not achieve the minimum requirements. The grading and reporting of individual achievement is based on demonstration of meeting the outcomes found in the approved program and/or the students individualized educational program.

At the TSLC, the following guidelines will be used school wide:

Students in all courses will be given extended opportunities to demonstrate learning, provided the teacher determines a genuine attempt was made during the first assessment. Major assessments may be repeated, after the student has demonstrated readiness and has completed significant corrective measures, "qualifiers". Additional time at the end of the grading period will be given to complete assessments. Mastery level (70%) or higher must be attained on all standards for a particular course for a student to receive credit.

Letter grades will be defined as the follows:

- Grade of 'A' Average of 90% and above on assessments of specified course outcomes.
- Grade of 'B' Average of 80%-89% on assessments of specified course outcomes.
- Grade of 'C' Average of 70%-79% on assessments of specified course outcomes.
- Grade of 'NC' Average of 69% or less on assessments of specified course outcomes.
- Grade of 'INC' Incomplete: Assessments are not complete. A student has ten days (Monday-Friday) from the end of the grading period to complete assessments (exceptions: long medical absences, performance contract, IEP). A grade of 'INC+' will change to a 'C-' if the student does no additional successful work within the ten-day period. A grade of 'INC-' will be changed to a 'NC' if the student does not do the necessary work successfully within the time allowed. 'INC-' should give a clear message to the student and the parent that without further work being done the student will not pass and will not receive credit. Grade of 'NC' means the student has earned NO CREDIT, this will be calculated into the GPA.

It is the teacher's responsibility to notify the office as soon as an INCOMPLETE (INC) is changed to a passing grade. The student should check with the teacher and TGLC Principal to insure this has occurred.

HONOR ROLLS

All students at the TSLC are eligible for either the WRMS or WRHS honor rolls. WRMS students at the TSLC must meet the WRMS requirements and WRHS students at the TSLC must meet the WRHS requirements. The TSLC main office will assist and notify the student and parents if honor roll requirements have been meet. Each is listed below.

WASBURN RURAL HIGH SCHOOL HONOR ROLLS:

HONOR GRADUATES: A Senior with a cumulative 3.650 GPA or above at the end of seven semesters will be designated as a HONOR GRADUATE and will wear a Gold Cord at Commencement. Seniors with a cumulative 4.00 GPA or above at the end of seven semesters will be eligible for outstanding scholar recognition.

HONOR ROLL EACH SEMESTER: To be eligible for the **Outstanding Scholar Roll**, a student must be enrolled full time (7 classes or 3.5 credits attempted, this includes college classes taken to be considered a full time student) and have a grade point average of 4.00 or higher (A = 4, B = 3, C = 2).

To be eligible for **High Honor Roll**, a student must be enrolled full time (7 classes or 3.5 credits attempted, this includes college classes taken to be considered a full time student) and have a grade point average of at least 3.65. To be eligible for **Honor Roll**, a student must be enrolled full time (7 classes or 3.5 credits attempted, this includes college classes taken to be considered a full time student) and have a grade point average of at least 3.30. Pass-Fail courses will not be counted in the average; however, such courses do count toward full time enrollment. Students enrolled in Washburn Institute of Technology will have the letter grade counted for each of the hours attended per day.

At the time the honor roll is calculated, any student who has an Incomplete (INC) is not eligible to be on the honor roll.

WASHBURN RURAL MIDDLE SCHOOL HONOR ROLLS:

Honor rolls will be determined at the end of each quarter according to the following criteria:

- "A" Honor Roll: 4.0 GPA for the quarter
- High Honor Roll: 3.50 – 3.99 GPA for the quarter
- Honor Roll: 3.00 – 3.499 GPA for the quarter.

WRHS ACADEMIC LETTERS

Requirements to obtain an Academic Letter are as follows:

- A. 3.650 and above grade point average maintained for each of the two semesters for one academic school year. No grade lower than a "C" is allowed.
- B. Students must be enrolled in a full schedule.
- C. Students receive one white chenille "W" for their initial lettering.
- D. Students will be eligible to receive a recognition bar for each additional year of qualification.
- E. Awards will be presented in the fall of the following school year.

ACADEMIC PROGRESS REPORTS

The classroom teacher writes student academic progress reports. The parent/guardian and the student will receive each teacher's progress report midway between each quarter. The student progress report aids in establishing communication between the school and home. More important, it gives the student up-to-date information about their progress in each class.

STUDENT BEHAVIOR

STUDENT CONDUCT

The essential ingredient in the operation of a school is self-discipline. Students are expected to conduct themselves in a manner that will not interfere with the rights of others and are expected to be responsible for their own behavior. Each student should read this handbook.

Staff is willing to discuss any questions you may have about what is expected of you. Many things will make our school successful. Faculty members believe that one way we allow for success is by communicating with each other about our students. We frequently visit with each other regarding student programs and individual students.

It is not our intent to provide a complete list of behaviors or guidelines that are to be followed. In general, appropriate student behavior will be reinforced; inappropriate student behaviors will not, and, there may also be penalties ranging from a warning to a suspension, for inappropriate behavior.

USD #437 district policies will be followed.

STUDENT BEHAVIOR POINT SYSTEM

All students at the TSLC are on the school's point system. This point system reflects a student's behavioral and academic performance. Points are earned for appropriate behavior and academic performance, that is, doing what is expected of you.

Point Sheets: Students will have a point sheet that will be completed by staff each period of the school day document points earned for expected behavior and academics. Students may not mark on or disrupt the point sheet in any way. Point sheets are not the property of the students, but rather, an official school document. Students will lose points or be assigned additional consequences for miss use of their point sheet. Folding or marking on a Point Sheet is assigned a 100 point fine.

Point Fines: Staff members may issue point fines for inappropriate behavior.

COOL-DOWN PROCEDURES

The school has two Cool-Down rooms located in the hallway areas of the school. Each room has adequate space for the student to conference with staff. Each Cool-Down room also has a desk and chair for the student to sit at during their Cool-Down period. Each room has its own lighting and ventilation. A door with a window is closed for the student to have the sensation of privacy and to self-process their emotions. A staff member is with each student the entire time the student is in the Cool-Down room to monitor the student's behavior and safety. The doors of the Cool-Down rooms are not locked or lockable and the student has the ability to leave the room with or without staff permission.

The use of a Cool-Down is designed to be a time away from the regular school program without distractions or interactions from other students. It may be used as a disciplinary measure (Teacher Requested Cool-Down) or it may be used as a student's self-management of behavior technique (Student Requested Cool-Down). The staff member may interact with the student to assist the management of the behavior. A staff member accompanies all Cool-Downs to the Cool-Down room(s) and supervises the student. The staff member will return the student to the classroom within 5 – 10 minutes if the student does not on his or her own request to return to the setting. The principal or school social worker will be contacted if the student's inappropriate behavior continues.

Student Requested Cool-Down: This is a request made by a student to leave the classroom setting for 5-10 minutes so that they may gain control of their actions or emotions. This request must be granted by the teacher who will make a professional judgment as to whether the request is a valid or is the student using the request to "get-out" of the classroom for inappropriate reasons. The student may return to the setting without additional consequence if the Cool-Down procedures are followed and the student is able to bring their behavior back to appropriate expectations.

Teacher Requested Cool-Down: This is a request made by staff for the student to leave their current setting and go to a Cool-Down room. This usually occurs when the student's behavior is too extreme for the setting. The student may return to the setting without additional consequence if the Cool-Down procedures are followed and the student is able to bring their behavior back to the appropriate actions.

Students that do not improve their behavior after a Cool-Down, or several such attempts, will be referred to the principal.

DISCIPLINE REFERRALS

Staff members may assign to a student a Discipline Office Referral for behavior. These referrals are often used after multiple attempts from staff have been made to assist the student to correct inappropriate actions. (However, a student's single behavior event can result in a referral. Students will receive at least a 50-point fine for each referral. If needed, the principal assigns additional consequences and requirements to the student. Parents/guardians are notified of the situation.

DESTRUCTION OF PROPERTY

Whenever a student damages, defaces, or breaks any school (or state) property, the student/parents may be sent a bill for the repair of the damage or replacement of the property. Students may have to stay after school to help in the repair of some property (for example, painting over graffiti on a wall, patching a hole in the wall). In some situations, the sheriff may be notified and a report filed. Student may also receive an AEC or Out-Of-School Suspension.

LEAVING SCHOOL WITHOUT PERMISSION

Students are expected to be in the designated area during school day. Since safety and well-being of each student is our primary concern, any student who leaves school grounds without permission will automatically drop to the Level 1 behavior category and be assigned an AEC or Out-Of-School Suspension. Parents/guardians will be notified immediately. The district's security personnel are contacted immediately.

FIGHTING AND OTHER DISTURBANCES

Malicious and/or willful attempt or action to injure or damage a person or property including fighting or throwing objects are prohibited everywhere. Such behavior will result in AEC or Out-Of-School Suspension. Such behavior may also result in the security and/or sheriff being called and a report filed.

DRESS AND PERSONAL APPEARANCE CODE

The general atmosphere of a school must be conducive to learning. If a student's appearance attracts undue attention to the extent that it may become a disruptive factor in the educational process, the principal will ask the student to make the necessary changes. In the event that the change does not take place in the time allowed, the administrator will prescribe the disciplinary action.

The following list is not all-inclusive:

- No clothing or body adornments with offensive, sexually suggestive, vulgar, profane, ethnically derogatory messages, pictures, or symbols, depictions or styles of Satanism, illegal substances, drug paraphernalia, tobacco, or alcohol.
- No articles of jewelry, or articles on clothing, which are potentially hazardous, such as chains, removable straps, or studded bands, or have sharp points, etc.
- No clothing, markings on clothing or person, or styles identified to be associated with gangs or gang activities.
- No outdoor clothing, such as headgear (ex.: hats, bandannas, skull caps), sunglasses, or gloves may be worn during the school day. This includes outside activities. The principal will grant permission for situations, such as, weather.
- During the school day coats/jackets are to be placed in the student's locker (or assigned location) upon entering the building. The administration recommends that students keep a sweater or sweatshirt at school for cooler days.
- No short-shorts or short skirts.
- All pants and shorts are to be worn at the student's waistline (i.e., no sagging). Belts will be provided to assist students if available.
- All tops and shirts must have a full front and back, full sides and over the shoulder straps (i.e., no halter tops, tube tops, bare midriffs or tank tops without sides or any other revealing clothing).
- Excessive make-up or colored hair is not allowed.

The final determination as to whether clothing or appearance is acceptable or not will be made by the administration. The basis for this judgment is if the clothing is deemed to be a distraction to the educational environment. Students that do not meet the dress/appearance code will not be allowed to enter the learning environment. Students will either be assigned an AEC or Out-Of-School Suspension. In all instances, parents/guardians and the students are expected to support this code and send their student to school in appropriate appearance. (Parents/guardians may be asked to supply proper clothing so that their student may continue in the school day based upon the principal's decision.)

GRAFFITI

Teachers may not accept papers or assignments that have graffiti on them. A teacher who receives papers with graffiti will turn those papers in to the principal. A consequence will be given to those students who do not comply with this rule. Staff will not accept point sheets that have graffiti on them.

OBSCENITY / PROFANITY

Profane or abusive language is inappropriate. Profanity or obscenity printed on clothing or material is also not permitted. The staff will make the final decision as to whether something falls in this category.

ACADEMIC DISHONESTY

Students in school will have many opportunities to become actively involved in the learning process. The benefits derived from original learning can be great. Students who are engaged in study will be responsible for doing their own work. In the event that students are found to be involved in academic dishonesty (i.e., cheating, plagiarism, etc.) they must realize that serious consequences will follow. No **credit grade** will be awarded for the assessment in which the dishonesty occurred, and no opportunity to re-do the assignment will be given.

THREATENING BEHAVIOR CONSEQUENCES

Incidents of student threatening or intimidating other students will not be tolerated. Threats may be either verbal (example – I'm going to kick your butt...etc.) or physical (example – shaking a fist in someone's face, kicking at someone without hitting them, etc.). Because of the serious nature of these and the inappropriate behaviors they may cause, the consequence for making a threat (verbal or nonverbal) toward another person, student or staff will be an AEC or Out-Of-School Suspension.

BEHAVIORAL CONSEQUENCES FOR ASSAULT BEHAVIOR

Some forms of threatening behavior may be considered assault, from a legal perspective. When someone makes a threatening remark or acts in a physically threatening manner toward another person, and the other person is in fear because he/she believes that he/she is at risk for injury, then a legal assault has occurred. Consequences for such behavior may include suspension and filing a report with the Shawnee County Sheriff's Office.

AGGRESSION / INTIMIDATION TOWARD STUDENTS OR STAFF

Physical aggression or intimidation toward other students or staff will not be tolerated. Such behavior may result in an AEC suspension, extended Cool Down, or Out-Of-School Suspension. In some situations, the sheriff and/or district security may be called and a report filed.

STUDENT ACCIDENT INSURANCE

If a student is injured during the school day or while participating in a school activity, the District has student accident insurance to cover some expenses. The coverage is supplemental to any insurance you may have on your student and pays only after the student's personal insurance coverage has responded. The District insurance has certain limits and pays the "usual and customary" charges, so it may pay 100% of the bills. In the event you do not have any insurance coverage, you will need to provide a signed letter stating that when you submit the claim form. The Business Office only sends out insurance claim forms **upon request** from the parents of the student, not for every student accident report. Please be aware that **all** claims must be reported by you to the insurance company **within 90 days of the accident**. If you have questions about the insurance coverage or the procedures for filing claims, please call the Business Office at 339-4000.

APPENDIX ITEMS