

---

# Jefferson Elementary 2017-2018 Student Handbook

---

Positively Impacting Lives: Everybody, Every day,  
Everywhere

JEFFERSON ELEMENTARY

136 Carpenter Road

Gahanna, Ohio 43230

PHONE: 614-478-5560

FAX: 614-337-3766



**TABLE OF CONTENTS**

Principal's Welcome and Jefferson Mission Statement.....	Page 3
Mission of GJPS, Guidelines for Student Behavior, and Code of Conduct.....	Page 4-8
Removal Suspension and Expulsion of Students.....	Page 8
Drug and Alcohol Policy.....	Page 9-11
Attendance Policies.....	Page 11-15
Access to Equal Educational Opportunity.....	Page 16
Electronic Devices/Collections/Pets/Toys/Pesticide notification.....	Page 16
School Lunches, Cafeteria and Recess Rules.....	Page17
Security Cameras/Student Records/Guide to Student Dress.....	Page 17-18
Bus Information and School Closings.....	Page 18
Bicycle Rules, Safety Patrol, PTO, Report Cards/Conferences, Curriculum.....	Page 18-19
Student Health Information/Wellness Policy.....	Page 19-21
GJPS Bus Rules.....	Page 21
Morning Traffic Pattern.....	Page 22
Jefferson Calendar for year.....	Page 23-24
Jefferson Elementary Personnel.....	Page 25
Federal Family Education Rights and Privacy Act of 1974/Third Grade Guarantee.....	Page 26-27
Student Network and Acceptable Use and Safety Agreement*.....	Page 27-31
PBIS/Medicaid.....	Page 32
Homework Policy.....	Page 33
District Bullying Policy.....	Page 34
Gifted and Talented Identification and Services.....	Page 34

**GAHANNA-JEFFERSON PUBLIC SCHOOLS CALENDAR OVERVIEW**

Aug. 16	Classes Begin
Sept. 4	Labor Day - No School
Oct. 9	Staff Professional Development-No School
Nov. 3	End of First Trimester
Nov. 6	Staff Professional Development Day- No School
Nov. 22	Conference Comp Day - No School
Nov. 23-24	Thanksgiving - No School
Dec. 21	Staff Professional Development Day-No School
Dec. 22-Jan. 2	Winter Vacation - No School
Jan. 15	Martin Luther King Day - No School
Feb. 8	End of Second Trimester
Feb. 9	Staff Professional Development Day - No School
Feb. 16	Conference Comp Day - No School
Feb. 19	Presidents' Day - No School
Mar. 26-Mar. 30	Spring Vacation - No School
May 23	Last Day for Students

**Progress Report Card Trimesters**

Aug. 16-Nov. 3, 2017

Nov. 3, 2017- Feb. 8, 2018

Feb. 8 - May 23, 2018

**School Board Member E-Mails**

**Beryl Piccolantonio -**

PiccolantonioB@gjps.org

**Jason Phillips -** PhillipsJ@gjps.org

**Matt Campbell -** [CampbellMP@gjps.org](mailto:CampbellMP@gjps.org)

**Jennifer Chrysler -** [ChryslerJ@gjps.org](mailto:ChryslerJ@gjps.org)

**Daphne Moehring -** MoehringD@gjps.org

## PRINCIPAL'S WELCOME

Dear Parents,

Welcome to another exciting school year at Jefferson Elementary School. We are pleased with the close partnership we have with our families. You are the vital communication link needed between home and school. Please be sure to review the weekly communication folder which will be sent home each week on Friday! You will receive regular newsletters and communications from the school.

We at Jefferson Elementary strive to create and support a "child-centered school." This is done by providing a positive atmosphere with every child's self-esteem and academic success being of utmost importance. Your child is important to us!!

We welcome your support and encourage open communication. Please read this booklet and review it with your children. We look forward to connecting with you and your children!

Sincerely,  
Roben Frentzel  
Principal

### **Jefferson Elementary School Mission/Vision Statement**

**"Positively Impacting Lives: Everybody, Everywhere, Every day."**

The Jefferson Elementary staff believes in every child's leadership potential. As a Leader in Me School we strive to develop leadership skills in all students and help them to find their voice. By providing a positive school climate and broad-based quality instruction, we believe that every student's individual potential will be enhanced.

We will help every student to reach the best of his/her abilities:

- to develop positive self-esteem
- to appreciate differences of fellow students
- to demonstrate achievement in academic and social skills, challenged by a high level of expectation
- to utilize technology to communicate and access information in a global society
- to develop leadership skills

It is the responsibility of the parents, students, staff and community to enable every child to be a life-long learner.

## **GAHANNA-JEFFERSON DISTRICT & JEFFERSON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL STUDENT/PARENT HANDBOOK**

### **FORWARD**

This student handbook contains information about student rights and responsibilities. Each parent and student is responsible for knowing its contents. Please take time to become familiar with the following information and keep the handbook available throughout the year. Should you have any questions that are not addressed in this handbook or the school handbook, you may contact the school office for assistance.

### **MISSION OF GAHANNA-JEFFERSON PUBLIC SCHOOLS**

The mission of Gahanna-Jefferson Public Schools is to develop citizens who possess the self-esteem, motivation and skills needed to communicate effectively, acquire and apply knowledge, make responsible decisions, respect cultural diversity and adapt to the challenges of the 21<sup>st</sup> century by providing a diverse, well-trained staff, dedicated to delivering a comprehensive curriculum which is based on research and which meets student and community needs.

### **DIRECTORY INFORMATION**

Directory information about students who attend Gahanna-Jefferson elementary schools will be made available upon a legitimate request unless a parent or guardian notifies the building principal in writing by September 30 of current school year that such information shall not be distributed.

### **GUIDELINES FOR STUDENT BEHAVIOR**

The Gahanna-Jefferson staff believes that attitude is important to the student's ability to learn. Good attitude develops good discipline, which lends itself to a good learning environment. With this in mind, we emphasize several areas of student behavior in the building handbook under "School Discipline" and "General Rules." In addition, please note that:

1. All rowdy conduct is strictly prohibited on school grounds.
2. Students' desks and locker areas are the property of Gahanna-Jefferson Public Schools and may be searched at any time.
3. No skateboards/scooters are allowed on school property.

### **GAHANNA-JEFFERSON SCHOOL BOARD APPROVED CODE OF STUDENT CONDUCT**

Since an orderly atmosphere is essential if learning is to take place, rules and guidelines assist in developing student responsibility and self-discipline as well as assist in promoting the common good and positive climate of the entire school. The Gahanna-Jefferson Elementary Schools must provide each student with the maximum opportunity to acquire an education. No student has the right to interfere with this opportunity by his/her actions, poor manners, or lack of consideration. All rules and guidelines are instituted and enforced with this thought in mind. Student and/or parent conferences, detentions, Saturday sessions, in-school restrictions, out-of-school suspensions, or expulsion will be used whenever it is deemed necessary.

Students are expected to conduct themselves in an orderly, courteous, dignified and respectful manner at all times. The following code of student conduct specifies certain types of conduct for which a student may be suspended, expelled, or removed. Such conduct may occur either:

- A. On/off school grounds during school hours including the time immediately preceding and after school;
- B. On school grounds during a school-sponsored activity, event or function; OR on school grounds at any other time when the school is being used by any school group;

- C. Off school grounds at a school-sponsored activity, event or function;
- D. In transit to or from school;
- E. On a school bus or at a school bus stop;
- F. Off school grounds at any time for a violation (1) that involves assault upon, or damage or destruction to the property of, a teacher, administrator, or other school employee, or (2) that poses a danger to the security and well-being of teachers, administrators, other school employees, or that would put a reasonable such person in fear of harm to personal security and well-being, or (3) that brings the District into ill repute (such as vandalism or the writing of graffiti that identifies the District or a school within the District).

Students are responsible for all items they bring on school grounds. Students are also responsible for all the contents of book bags and items in possession, whether known or unknown. School officials have the right to search students for inappropriate items and if they are in the vicinity of stolen property. This must be done to locate items and to dispel fake claims issued against a student.

A student who violates any of these rules may be suspended for up to ten (10) days, and may be expelled for up to one (1) year. If fewer than ten (10) days remain in the school year in which the violation takes place, any remaining part or all of the suspension or expulsion may be applied to the following school year. It shall be the decision of the proper school administrator, after weighing the facts and circumstances, as to which corrective measures are appropriate or adequate.

1. **Academic Misconduct** - A student shall not cheat on tests or other school assignments, or plagiarize. Any student caught cheating on a quiz, test, or project will receive a zero and may be subject to disciplinary action. Any student who steals the instructional materials from a teacher or staff member will be subject to disciplinary action. Any student who **knowingly** provides a term paper, project or test information, including the Ohio AIR Assessments for another student will be subject to disciplinary action. In the event a student is caught cheating on an Ohio AIR Assessment, the proctor shall take the student's test booklet or device and give a written account of the incident to the Building Coordinator.
2. **Alcohol and Other Drugs** - No student shall possess, conceal, use, purchase, offer to purchase, sell, give, distribute, supply or otherwise transmit, or be under the influence of any drug, prescription drug or counterfeit drug, the use or possession of which is prohibited by law or school policy. Nor shall students possess, conceal, use, purchase, offer to sell, give, distribute, supply or otherwise transmit any drug paraphernalia or instruments, such as pipes, roach clips, syringes, hypodermic needles, cocaine spoons or kits or any other items normally or actually used for the packaging, conveyance, dispensation or use of alcohol or other drugs. Failure to comply with this rule will be cause for suspension or expulsion from school, school property, and school activities. Counseling and/or treatment may be advised through an outside agency. Offenses are cumulative during elementary school, middle school, and high school years. Please refer to Drug/Alcohol Policy (Page 11).
3. **Appearance and Dress** - Students shall not violate school rules pertaining to appearance and dress. Students shall attend school dressed in a manner which is clean, not hazardous to their safety or to the safety of others, and which does not detract from the educational environment. Please refer to Guide to Student Dress (Page 19).
4. **Arson/Unauthorized Use of Fire** - A student shall not start an unauthorized fire, initiate a bomb threat or false fire alarm, and/or fail to report a fire, or tamper with safety equipment. Neither should a student possess an incendiary device on school property.
5. **Attendance** - A student shall comply with school attendance regulations. No student shall

be absent from all or any portion of regularly scheduled classes or other mandatory activities without school authorization and parental consent. Presence in unauthorized areas, such as the school parking lot during the school day, without a pass or without permission of a staff member, shall be considered a violation of this provision. Leaving the school campus without the permission of authorized school personnel shall also be a violation of this provision. Repeated tardiness to school or to specific classes shall also be considered a violation of this provision and may result in suspension or expulsion. Please refer to Student Attendance Policies and Practices (Page 13- 14).

6. **Civil Compliance** - No student shall violate any State Statutes or City Ordinance while under school authority.
7. **Damage or Destruction of Property** - A student shall not cause or attempt to cause damage to or destruction of any school property or property belonging to another person.
8. **Disruption of School** - A student shall not by use of violence, force, noise, coercion, threat, intimidation, fear, passive resistance, or any other conduct, intentionally cause substantial disruption or obstruction of the process or function of the school. Neither shall he/she urge other students to engage in such conduct.
9. **Explosives** - A student shall not offer to sell, sell, give as a gift, possess, handle, transmit, conceal or use any fireworks, explosive device, or substance that can be used as an explosive.
10. **Extortion** - A student shall not compel or attempt to compel any person to give up anything of value by means of any expressed or implied threat, harassment, intimidation, or injury to person, property, or reputation.
11. **Fighting/Assault/Unauthorized Touching** - A student shall not engage in fighting or otherwise cause physical injury or behave in such a way that could threaten to cause physical injury to staff, other students, or other individuals.
12. **Forgery/Falsification** - A student shall not forge the name of another person or falsify times, dates, grades, addresses, or any other data whether orally or in writing. A student may not intentionally mislead or withhold information from a school official regarding incidents involving student conduct.
13. **Gambling** - A student shall not gamble or assist others to gamble; e.g., card playing will not be permitted.
14. **Gang Paraphernalia** - Students shall not use or possess gang-related literature, or names on person, books or property.
15. **Harassment/Bullying/Hazing** - A student shall not harass, bully, haze, persecute, intimidate, insult, abuse or participate in any act that injures, degrades, or disgraces any student, staff or other school employee. Any speech or action that is inappropriate because of its subject matter (i.e. gender, sexual, ethnic, or religious and/or disability) and creates a hostile, intimidating or offensive learning environment is prohibited. Harassment, intimidation or bullying is defined as any intentional written, verbal, or physical act that one student exhibits toward another student more than once that both: 1) causes mental or physical harm to the other student, and 2) is sufficiently severe, persistent, or pervasive that it creates an intimidating, threatening, or abusive educational environment. Cyber communication and dating violence are considered under this policy.
16. **Inappropriate Behavior/Other Conduct** - It is recognized that no list of prohibited conduct can specifically encompass every action, which may become a subject of discipline. The superintendent or building principal shall have the authority to impose discipline upon a student for conduct not set forth herein if it substantially disrupts or interferes with the good order, discipline, operation, or educational process of the school or if it materially is or poses a threat to the safety of persons or property.
17. **Identification** - All students must promptly, upon request, identify themselves to school authorities.
18. **Inappropriate Use of Technology** - The inappropriate use of technology is subject to disciplinary action. Technology includes, but is not limited to, the use of computers, copiers, fax machines, cell phones/camera phones, gaming units, personal music devices, digital

cameras and recorders. Please refer to Computer Use Agreement (Page 30).

19. **Insubordination/Disrespect** - A student shall comply with directives and accept Board authorized discipline and punishment from teachers, student teachers, educational aides, substitute teachers, principals, or other school personnel.
20. **Intimidation or Threats** - A student shall not threaten with physical violence or coerce by any means, any student, teacher, school employee or other individual. Nor shall a student urge another student or any other person to employ threats of intimidation. Any student who uses intimidation or threat of force using gang or group affiliation may be disciplined more severely.
21. **Laser Pens and Similar Devices** - Due to the potential for harm to persons and property, laser pens and other inappropriate electronic devices will be considered prohibited items on Gahanna Public Schools property. Possession or use could result in suspension. Parents may retrieve the confiscated item(s).
22. **Possession of Stolen Property** - A student shall not receive, retain, or possess school or private property knowing, or having reasonable cause to believe, it has been stolen.
23. **Profanity/Abusive Language/Obscenity** - A student shall not use profane, vulgar, racially or religiously or sexually derogatory, or other improper language. Nor shall a student use vulgar, profane or other improper gestures or signs.
24. **School Bus Violation** - A student shall not interfere with or disrupt the operation of a school bus by activities dangerous to its safe operation including, but not limited to, failing to remain seated, throwing objects out the window or at passengers or at the driver, shouting or other disorderly conduct which can cause physical harm, emotional stress or diversion of the driver's attention. Students shall conduct themselves in a safe and orderly manner while waiting to board the bus and after leaving the bus. They shall not trespass or impose on nearby property.
25. **Sexual Misconduct** - Students are not to hold hands or walk with arms around each other or display any other physical affection while on school premises, under school authority, or while attending any school-sponsored activities. "Sexual misconduct" includes public indecency, having sexual contact with another with or without consent, and sexually harassing comments and behavior. Students should report such conduct to a teacher or administrator.
26. **Theft** - A student shall not take or acquire the property of the school or any other person without authorization.
27. **Throwing of Objects** - Students are not permitted to throw any objects including snowballs and ice on school property or within school jurisdiction.
28. **Tobacco** - No student shall offer to sell, possess or use tobacco or have a cigarette lighter and matches.
29. **Trespassing** - A student shall not enter upon school grounds or into school buildings to which the student is not assigned, except with the permission of an appropriate administrator of that building or to attend a school-sponsored event in which his/her regularly-assigned school is involved or where students from his/her school have been invited to attend.
30. **Unauthorized Sales** - A student shall not sell, buy, offer to sell or buy, exchange, or distribute any service or product without prior authorization of the building principal.
31. **Violation of School Discipline Procedures** - The violation of conditions of student suspensions or other disciplinary procedures shall be considered a separate disciplinary violation and shall be subject to additional penalties. Students who repeatedly violate the Student Code of Conduct may be subject to additional penalties. Students who repeatedly violate the Student Code of Conduct may also be subject to additional disciplinary action.
32. **Weapons and Dangerous Instruments** - No student shall sell, possess, handle, transmit, conceal, use, distribute, supply or purchase or offer to sell, possess, handle, transmit, conceal, use, distribute, supply or purchase any object that is considered as a weapon, a dangerous instrument or is a look-alike weapon. Weapons and dangerous instruments shall include any object, which is used or may be used to inflict physical harm or property damage. Examples, which are not meant to be all-inclusive, are knives, guns, chains and

sharpened sticks. Unawareness of the possession of weapons or dangerous instruments on school property does not absolve the student of responsibility for possession of that object.

#### **REMOVAL, SUSPENSION, AND EXPULSION OF STUDENTS**

The Board of Education recognizes that exclusion from the educational program of the schools, whether by emergency removal, suspension, expulsion, or permanent exclusion is the most severe sanction that can be imposed on a student in this district, and one that cannot be imposed without due process.

For purposes of this policy and the Superintendent's administrative guidelines, the following definitions shall apply: **(OUR SENSITIVITY TO A NATIONWIDE CONCERN FOR THE SAFETY OF STUDENTS UNDERLIES OUR ADHERENCE TO A ZERO TOLERANCE ON WEAPONS.)**

**A. "Emergency removal"** shall be the exclusion of a student who poses a continuing danger to District property or persons in the District or whose behavior presents an on-going threat of disrupting the educational process provided by the District.

**B. "Suspension"** shall be the temporary exclusion of a student by the school building administrator from the District's program for a period not to exceed ten (10) school days. The student may not return to school until the days are served. Failure to follow this directive may result in additional days of suspension. If at the time of a suspension there are fewer days remaining in the school year than the number of days of the suspension, the superintendent may apply any or all of the remaining period to the following school year.

**C. "Expulsion"** shall be the exclusion of a student from the schools of this district for a period not to exceed eighty (80) school days unless the incident involves a firearm. If at the time of an expulsion there are fewer days remaining in the school year than the number of days of the expulsion, the superintendent may apply any or all of the remaining periods to the following school year. If a student brings a firearm on school property in a school vehicle, or to any school sponsored activity he/she shall be expelled for one (1) year unless the superintendent reduces the punishment for reasons related to the specific circumstances. The superintendent may also expel a student for up to one (1) year if the student brings a knife onto school property in a school vehicle or to any school sponsored activity. A student may also be expelled for a year if he/she possesses a firearm or knife at school or any other property owned or controlled by the Board which firearm or knife was initially brought onto district property by another person. In compliance with federal law, the superintendent shall also refer any student expelled for possession of a firearm to the criminal justice or juvenile delinquency system serving the district.



## **GAHANNA-JEFFERSON SCHOOL BOARD APPROVED DRUG AND ALCOHOL POLICY**

### **Introduction**

It is the primary concern of the Gahanna-Jefferson Board of Education that educational and co-curricular programs for all students precede in an orderly and non-disruptive manner. The sale, use, or possession of intoxicants, illegal drugs, counterfeit drugs, or other controlled substances by students is an obstacle to this objective and an interference with the rights of students to receive quality academic instruction.

The Gahanna-Jefferson Board of Education recognizes that individuals who are experiencing problems with alcohol and other drugs are in need of assistance. The type of assistance needed may vary; however, the district is committed to work cooperatively with student and family to help provide alternatives from which these individuals can benefit. Such school district resources as student groups, parent groups, school counselors, school psychologists, and special transitional programs are to be encouraged, made available, and recommended. Students and parents will also be given information about outside agencies and encouraged to take advantage of their services and programs.

Student alcohol and other drug education and referral to counseling resources shall be viewed as instructional and rehabilitative, not as an alternative to the disciplinary measures specified in this policy.

### **Statement of Policy**

Students of the Gahanna-Jefferson Public School District shall not possess, conceal, use, purchase, offer to purchase, sell, give, distribute, supply, or otherwise transmit, offer to sell, give, distribute, supply or otherwise transmit, or be under the influence of any drug, prescription drug, or counterfeit drug, the use or possession of which is prohibited by law or school policy. Nor shall students possess, conceal, use, purchase, offer to purchase, sell, give, distribute, supply, or otherwise transmit, any drug paraphernalia or instruments, such as pipes, roach clips, syringes, hypodermic needles, cocaine spoons or kits or any other items normally or actually used for packaging, conveyance, dispensation, or use of alcohol or other drugs. Such conduct is prohibited as follows:

- A. At school bus stops or on any property owned, leased by, or under the control of the Gahanna-Jefferson Board of Education, including vehicles used for the transport of students.
- B. On/off school grounds during school hours, including the time immediately preceding and after school.
- C. On/off school grounds while at a school sponsored activity, event, or function or on school grounds while the school or grounds are being used for school activities.

This policy will be subject to enforcement and/or disciplinary action by the administration during the course of the school year, including classes and other school sponsored or sanctioned activities during the summer or other school breaks. Additionally, offenses in violation of this policy are accumulative:

- A. during a student's elementary school years.
- B. during a student's middle school years beginning with a first offense level of discipline at middle school.
- C. during a student's high school years beginning with a first offense level discipline at high school.

### **Offenses and Disciplinary Action**

The actions set forth below will be considered routine disciplinary measures for each category and occurrence of offense and shall be administered in accordance with the policies and regulations of the Gahanna-Jefferson Board of Education. By "routine disciplinary measures" it is intended that

the penalties delineated below shall be considered the standard penalty imposed for the offense described.

Students who voluntarily request assistance or counseling in situations where no offense, as specified below, has been detected by school officials, will not be deemed in violation of school policy based on information divulged. In situations where an offense, as specified below, has been detected by school officials, violations of this policy will not necessarily be excused because the student has requested counseling.

### **Alcohol and Other Drugs: Policy**

#### **1. Selling/Distribution**

No student shall sell, transmit, distribute, supply, or offer to sell, transmit, distribute, or supply any quantity of alcohol, illegal drugs, counterfeit drugs, controlled substances, drug paraphernalia or instruments, or prescription drugs.

##### **A. 1st Offense:**

1. Parent(s) will be notified immediately and the students will be removed from school for the remainder of the day.
2. Police shall be notified.
3. Consultation with parent(s) and student emphasizing available education and counseling services for alcohol and other drug evaluation procedures will be conducted.
4. The student shall be suspended for ten (10) days and may be recommended for expulsion.
5. The Registrar of Motor Vehicles and the Juvenile Court will be notified for the purpose of suspending the temporary instruction permit or operator's license or denying the opportunity to obtain such a permit or license until the student becomes age 18 and earns a high school diploma or GED.

##### **B. 2nd or Subsequent Offenses:**

1. Parent(s) will be notified immediately and the students will be removed from school for the remainder of the day.
2. Police shall be notified.
3. Consultation with parent(s) and student emphasizing available education and counseling services for alcohol and other drug evaluation procedures will be conducted.
4. The student shall be suspended for ten (10) days and recommended for expulsion.

#### **2. Use/Possession/Purchase**

No student shall possess, conceal, use, purchase, offer to purchase drug paraphernalia or instruments, such as pipes, roach clips, syringes, hypodermic needles, cocaine spoons or kits or any other items normally or actually used for packaging, conveyance, dispensation, or use of alcohol or other drugs. Nor shall any student use, be under the influence of, possess, conceal, have control of, purchase or attempt to purchase intoxicants, illegal drugs, counterfeit drugs, controlled substances, or prescription drugs when such use, possession, or control is prohibited by law, school policies or regulations of the Board of Education.

Students may possess or use prescription and non-prescription medications consistent with School District Medication Policy (see Medication Policy).

##### **A. 1st Offense:**

1. Parent(s) will be notified, and the student will be removed from school for the remainder of the day.
2. Police shall be notified.
3. The nurse will be notified, and the emergency medical rescue squad will be called, if necessary.

4. The student shall lose parking privileges for the remainder of the year.
5. Parent/guardian of the offending student shall choose one of the following options:

The student will be suspended for ten (10) days from school. The Registrar of Motor Vehicles and the Juvenile Court will be notified for the purpose of suspending the temporary instruction permit or operator's license or denying the opportunity to obtain such a permit or license until the student becomes age 18, earns a high school diploma or GED.

Or

The student will be suspended for seven (7) days from school with the agreement to complete an evaluation that includes an educational component pertaining to alcohol and other drugs. Such evaluation shall be documented by a certified counselor as agreed to by school officials, parents/guardians, and the student. A written copy of the evaluation must be sent to school officials including findings and recommendations for the student.

#### **B. 2nd Offense:**

1. Parent(s) will be notified, and the student will be removed from school for the remainder of the day.
2. Police shall be notified.
3. The nurse will be notified, and the emergency medical rescue squad will be called, if necessary.
4. The Registrar of Motor Vehicles and the Juvenile Court will be notified for the purpose of suspending the temporary instruction permit or operator's license or denying the opportunity to obtain such a permit or license until the student becomes age 18, earns a high school diploma, or GED. The student will be suspended for ten (10) days and a recommendation for expulsion with no alternative option for lesser penalty.

**STUDENT ATTENDANCE POLICIES AND PRACTICES** *Due to the passage of House Bill 410, the district is reviewing the current school attendance policy and guidelines. The revised policy and guidelines will be available at the beginning of the 2017-2018 school year.*

Regular attendance is a most important factor in the establishment of a good scholastic record. Work missed through the absence from school is very difficult to make up. **There is NO SUBSTITUTE for actual participation in the daily classroom discussion and work.**

**Classes are in session from 8:00-2:30 PM.** Students are not permitted in the building after 3:00 PM unless supervised by a member of the faculty. The building office hours are from 7:00 AM-3:30 PM. Students are **NOT** permitted to enter the building until 7:50 AM unless they are attending breakfast, which begins at 7:30 AM, or they are involved in an approved activity. Students are required to be in school on time for their first class.

#### **1. Call-Ins/Notification of Absences**

Knowing where your sons and daughters are during the school day is very important to the school as well as you. The school and the parent/guardian need to work together to assure that we keep each other informed when students are not in school.

- a. The school is requesting that the parent/guardian make every effort to notify the school in **ALL** cases of student absence. Calls can be made to our office 478-5560 or email school secretary (bottt@gjps.org), clinic aide (baumannc@gjps.org) or principal (frentzeln@gjps.org).
- b. It is desired that the parent/guardian notify the school in advance of an absence when possible. For example, a phone call or a note from a parent/guardian on

Wednesday to notify the school of an absence on Friday would be greatly appreciated.

- c. If a student is absent, the school will attempt to contact the parent/guardian who has **NOT** notified the school. If no contact is made, an explanation from the parent/guardian will be necessary. **If the school does not receive an explanation of the absence within three (3) school days, the absence will automatically be considered unexcused.**
- d. A student who signs in before 9:00 AM will be considered tardy. If it is after 9:00 AM, then the student will be marked as a half day of absence. If a student signs out before 9:00 AM, then it would be a full day of absence. A student who leaves after 1:30 PM will be marked as an early dismissal. Whether the absence from the time missed at school is considered excused or unexcused is dependent upon the reason given and to the discretion of the principal or his/her designee.

## 2. Excusable Reasons for Absence

An excused absence may be granted at the discretion of the principal or his/her designee. **A student will have a minimum of one school day for each day of excused absence to make up assignments.** An excused absence will only be granted for the time missed at school for the following reasons:

- A. personal illness, other health-related appointments, or professional appointments (a written physician's statement verifying the illness may be required and will be required after the tenth day of excused absences allowed by the District in a school year)
- B. illness in the family necessitating the presence of the child (a written physician's statement and an explanation as to why the child's absence was necessary may be required)
- C. quarantine of the home (as determined by the proper health officials)
- D. death of a relative (limited to a period of three (3) days unless a reasonable cause may be shown for a longer absence)
- E. necessary work at home due to absence or incapacity of parent(s)/guardian(s) (applicable only to a child over fourteen (14) years of age)
- F. observation or celebration of a bona fide religious holiday
- G. out-of-state travel to participate in a District-approved enrichment or extracurricular activity (up to a maximum of four (4) days per school year)
- H. emergency or other set of circumstances (as may be acceptable to the Superintendent)
- I. medically necessary leave for a pregnant student in accordance with Policy 5751
- J. service as a precinct officer at a primary, special, or general election in accordance with the program set forth in Policy 5725
- K. college visitation (not to exceed three (3) days per school year)
- L. family travel (which is included within the 10 days of excused absences allowed by the District)

The Superintendent may excuse a student over fourteen (14) years of age from attendance at school for a future limited period for the purpose of performing essential work directly or exclusively for his/her parents or guardians. Such excuse should not exceed five (5) days and may at the discretion of the Superintendent be renewed for five (5) additional days. At no time, however, shall such excuse cause a student to be absent from school for a period of more than ten (10) consecutive days.

At the discretion of the Superintendent or his/her designee, a student may be excused for a longer period of time than ten (10) days if a child's parent or guardian has recently died or become totally or partially incapacitated and there is no older brother or sister living in the home who is out of school. In such case, the Superintendent may request a certificate of a physician attesting to the physical condition of the parent or guardian.

**3. Needs Medical/Court Excuse (NMCE)**

After a student has been absent ten (10) days (excused or unexcused) in any school year, a letter will be sent to the home and may request a Needs Medical/Court Excuse (NMCE) for any additional days missed. This will require that the student have a doctor/dentist/court excuse for every absence in order for it to be excused. A student has three (3) days to provide a doctor, dentist, or court excuse. If the student does not have a doctor/dentist/court excuse, the absence will be unexcused. Students with a temperature of 100 degrees or higher or a communicable illness and have been sent home by the nurse will be excused by the school. An NMCE student who gets permission from his/her parent/guardian to go home from the clinic is unexcused. Truancy charges may be filed on a student who has five (5) or more unexcused absences after the 10th day of excused absences allowed by the District.

**4. Tardiness**

Students late to school (after 8:00 AM) must report to the office to sign in before reporting to class. Parents/Guardians must provide an explanation for the tardiness. Excessive tardies that are unexcused will result in a disciplinary action by the office. **If the school does not receive an explanation of the tardiness within three (3) school days, the tardiness will automatically be considered unexcused.**

**5. Unexcused Absences, Tardies, Early Dismissal**

The determination of whether or not the time missed from school is excused or unexcused will be at the discretion of the principal or his/her designee. Excessive absences, tardies, and early dismissals that are unexcused will result in a disciplinary action by the office. Examples of unexcused absences, tardies, and early dismissals include, but are not limited to:

- a. Cutting classes or study halls
- b. Missing the bus or a ride
- c. Oversleeping
- d. Shopping
- e. Suspension
- f. Truancy
- g. Lice (It may be unexcused if the absence related to lice is excessive.)

**No student shall leave school grounds without permission of the principal.**

**6. Truancy and Habitual Absence**

For those students who have habitual or chronic attendance problems, the administrator of the building will address those problems in accordance with state law and board policy. A student shall be considered truant each day he/she is absent without excuse from his/her assigned location.

A student will be considered "habitually truant" under State law if the student is absent without a legitimate excuse for five (5) or more consecutive school days, for seven (7) or more school days in one (1) month, or twelve (12) or more school days in one (1) school year.

A student will be considered "chronically truant" under State law if the student is absent without a legitimate excuse for seven (7) or more consecutive school days, for ten (10) or more school days in one (1) month, or for fifteen (15) or more school days in one (1) year.

Legitimate excuses for the absence of a student who is otherwise habitually or chronically truant include but are not limited to:

- A. the student was enrolled in another school district;
- B. the student was excused from attendance in accordance with R.C. 3321.04; or
- C. the student has received an age and schooling certificate.

If a student is "habitually truant" and the student's parent has failed to cause the student's attendance, the Board authorizes the Superintendent to file a complaint with the Judge of the Juvenile Court and/or to take any other appropriate intervention actions as set forth in this Board's policy.

If a student is "chronically truant" and the student's parent has failed to cause the student's attendance, the Board authorizes the Superintendent to file a complaint with the Judge of the Juvenile Court and/or to take any other appropriate intervention actions as set forth in this Board's policy.

In order to address the attendance practices of a student who is "habitually or chronically" truant, the Board authorizes the Superintendent or designee to take any of the following intervention actions:

- A. assign the student to a truancy intervention program
- B. provide counseling to the student
- C. request or require the student's parent to attend a parental involvement program
- D. request or require a parent to attend a truancy prevention mediation program
- E. notify the Registrar of Motor Vehicles of the student's absences
- F. take appropriate legal action
- G. assign the student to an alternative school

The Superintendent is authorized to establish an educational program for parents of truant students which is designed to encourage parents to ensure that their children attend school regularly. Any parent who does not complete the program is to be reported to law enforcement authorities for parental education neglect, a fourth class misdemeanor if found guilty.

Whenever any student of compulsory school age has ten (10) consecutive days or a total of fifteen (15) days of unexcused absence from school during any semester, s/he will be considered habitually absent. The Board authorizes the Superintendent or designee to inform the student and his/her parents, guardian, or custodian of the record of excessive absence as well as the District's intent to notify the Registrar of Motor Vehicles, if appropriate, and the Judge of the Juvenile Court of the student's excessive absence.

#### **7. Returning to School after an Absence**

The first day a student returns to school from any and all absences, he/she must report to the office for an excuse form. All students should make arrangements to complete missed work. **A student will have a minimum of one school day for each day of absence to make up assignments.**

If a student misses more than one (1) day of school, homework may be requested by calling the office before 10:00 AM. Work will be sent to the office by 2:30 PM. It is the parent's/guardian's responsibility to make arrangements to have it picked up after this time.

### 8. Steps for Absence by Permission

Appointments with a doctor, dentist, court etc., should not be made during school time. In case this should be necessary, however, the parent/guardian of the student must contact the school prior to the student's first scheduled period. If the student is released, and it is learned that the excuse was **NOT** valid, the absence will be unexcused. Students leaving or returning to the school grounds during the school day **MUST** first report to the office. Failure to sign out may result in an unexcused absence.

### 9. Family Travel

Ohio has specific compulsory attendance regulations, and Gahanna-Jefferson Public Schools must comply with those statutes. Ohio Revised Code Section 3321.02 states, "every child actually resident in the state shall be amenable to the laws relating to compulsory education, and neither he nor the person in charge of him shall be excused from the operations of said sections or the penalties under them on the ground that the child's residency is seasonal, that the parent of the child is a resident of another state, or that the child has attended school for the legal period in another state."

Whenever a pre-planned absence for family travel is requested, the parent/guardian must discuss it with the principal. The length of absence should be made clear, and those involved should have an opportunity to express their views on the potential effects of the absence.

The District will only approve a student's absence for family travel when he/she will be in the company of his/her own parent/guardian or other family members but no other students' parent(s)/guardian(s), unless there are extenuating circumstances deemed appropriate by the principal. In order for the family travel to be an excused absence, it must be within the ten (10) days of excused absences allowed by the District.

If a student is absent for family travel outside of the ten (10) days of excused absences allowed by the District, he/she will be considered unexcused from school and subject to truancy regulations. The school district may be obligated to report the parent/guardian to the Franklin County Juvenile Court System and file charges of lack of compliance with the compulsory education rules. During this time period, the student may be given approximate assignments to be completed. The time missed will be counted as an authorized, unexcused absence but shall not be a factor in determining grades unless the make-up work is not completed.

### 10. Planned Absence (eg. Family travel, college visits, etc.)

In the event that the student knows in advance that he/she will be absent (e.g. family travel, college visit, etc.) for several days, the parent/guardian should send a note to the office a week in advance. The student will be given a "**Planned Absence Form.**" This form must be returned to the office before the planned absence begins. All make-up work is due on the first day the student returns from the planned absence. This work includes any tests that the student may have missed during his/her planned absence. **We strongly discourage any planned absences during the last week of any grading period or during state-wide testing.**

### 11. Absence on Extra-Curricular Days

Students who are absent from school a half day or longer may not be permitted to participate in any extra-curricular activity on that day.

### ACCESS TO EQUAL EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITY

- These guidelines shall be used to ensure that the Board of Education's policy on nondiscrimination (2260) is implemented properly and in compliance with federal and state laws and regulations, particularly part 104 of Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (34CFR). A copy of Part 104 is provided as AG 2260A. Notice of the Board's policy on nondiscrimination in educational practices shall be posted throughout the District, published in any District statement regarding the availability of educational services, and in all student handbooks.
- Children who have been diagnosed as having a disability and who, through a multi-factored evaluation, qualify for categorical service under IDEA will be served under the existing State Special Educational regulations. Section 504 protects and safeguards all students with a mental or physical impairment which is defined as substantially limiting one (1) or more major life activities or:
  - A. The student has a record of such impairment.
  - B. The student is regarded as having such impairment.

The district will identify, evaluate, and provide an appropriate education for students who are disabled under Section 504.

### PESTICIDE APPLICATION ON SCHOOL PROPERTY

Pesticides may periodically be applied to school property. Parents have the right to request prior notification of pesticide applications on school property. Any parent that wishes to have prior notification of pesticide application should notify the building principal in writing. Prior notification will be provided to those parents who request the notification in the form of a written notice to be sent home with the child or through email.

### ELECTRONIC DEVICES/COLLECTIONS/PETS/TOYS

Students are discouraged from bringing to school anything that distracts or disrupts others. Radios, tape recorders, walkman-type headsets, MP3 players, electronic games, collections, toys, and pets **should not** be brought to school unless they are needed for an approved project. Electronic communication devices (i.e., cell phones, pagers, PDA's, and two-way radios) **are not** permitted to be used during the regular school day. We recognize that parents may provide their children with mobile phones for a variety of reasons including safety related concerns. If parents need to reach their child during the school day, parents should call the school office at 478-5555. Mobile phones carried by students during the school day will be collected by school staff and may be returned to students at the end of the school day (first time) or parents/guardians may be required to pick up the mobile phone from the school office (subsequent times). If your child must bring a cell phone it is to be turned off and kept in book bag, only to be used outside of school hours. The school district is not responsible for lost, stolen, or damaged personal belongings.

### Electronic Reading Devices

Electronic Reading devices (e.g., Kindle, Nook, tablets etc.) can be a useful and motivating way to read. Jefferson Elementary recognizes the potential value of these tools to students. However, students will be permitted to use electronic reading devices only for approved projects with advance permission by parents and teachers. An [E-Reader Permission form](#) should be completed, signed by teacher and parent and returned to school before the device is brought to school. Jefferson Elementary, its staff, and the Gahanna-Jefferson school district are not responsible for items that are lost, stolen or damaged. All other school policies regarding appropriate use of school technology remain in effect when students use personal devices.



## **SCHOOL LUNCHES**

Any questions concerning the operation of the cafeteria, menus, or cooks shall be directed to the coordinator of food services, Mrs. Green, at the administrative offices (471-7065).

Student lunches will be \$2.65 this year for the hot lunch. You will notice on the menu that students have a choice of three different lunch types: a sandwich lunch, a main entree', or yogurt. Milk will be 50 cents for those who pack their lunch. Parents are encouraged to use the [www.mypaymentsplus.com](http://www.mypaymentsplus.com) website to monitor student account balances and/or deposit money. We want to encourage children to practice good nutrition habits at school, and because of this we will not allow them to bring "pop" in their packed lunches from home. \*\*Please note: Many of our children are allergic to peanuts or nuts or items made with them. Please refrain from sending nuts or peanuts, if possible. Thanks. We will again have a peanut free table in the cafeteria. Those students who do not have any peanut products in their lunches are welcome to sit there. At Jefferson Elementary we also serve a school breakfast from 7:30-8:00 AM. The cost is \$1.45.

## **RECESS RULES-Aligned with overall school expectations of kindness, good manners, sportsmanship and quality choices.**

### **Outside Recess/Playground**

1. No tackle football.
2. No football games on the blacktop.
3. No pulling of clothing or such games that involve grabbing hats, coats, etc.
4. Tether ball limited to two players per ball.
5. No hard baseballs or regular softballs permitted during recess periods.
6. When swinging, only one person per swing permitted. Also no twisting of swings is allowed.
7. Sliding boards are intended for sliding down only, not walking up and down.
8. Horizontal ladder is not to be used as a seating area, only for climbing.
9. No snowball throwing is permitted at any time.
10. No skateboards or roller skates are permitted at school.

### **Inside Recess**

1. All students are to be seated either at desks, tables or on the floor.
2. There is to be no running or throwing in the classroom.
3. There is to be no visiting between rooms.
4. Board games, etc., are permitted as specified by classroom teacher.
5. No electronic games are permitted at school, IPODs or Gameboys.
6. Computers may not be used without the classroom teacher present.

### **Inside Recess Due to Student's Illness**

They must have a note from home or doctor.

## **CAFETERIA RULES**

1. Talking is to be kept to a normal level of conversation.
2. There is to be no throwing of food at any time.
3. All areas around table should be picked up of litter after each student is done.
4. Students will be dismissed by duty teacher when they are finished.
5. Students waiting in line should keep their hands to themselves and feet off the wall.
6. Students are to sit in designated areas as specified by the teachers.
7. Duty teacher will monitor to keep noise to an acceptable level.
8. Peanut butter and tree nut lunches are not permitted in NUT FREE table zone.

## **SECURITY CAMERAS**

Interior and exterior security cameras are located at each building in the Gahanna-Jefferson school district. Cameras are not located in areas where people would normally expect to have privacy.

## STUDENT RECORDS

Please report any changes in address, phone number, and other vital information to the school office as soon as it is known. We can then maintain current information in our files. Families who plan to move to some other address, either within the district or to another town, should likewise inform the school as soon as possible. The necessary withdrawal forms can be prepared for the parents' signature. Remember, we cannot release a student's personal records without a parent signature.

## GUIDE TO STUDENT DRESS

Although the major responsibility for good grooming rests in the home with each student and their parents, the school has concerns in regard to health, safety and an atmosphere that will promote good learning. Therefore, we ask the parents to support and promote the following guidelines:

- Safe footwear is to be worn at all times. For reasons of safety, **students are not permitted to wear flip-flops**, clogs, large heeled shoes or flimsy sandals. Heelies are not permitted.
- Shorts and skirts are acceptable except for those that are revealing, biking shorts, short shorts/skirts or cut-off jeans. Using the **mid-thigh** rule for guidance is our policy.
- Transparent or revealing clothing, muscle shirts, tank tops, half shirts, halter and bare midriff tops are not permitted. **No spaghetti type shirts** or shoulder less shirts are to be worn.
- T-shirts must never be worn which are degrading or unkind as determined by faculty.
- No hats, sweatbands, bandanas, sunglasses or outside coats are to be worn in the building.
- Clothing with profane, suggestive, or questionable pictures and/or lettering are not to be worn, nor clothing which advertises alcohol, drugs, or disrupts the educational program.
- Altered clothing with patches and holes are not permitted.
- Hair color and hair styles which are distracting in our learning environment are not be worn.
- Tattoos should not be worn to school

## BUS INFORMATION

- Students riding the bus will follow the rules established by the Board of Education for the safety of all concerned. Students are not permitted to ride any bus other than the one assigned to them. In case of emergency where the parents or guardians are not able to be at home, a note must be sent by **both** families when a child is to accompany a friend. This must be approved in the building office.
- Students not following the rules set by the driver and the Board of Education will be subject to written reprimands and face possible dismissal and/or suspension from bus-riding privileges. Please refer to GJPS Bus Rules (Page 24).

## SEVERE WEATHER: SCHOOL CLOSING INFORMATION

- If for some reason school should need to be canceled, please tune in to a local radio or TV station prior to 7:00 a.m. Occasionally it becomes necessary to close school earlier than the regular dismissal time, and since it is impossible to contact every parent, please instruct your child where he/she should go. Please keep Home Access Center (HAC) information current.
- Please do not call the school during these times if at all possible. Please listen for radio and TV announcements.
- In case of severe weather (snow, low temperatures, ice), the official announcement for school closings may be heard on local radio and television stations. Listen for "**GAHANNA SCHOOLS**" or "**GAHANNA-JEFFERSON SCHOOLS**".

## BICYCLE RULES

All students riding bicycles to school (grades 3-5) must have written permission from the parent. Bike racks are provided along the south side of the building. Bike riding is discouraged for students

in grades kindergarten, first and second. Each rider must follow all rules of safety and obey all traffic laws. Riding double or the dangerous operation of bicycles will not be permitted. There is to be no joyriding on school property or tampering with the bicycles. Students must walk their bicycles while on school property.

### **SAFETY PATROL**

Jefferson Elementary provides fifth grade students to monitor students coming to school and going home and at various other locations on school property. They are there for your child's safety.

They do not go outside during severe weather conditions. These consist of:

1. Severe thunderstorms
2. Heavy rain
3. When it is determined that the temperature/wind chill factor could be harmful.

Please instruct your child to cross the streets at intersections where the school patrol is stationed.

### **P.T.O.**

We have a very active P.T.O. at Jefferson. A list of the officers and committees will be sent home. Below are some PTO activities and functions:

- Sponsor school/classroom parties - room mothers/fathers will be chosen early in the school year - parties will be a Halloween party and Valentine's Day.
- Sponsor various functions to honor the staff and employees
- Raise funds to supply the school with extra items beyond the day-to-day necessities
- Sponsor activities and funds to assist with the school Safety Patrol
- Organize the Volunteer Program for parents working in the school
- Many, many more.
- We ask that you get involved in one or more of the P.T.O. functions. More information will be forthcoming.

### **REPORT CARDS/PARENT CONFERENCES**

- Evaluation reports of pupil progress will be sent home at the end of each trimester. During the course of the year, interim reports indicating progress will be sent to parents.
- Scheduled Parent/Teacher Conferences will be held in October and February. At other times during the school year, conferences may be requested by a parent or a teacher when it is deemed necessary.

### **CURRICULUM**

As a matter of information, the entire curriculum taught in Gahanna-Jefferson Schools is approved by the local Board of Education, and acknowledged by the State Department of Education as the adopted Common Core Curriculum. This includes objectives for each subject area. The teachers develop their lesson plans using these various courses of study.

### **STUDENT HEALTH INFORMATION**

A part-time Registered Nurse is assigned to each elementary and middle school. There are also clinic aides available during school hours to take care of ill children, minor injuries and administration of specific medications.

If your child is complaining of being sick in the morning, please take their temperature before sending them to school. If the child is vomiting or has a temperature of 100 degrees F or greater, the child must stay home from school until they are fever-free (without the use of medication such as Tylenol or Ibuprofen) for 24 hours.

Gahanna-Jefferson students are excluded from school in accordance with the recommendations from the Ohio Department of Health. The Ohio Department of Health communicable Disease chart can be viewed online at:

<http://www.odjfs.state.oh.us/forms/file.asp?id=1730&type=application/pdf>

## **MEDICATIONS**

According to Ohio laws and school district policy, it is necessary for the school to follow strict guidelines pertaining to students taking medications at school. Because of this, *students are not permitted to take medication (including over-the-counter) at school unless the necessary form is completed by both the physician or nurse practitioner and parent.* This form is available from the school office or on the district website:

[http://www.gahannaschools.org/Uploads/Documents/District/2012\\_2013Forms/2012-2013ESprescriptionForm.pdf](http://www.gahannaschools.org/Uploads/Documents/District/2012_2013Forms/2012-2013ESprescriptionForm.pdf)

The medication must be brought to school **by an adult**, in the original container labeled with the student's name, name of medication, dose and time it is to be given. This policy applies to prescription, as well as over-the-counter medications, like Tylenol, Children's Motrin, cough drops, etc.

*We strongly urge that all medications be administered at home whenever possible.*

For questions or clarifications, please contact the school nurse assigned to your building.

## **Wellness Issues**

**Peanuts and Nuts:** In an effort to protect each child's safety, Jefferson Elementary will only permit peanuts and tree nuts in the cafeteria in designated areas, Monday-Friday, during lunchtime periods only. There will be a designated NO peanut/nut ZONE in cafeteria. Peanuts and nuts will be closely monitored by trained staff and faculty. The use of nuts and peanuts at any school function during school or after school is **strictly prohibited**. In order to maintain safety tree nuts and peanuts are discouraged in classroom parties, classroom activities, Birthday snacks, and all PTO sponsored or school sponsored events.

## **Health & Wellness**

GJPS Wellness Committee meets at least four times a year to collaborate with parents, teachers, school administrators, students, school health professionals, and community members to further our culture of wellness. The WC is dedicated to improving the health of students through increasing physical activity and nutrition education. The Committee welcomes new members and publishes a newsletter periodically. Please see the Family Wellness area on the GJPS website under Child Nutrition for wellness resources and contact information.

### **Physical Education**

A comprehensive physical education program is provided for students in K-12 with the academic content standards adopted by the State. The PE curriculum provides students with opportunities to learn and practice skills necessary to engage in lifelong, health-enhancing physical activity.

### **Nutrition**

School Meals - the Food Service/Child Nutrition program will provide all students' affordable access to varied and nutritious food based on the current Dietary Guidelines for Americans, USDA meal patterns, and Smart Snacks in Schools. Students are discouraged from sharing food with one another during meal times due to allergies, and other dietary restrictions.

### **Nutrition Education & Promotion**

Nutrition promotion and education positively influences lifelong eating behaviors by using evidence-based techniques, nutrition messages, and by creating food environments that encourage healthy nutrition choices and encourage participation in school meal programs.

### **Classroom Celebrations**

We know that birthdays and holidays are important to every child and that kids like to celebrate with their classmates. However, sending in a food treat to the classroom to celebrate can exclude

those children who have food allergies, diabetes or other dietary restrictions. If you must send in a **birthday treat**, then we are requesting **NON-Food items**. Please see alternatives below.

Suggested alternatives to food treats for birthday and holiday parties at school are:

- Party favors - erasers, pencils, stickers, bracelets, key chains, slinkies, etc.
- Parent or guest can visit the classroom and read a book to the students! (Elementary, please coordinate time with teacher)
- Purchase something for the classroom - book, game, plant, craft, etc.
- Bring in something the students can sign - a t-shirt, tote bag, autograph book

Healthy Snacks: Yogurt/yogurt parfaits, cheese, fruit or veggie cups/kabobs, bottled water, 100% fruit or vegetable juice; no nut snacks or peanut butter please! We encourage parents to bring treats that follow the Smart Snacks in Schools standards. See list on website for additional information.

### Fundraising

Activity-based fundraisers are wonderful such as field days, walk/run/bike/dance a thons, and jump rope or hula hoop competitions. Other non-food fundraisers that work well are talent shows, yard sales, festivals, singing telegrams, and art shows.

Only foods and beverages that meet or exceed the USDA Smart Snacks in Schools nutrition standards may be sold on school grounds during the school day (midnight until 30 minutes after the instructional day). See the GJPS Child Nutrition website area for Smart Snack info.

### GAHANNA-JEFFERSON PUBLIC SCHOOLS BUS RULES

The health and safety of all pupils is vitally important. Therefore, in the case of school buses, certain rules and regulations must be followed. Your help and cooperation are requested.

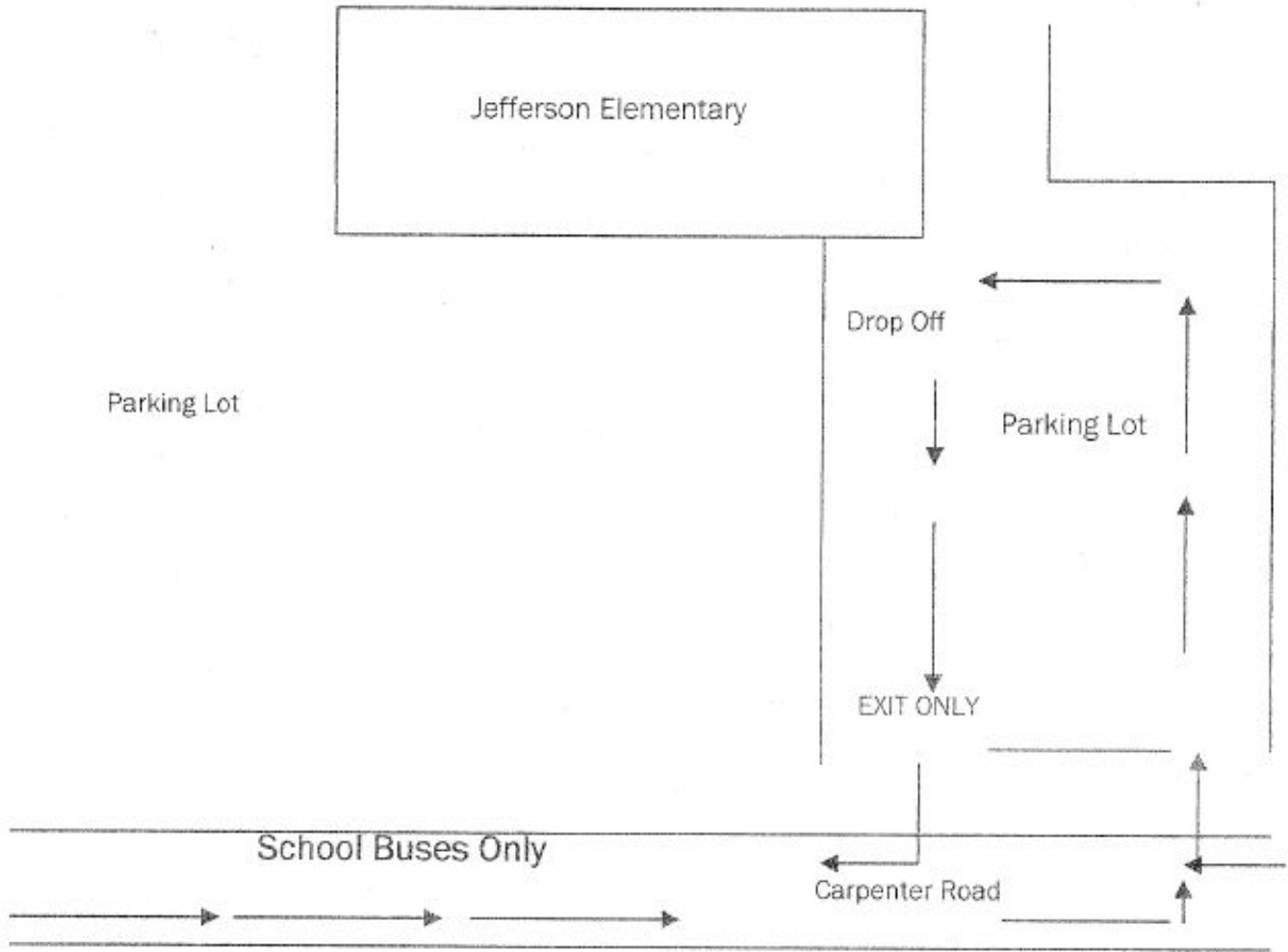
The following are prohibited:

1. Changing from seat to seat with bus in motion.
2. Noise at railroad crossings and other danger points.
3. Excessive noise, loud talking or laughter at any time.
4. Distracting bus driver in any manner.
5. Putting any part of body outside of bus.
6. Scuffling or fighting on the bus.
7. Spitting or throwing any object from the bus.
8. Smoking or lighting matches on the bus.
9. Eating, drinking, or littering with bus in motion.
10. Failure to obey the driver.
11. Transporting birds or animals, dead or alive
12. Transporting any glass container on bus.
13. Damaging or marking any part of the bus.
14. Use of profane or unbecoming language.

### SAFETY AND SECURITY

In order to protect the educational environment of the school from undue disturbances, persons wishing to visit classrooms when school is in session must contact the principal to schedule an appointment. Formal conferences outside of the instructional time can be scheduled by contacting the individual teacher. We encourage parent volunteers. Parents and visitors will need to ring the bell and be identified by the secretary to enter the building. **All visitors must sign in and wear a visitor badge when inside the building.**

MORNING TRAFFIC PATTERN DIRECTIONS



**Jefferson Calendar of Events 2017-2018 (new events to be added next year)**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Time</b>	<b>Event</b>
8/8/2017	7:00 PM	PTO Meeting Room 110
8/14/2017	3:30-5:30 PM	Welcome Back Event: Get pictures, pick up school supplies, visit the classrooms and meet the teachers
8/16/2017	7:50 doors open	First Day for Students grades 1-5 (K staggared entrance first 5 days)
8/23/2017		ALL students Assembly
9/1/2017	1:15 PM	Jog for Jefferson Assembly
9/4/2017		No School: Labor Day
9/5/2017	7:00 PM	PTO Meeting Room 110
9/22/2017	Times TBD	Jog for Jefferson
9/25/2017		Progress Reports sent home
9/29/2017	1:15 PM	Jog for Jefferson Prize Assembly
10/3/2017	7:00 PM	PTO Meeting Room 110
10/9/2017		No School: Professional Development Day
10/11/2017	3:00-7:00 PM	Conference Night
10/12/2017	3:00-7:00 PM	Conference Night
10/27/2017	1:00 PM	Halloween Parade and Parties
11/3/2017		End of First Trimester
11/6/2017		No School: Professional Development Day
11/7/2017	7:00 PM	PTO Meeting Room 110
11/10/2017	Times TBD	Turkey Lunches for grades 2 and 4
11/10/2017	1:15 PM	Veteran's Day Assembly
11/13/2017		Report Cards Sent Home
11/14/2017		Author Visit: Troy Cummings
11/22-11/24		No School-Thanksgiving Break
12/5/2017	7:00 PM	PTO Meeting Room 110
12/20/2017	Times TBD	Turkey Lunches for grades 1 and 3
12/20/2017	1:10 PM	Third Grade Musical and Sing-A-Long
12/21/2017		No School-Professional Development Day
12/22-1/2		No School-Winter Break
1/4/2018		Progress Reports sent home
1/9/2018	7:00 PM	PTO Meeting Room 110
1/15/2018		No School-Martin Luther King Day

2/5/2018	Time TBD	Be the Change Assembly
2/6/2018	7:00 PM	PTO Meeting Room 110
2/6/2018	3:00 PM-7:00 PM	Conference Night
2/8/2018	3:00 PM-7:00 PM	Conference Night
2/8/2018		End of Second Trimester
2/9/2018		No School-Professional Development Day
2/12-2/15		Be the Change Week
2/15/2018	Time in AM	Be the Change Assembly
2/15/2018	1:15 PM	Valentine's Day Parties
2/16/2018		No School
2/19/2018		No School-President's Day
2/21/2018	2:30-3:30 PM	Jump Rope for Heart
2/22/2018	2:30-3:30 PM	Jump Rope for Heart
2/23/2018		Report Cards Sent Home
3/6/2018	7:00 PM	PTO Meeting Room 110
3/26-3/30		No School-Spring Break
4/3/2018	7:00 PM	PTO Meeting Room 110
5/1/2018	7:00 PM	PTO Meeting Room 110
5/4/2018	6:00-8:00 PM	PTO Carnival
5/10/2018	Times TBD	4th Grade Musical
5/11/2018	Noon	Fifth Grade Picnic
5/11/2018	Times TBD	5th Grade Musical
5/16/2018	Times TBD	Field Day: K, 4, 5
5/17/2018	Times TBD	Field Day: 1, 2, 3
5/23/2018	12:30 PM	Last Day of School Assembly
5/23/2018		Report Cards Sent Home



Roben Frentzel Sharon Suriano Tiffany Bott Carol Baumann Beth Brant	Principal Instructional Coach Secretary Clinic Aide Nurse	Office
Grant Jones Megan Mclean Audrey Merz Jessica Rogers	Kindergarten Team	Room 211 Room 133 Room 132 Room 216
Kristina Clarkson Tina Early Whitney Fisher Beth Sheraw Jennifer VanHorsen	First Grade Team	Room 134 Room 131 Room 212 Room 136 Room 135
Stacie Callihan Valerie Hofmann Maria Mountain	Second Grade Team	Room 225 Room 229 Room 230
Kory Hartinger Kassy Hiller Cassie Mountain Phoebe Trickett	Third Grade Team	Room 227 Room 228 Room 226 Room 217
Lindsay Condon Melissa George Amanda Keyes	Fourth Grade Team	Room 204 Room 201 Room 210
Nicole Evans Cathalee Mitchell Ashley Ramito Ashley Sands	Fifth Grade Team	Room 110 Room 111 Room 104 Room 101
Alyssa Dureiko Krysten Jasin Keisha Whitfield Annie Wilkins	Intervention Specialist Team	Room 120 Room 215 Room 102 Room 202
Amanda Caldwell Lauren Seitz Hope Paes	Reading Team	Room 137 Room 231 Room 203
Suzanne Costas Liz Jaffe Vicky Franklin	ELL Team	Room 002 Room 125 Room 003
Jenny Davison Abbi Herzberg Doug Palmer Leslie Twigg Julie Coyle	Art Media Specialist Physical Education Music Alternative Instructor Technology	Art Room Library Gym Music Room Library
Heather Haringa Keilah Shumaker Danielle Weatherholz	Guidance Counselor School Psychologist Mental Health Specialist	Office Room 112 Room 213

## NOTICES

## **FEDERAL FAMILY EDUCATION RIGHTS AND PRIVACY ACT OF 1974 —**

- The "Federal Family Education Rights and Privacy Act of 1974" requires school systems to annually inform students 18 years of age or older, and parents/guardians of students under 18 of certain provisions contained therein.
- Schools keep a record of the educational development of each student. These records contain information about courses taken, grades, test scores and other information which is collected in the interest of developing the best educational program for the individual student.
- Parents/guardians have the right to access and review the child's school record. To do so, submit a written request to the building principal who will schedule a time for you to come to the school and review the records in the presence of a staff member.
- Parents may also question the contents of the child's school record. If there is a concern about the accuracy or appropriateness of the information, a formal review of the information may be requested. Parents/guardians and school officials will have the opportunity to discuss concerns.
- Each child's records are confidential and will not be released without prior parental/guardian consent for students under 18 years of age, or without prior written consent of students 18 years of age or older.
- There are a few exceptions to the consent requirements. These include use by school officials in the school district; release to officials of another school district in which the student intends to enroll; and response to a court order. Also, "Directory Information" for students in the 12th grade only shall be released to any of the branches of the U. S. Armed Forces upon request without written consent from the parents or legal guardian of the student. "Directory Information" includes the student's name, address, telephone number, date and place of birth, major field of study, participation in officially recognized activities and sports, dates of attendance, degrees and awards received, the most recent previous educational agency or institution attended by the student, and other similar information.
- *Directory Information shall not be released if the parent or legal guardian submits a written request to the building principal by September 30 of each year that such information not be released.* Also, parents/guardians of any student who do not want any personally identifiable information (includes portions of directory information) about their child to be used in any public relations materials generated by the school district must notify the building principal in writing by September 30 of each year.
- Any citizen of the Gahanna-Jefferson School District is welcome to contact the Department of Pupil Services at 471-7065 or the principal of the child's school for more information about the district's policy regarding the confidentiality of student records.

## **NONDISCRIMINATION POLICIES**

**SECTION 504**—The Gahanna Jefferson Public School District does not discriminate on the basis of disabilities relative to admission, access, treatment, or employment in its programs and activities as required by Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973. Public Law 93-112, as amended by the Rehabilitation Amendments of 1974, Public Law 93-516. Inquiries regarding this policy may be directed to Mrs. Sherri Zynda, Director of Pupil Services, at 471-7065.

**TITLE IX**—The Gahanna Jefferson Public School District does not discriminate on the basis of sex in educational programs, activities, employment policies or admission policies and practices as required by Title IX of the 1972 Education Amendments. Inquiries regarding compliance with Title IX may be directed to , Director of Special Programs, at 471-7065; or to the Director of the Office for Civil Rights, Region V, 55 Erieview Plaza, Room 222, Cleveland, Ohio 44114. Phone (216) 522-4970.

**PERSONNEL**—It is the policy of the Gahanna Jefferson Public School District to select personnel on the basis of merit and fitness and qualifications of applicants without regard to their race, color, religion, sex, national origin, disabilities age or ancestry. The Board designates the following individuals to serve as "Anti-Harassment Compliance Officers" for the District.

Matt Cygnor	Sue Wieging
Human Resources Director	Special Ed Director
614-471-7065	614-471-7065
160 S. Hamilton Road	160 S. Hamilton Road
Gahanna, OH 43230	Gahanna, OH 43230

The Compliance Officers are available during regular school/work hours to discuss Title IX questions, sexual violence concerns, and to assist students, other members of the School District community, and third parties. Compliance Officers shall accept sexual violence complaints directly from any members of the School District community or a visitor to the District, as well as those initially filed within a school building administrator. Upon receiving a complaint, the Compliance Officer or designee will discuss confidentiality issues with the complainant (and his/her parent, if the complainant is a minor), and open an investigation as described in policy 5517.02 below.

**Third Grade Guarantee**

In June of 2012, Ohio passed a state law called the Third Grade Reading Guarantee which put a greater emphasis on reading instruction and intervention in the early grades. Through this initiative, school districts are required to identify reading deficiencies in kindergarten through third grade students using a diagnostic screening assessment before September 30<sup>th</sup> of each year. These assessments are then used to identify students who are "not on track" to be reading at grade level by the end of the school year. The Third Grade Reading Guarantee law states that all third graders must demonstrate competency and reading skills at grade level before they can be promoted to fourth grade. This competency can be exhibited by performing at or above the target score on state tests and district selected alternative assessment measures.

More information regarding the Third Grade Reading Guarantee will be communicated to parents throughout the school year. You can also visit the Ohio Department of Education's website for family resources at <http://education.ohio.gov/Topics/Early-Learning/Third-Grade-Reading-Guarantee/Third-Grade-Reading-Guarantee-Family-Resources>

## **STUDENT NETWORK AND ACCEPTABLE USE AND SAFETY AGREEMENT**

This agreement is between \_\_\_\_\_, a Gahanna-Jefferson Public Schools student, his or her parents or guardians, and the GAHANNA-JEFFERSON PUBLIC SCHOOLS (the District). The purpose of this agreement is to define the acceptable use of district- and student-owned technologies. All District-owned technologies are provided for educational purposes only, whether used on or off campus.

The Gahanna-Jefferson Public Schools is committed to the belief that technology skills are a critical component of a 21st Century Education, and is also vital to all areas of the Gahanna-Jefferson Graduate Profile. We are, therefore, pleased to be able to offer our students access to a wide and expanding range of technologies to support student learning and growth through local and global communication, collaboration, research opportunities, and resource sharing.

Technology, like all extremely powerful tools, can be intentionally or unintentionally misused. One of the Graduate Profile goals is to use technology responsibly and honestly, and this document is a tool to help outline the proper and ethical use of the vast range of district and personal technologies available to our students. Most often this focus is on Internet and district computer network use, but we touch upon other technologies as well. It is impossible to specify every possible use or misuse of technology, so while these outlines establish a framework of understanding students are encouraged to seek the advice of district staff with any questions about proper and improper technology use. Due to the rapidly changing technology environment within Gahanna-Jefferson Public Schools, the district reserves the right, at our sole discretion, to change, modify or otherwise alter these terms and conditions at any time. Such modifications shall become effective immediately upon the posting thereof in the Technology area of the district's public website, available at (<http://www.gahannaschools.org/District/DistrictTechnology.aspx>). Please visit this area on a regular basis to keep yourself apprised of any changes.

Internet access provides our students with the ability to explore research materials and interact with individuals and groups worldwide. This 21st Century Skill is a requirement for effective participation in an increasingly global environment and in local employment opportunities. However, not all Internet resources have educational value, and some may be inappropriate. While a best effort attempt is made to use Internet filtering to help students avoid resource-wasting and inappropriate sites, students are reminded that all district equipment is provided for educational purposes only. In situations where resource-wasting or inappropriate material is encountered, the user is "one click away" from removing that material from their screen and it is the user's responsibility to do so.

Also, it is important to remember that the Internet and many other current and developing technologies are intended for collaboration and sharing, and as a result it is best to consider everything done with these technologies as public. Student Internet activity in particular may be tracked by outside parties, so it is critical that each student protects his or her network and other account information and passwords as they will be held responsible for activity through their personal and unique account. Students should never share this information with others, nor should they use the login credentials of others. Students are expected not only to avoid illegal use of district and personally owned technologies, but to in all cases use these tools intelligently and ethically, and not to the detriment of themselves, the district, or others. Not only is this a critical component of 21st Century Citizenship, it is also important to remember that parents and guardians are legally responsible for their student's activity so it is beneficial to stress these points and your expectations with your student.

District technologies are provided, and student technologies may be allowed, solely for the support of District academic programs and student learning. Examples of acceptable technology use include:

1. Appropriate collaboration and exchange of information for research and other project purposes;
2. Developing a familiarity with the technology for educational and employment purposes;
3. Expanding the opportunities for relevant technology use to produce reports, multimedia,

and other assigned projects;

4. Developing Graduate Profile goals of becoming a Responsible Community Member, Comprehensive Problem Solver, Proficient Technology User, Collaborative Team Member, and an Effective Communicator.

In exchange for the use of available technology resources, the undersigned student and parent/guardian understand and agree to the following terms and conditions.

A. The use of technology, whether district-provided or student-owned, is a privilege which may be revoked by the District at any time and for any reason. Reasons for revoking privileges include, but are not limited to:

- a. Improper use of the technology,
- b. Failure to properly protect and secure the technology,
- c. Altering or modifying system software and/or hardware,
- d. Intentionally or unintentionally adding viruses, spyware, and other harmful programs to District systems,
- e. Placing unauthorized information or comments on District-owned or publicly accessible servers,
- f. Using the technology to cause embarrassment or harm to other individuals or groups.

The District reserves the right to remove files, limit or deny technology access, and refer offending students for other disciplinary actions consistent with the Student Handbook.

B. Students will not use their District-approved computer access to obtain, view, download, or otherwise gain access to materials deemed unlawful, obscene, pornographic, abusive, hateful, or otherwise objectionable.

D. Students are expected to be *Responsible Community Members* and to *use technology responsibly, honestly, and ethically*. Students **shall**:

- a. Polite, courteous, and respectful in your messages to others.
- b. The use of language appropriate to school situations in all communications made through the Board's computers, networks, and other technologies.
- c. Diligently delete their unneeded files regularly to minimize District storage needs.
- d. Protect their critical files by making regular backups of their important work.
- e. Comply with the Student Handbook.

Students **shall not**:

- f. Use obscene, profane, vulgar, sexually explicit, defamatory, or abusive language in your messages.
  - g. Reveal names, addresses, phone numbers, or passwords of yourself or other students, family members, teachers, administrators, or other staff members via the Internet or any other medium.
  - h. Transmit pictures or other information that could be used to establish your identity or the identity of others without prior approval of a teacher.
  - i. Transmit pictures or other information about fellow students, teachers, or groups.
  - j. Agree to meet any person encountered online without prior parent approval.
- E. All information services and features contained on District network resources and other technologies are intended for the private use of registered staff and students only and any use of these resources for commercial for-profit or other unauthorized purposes (i.e. advertisements, political lobbying), in any form, is expressly forbidden.
- F. While all reasonable efforts are made to ensure reliable operation of, and access to, all district technologies, the District cannot guarantee uninterrupted access or use of the network or other technologies, nor can it be held responsible for loss of data due to electrical or mechanical failure or human error.
- G. District network resources are intended for exclusive use by registered users. The student is responsible for the use of his/her user ID password and/or access privilege. Any problems which arise from the use of a student's user ID are the responsibility of the ID holder. Use of a user ID by someone other than to whom it was originally registered is forbidden and may be grounds for loss of access privileges. Students may not allow other users to utilize their personal and unique login IDs and passwords.

- H. Any misuse of technology access will result in suspension of privileges and/or other disciplinary action determined by the District consistent with the Student Handbook. Misuse shall include, but not be limited to:
- a. Intentionally seeking information on, obtaining copies of, or modifying files, other data, or passwords belonging to other users;
  - b. Misrepresenting other users on the Network or through other technology-based tools;
  - c. Using any technology in any way that causes concern, worry, or embarrassment to any student, District staff member, or other;
  - d. Disrupting the operation of the Network or other technology-based tools through abuse.;
  - e. Malicious use of District-provided or student-owned devices through hate mail, harassment, profanity, vulgar statements, or discriminatory remarks;
  - f. Interfering with others' use of District technologies;
  - g. Extensive use for non-curriculum-related communication;
  - h. Illegal or unethical modification of systems including, but not limited to:
    - i. The illegal installation of copyrighted or unauthorized software;
    - ii. Unauthorized downloading, copying, deleting, altering or other misuse of licensed copyrighted software;
    - iii. Using the Internet to engage in "hacking" or other unlawful activities;
    - iv. Accessing, or attempting to access, the personal files of other users or the District on the District's network or other technologies;
    - v. The intentional or unintentional degradation or disruption of system performance;
    - vi. Attempts to bypass internet filtering controls;
    - vii. Transmission of any material in violation of any State or Federal law or regulation, or Board policy;
    - viii. Malicious use of the Board's computers/network to develop programs that harass other users, infiltrate or attempt to infiltrate any computer or computer system and/or damage the software components of a computer, or any other illegal or unethical activity;
    - ix. Any violation of the Student Handbook.
- I. The District reserves the right to log Internet use and monitor electronic mail, file server space utilization, and other technology system processes and services. Much of this monitoring is required to ensure the efficient and effective operation of District technologies and to proactively address technological and other issues and can occur without the prior notification of students or staff. AUP infractions and legal violations found during any routine or targeted monitoring may be actionable under the policies and guidelines of the District and State and Federal laws.
- J. The student may only log on and use the network under the supervision of a staff member and only with his/her assigned unique user ID. Students must protect their personal login credentials, as they will be held responsible for activities performed using these credentials.
- K. Downloading of unauthorized programs or information onto the Board's hard drives is prohibited; all downloads must have prior approval and be saved to thumb drives, CD ROMs or other authorized external devices. If a student transfers files from online information services, the student must scan all files with a virus-detection program before opening the file for use. If a student transfers a file or software program that infects the Network with a virus and causes damage, the student may be liable for any and all repair costs to restore the network and attached devices to full functionality.
- L. The District reserves the right to disable or remove a network user account to prevent unauthorized activity, and will not be held responsible for any file loss or inconvenience should this account activity become necessary.
- M. Any damage done to the District's network or equipment by a user not following the guidelines described in this document is the sole responsibility of that user.
- N. Students are prohibited from accessing or participating in online "chat rooms" and must secure prior approval from a teacher or building administrator before joining and/or participating in online services such as; Listservs, Blogs, Podcasts, "electronic communities", or other forms of direct electronic communication.

- O. Students will at no time post personal information about, or photographs of, themselves or others on the Web or using any other technology.
- P. Privacy in communication of the Internet and the Network is not guaranteed. The Board reserves the right to monitor, review, and inspect any directories, files, and/or messages residing on or sent using the Board's computers/network. Messages relating to or in support of illegal or unethical activities will be reported to the appropriate authorities.
- Q. Use of the Internet and any information procured from the Internet is at the student's own risk. The Board is not responsible for any damage a user suffers, including loss of data resulting from delays, non-deliveries, mis-deliveries, or service interruptions. The Board is not responsible for the accuracy or quality of information obtained through its services. Information (including text, graphics, audio, video, etc.) from Internet sources used in student papers, reports, and projects should be cited the same as references to printed materials.
- R. The Board has implemented technology protection measures that protect against Internet access to visual displays that are obscene, child pornography, or harmful to minors. The Board also monitors online activity of students in an effort to restrict access to child pornography and other material that is obscene, objectionable, and/or inappropriate for a school setting and/or harmful to minors. Nevertheless, parents/guardians are advised that determined users may be able to gain access to information, communication, and/or services on the Internet which the Board of Education has not authorized for educational purposes and/ or which they and/or their parents/guardians may find inappropriate, offensive, objectionable, or controversial. Parents/Guardians assume this risk by consenting to allow their students to participate in the use of the Internet.
- S. Students accessing the Internet through any device, whether District-provided or student-owned, assume personal responsibility and liability, both civil and criminal, for unauthorized or inappropriate use of the Internet.
- T. As we move toward 24/7 education, students are increasingly likely to be loaned district equipment in support of the District's educational goals. All of the components of this Acceptable Use Policy shall apply when using any District- provided technology, whether on or off campus. Students who are loaned any District technology also agree to be bound by the conditions specified on the District's IT Equipment Loan Policy.

In consideration for the privileges of using the District's technologies, and in consideration for having access to the information contained on the network and Internet resources, the undersigned student and parent/guardian hereby release the District, and their operators and administration from any and all claims of any claims arising from my/my child's use, or inability to use District network resources.

The undersigned student agrees to abide by such rules and regulations of system usage as may be amended by the District at any time. Students and parents can visit <http://www.gahannaschools.org/District/DistrictTechnology.aspx> to view the most current version of this agreement.

The undersigned student and parent understand that any failure to abide by this agreement may result in cancellation of the privilege to use the Gahanna-Jefferson Public Schools' computer network and/or other technologies, disciplinary action consistent with the Student Handbook and/or civil or criminal liability.

As the parent/ guardian of this student, I have read the Student Technology User Agreement, and have discussed them with my child. I understand that student access to technology, including the district network and the Internet is, designed for educational purposes and that the Board has taken available precautions to restrict and/or control student access to material on the Internet that is obscene, objectionable, inappropriate, and/or harmful to minors. However, I recognize that it is impossible for the Board to restrict access to all objectionable and/or controversial materials that may be found on the Internet. I will not hold the Board (or any of its employees, administrators, or officers) responsible for material my child may acquire or come in contact with while on the Internet. Additionally, I accept responsibility for communicating to my child guidance concerning his/her acceptable use of the Internet --i.e., setting and conveying standards for my daughter/ son to follow when selecting, sharing, and exploring information and

resources on the Internet. I further understand that individuals and families may be liable for violations.

(parents will initial the acknowledgement form as indication of agreement with policy)  
Policy Revised 3/2010

### **5630.01- POSITIVE BEHAVIOR INTERVENTION AND SUPPORTS AND LIMITED USE OF RESTRAINT AND SECLUSION**

The Board is committed to the District-wide use of PBIS with students. Student Personnel shall work to prevent the need for the use of restraint and/or seclusion. Professional staff members and support staff determined appropriate by the Superintendent are permitted to physically restrain and/or seclude a student in limited circumstances as set forth in this Policy.

All restraint and seclusion shall only be done in accordance with this Policy, which is based on the standards adopted by the State Board of Education regarding the use of student restraint and seclusion, and consistent with the Ohio Department of Education's (ODE's) Policy on Positive Behavior Interventions and Support, and Restraint and seclusion (adopted January 15, 2013).

The Superintendent shall develop emergency procedures for the District. Physical restraint and seclusion shall be implemented only by Student Personnel who have been trained in accordance with this Policy to protect the care, welfare, dignity and safety of the student, except in the case of rare and unavoidable emergency situations when trained personnel are not immediately available.

Notwithstanding the requirements of this Policy and ODE's corresponding standards and policy, school personnel may use reasonable force and restraint in accordance with R.C. 3319.41. Persons employed or engaged as teachers, principals, or administrators, nonlicensed school employees and school bus drivers may, within their scope of their employment, use and apply such amount of force and restraint as is reasonable and necessary to quell a disturbance threatening physical injury to others, to obtain possession of weapons or other dangerous objects upon the person or within the control of the pupil, for the purpose of self-defense, or for the protection of persons or property.

Seclusion of a preschool-age student is prohibited, except that a preschool-age child may be separated from his or her classmates, either in the classroom or in a safe, lighted, and well-ventilated space, for an amount of time that is brief in duration and appropriate to the child's age and development, if the child is always within sight and hearing of a preschool staff member. The following practices are prohibited under all circumstances, including emergency safety situations:

- a. corporal punishment;
- b. child endangerment as defined in Ohio Revised Code 2919.22;
- c. aversive behavioral interventions.

#### **Annual Medicaid Notification**

The Gahanna-Jefferson Public School District is eligible to receive federal Medicaid reimbursement for medically necessary services provided to their special education students when the services meet the requirements of the state's School-Based Medicaid Program and are provided in accordance with the students' IEPs (§300.154(d)(2)(i)-(iii)).

The Individuals with Disabilities Education Improvement Act of 2004 (IDEA) and the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) require schools to notify parents that the district participates in this program. The district utilizes services ordered in the IEP and the Medicaid identification number, in conjunction with the state Medicaid Agency and our Medicaid billing agent, to receive reimbursements for these services from the School-Based Medicaid Program.



The district's participation in this program in no way impacts the services being provided to the student nor impacts the family's Medicaid benefits. In the event parents no longer want the district to access student information for the purposes of seeking reimbursements through this program, they can notify the district Special Education department by calling 614-337-3777. This annual notification is being provided to you in accordance with program requirements.

### Jefferson Elementary Homework Policy and Procedures

- **The Faculty of Jefferson Elementary believes that meaningful homework can play an important role in helping students master the goals and objectives. In addition to homework, nightly reading requirements may be assigned by the classroom teacher.** Research supports that children who read at home, each day, become successful, competent readers. Reading may be shared with an adult or completed independently, depending on age. **All students are expected to complete assigned homework/assignments.**
- **All assignments are connected to instruction and grade level learning standards** and will be worthwhile, meaningful and engaging. Homework/assignments may be in the form of paper and pencil or activities to complete.
- **The purpose of homework includes:** practice of skills presented in daily work (practice); an opportunity to prepare through discovery, exploration or research for an upcoming unit of study (preparation); an opportunity to work on long-range assignments requiring time management; development of good study skills; practice and preparation for assessment
- Parents should support homework but never be expected to introduce instruction. Parents may also provide involvement in practice or prep for assessment.
- An **assignment notebook**, provided by Jefferson Elementary, will be used by all students in Gr. 1-5 to record assignments. Parents and/or guardians are asked to review assignment notebooks to monitor student's progress. In some cases, parents may be asked to sign notebooks.
- **Students who are on IEP's and 504's must** be provided guidance in the types and amounts of assignments. General ed. and special ed. teachers will communicate amounts and types of assignments through coordinated differentiation efforts. i.e. modified assessments and assignments, length of assignments, etc.
- **The following are targeted maximum amounts of time spent on assignments completed at home.**
  - o Gr. K-1 10-20 minutes
  - o Gr. 2-3 20-30 minutes
  - o Gr. 4-5 40-50 minutes
- **Homework will be reviewed in class.**
- **Incomplete assignments** may result in lack of advancement in skills, a lunch time assignment to 15 minutes, or an after school detention, a Parent-Teacher conference, guidance from the principal or guidance counselor, etc. Parents will be notified if a pattern of incomplete work becomes apparent.
- When students are absent, parents may request assignments to be picked up in the office at 2:30 p.m. or sent home with a sibling. **This request must take place when the parent reports the child absent. Students may have the same number of days to make up work as the days absent.**
- All teachers provide an opportunity for children to pack and prepare homework each day before dismissal. Many teachers utilize the 2:00-2:25 time of the day for a study time for students to begin work and/or get additional help/support.

### **Summary of GJPS Bullying and Other Forms of Aggressive Behavior Policy**

1. **Harassment, intimidation or bullying**, whether by other students, staff or third parties, is strictly prohibited and will not be tolerated. This includes various forms of aggressive behavior, including, but not limited to, physical, verbal and psychological abuse.
2. Harassment, intimidation, and bullying means **any intentional** written, verbal, graphic, or physical act that a student or group of students exhibits towards another student(s):
  - A. more than once and
  - B. the behavior causes mental or physical harm and
  - C. is sufficiently severe, persistent or pervasive so that
  - D. it creates an intimidating, threatening, or abusive educational environment.
3. Aggressive behavior can be defined as inappropriate conduct that is **repeated enough**, or **severe enough** to negatively impact a student's educational, physical, or emotional well-being. Examples include, but are not limited to:

-stalking	-bullying	-intimidation
-menacing	-coercion	-name-calling
-taunting	-making threats	-hazing
-cyber bullying (includes internet, PDA, cellular phones, etc.)		
4. **The policy applies at school, to and from school and at any school-sponsored event.**

#### **Reporting Responsibility:**

1. **Parents:** Any parent or guardian who believes that their child has been a target of bullying behavior is encouraged to immediately report such behavior to school personnel. School personnel will document the concern, or provide the documentation form to the parent, and forward the information to the principal or assistant principal. Administration will investigate allegations and complete a written summary of the findings.
2. **Students:** All students are encouraged to report such behavior to a staff member and may maintain anonymity if desired. However, anonymity may limit the scope and outcome of an investigation.
3. **School personnel:** Staff is required to report any suspected bullying or harassment behavior to administration. They may make a verbal, informal report, which the administrator will document or they may complete a report form themselves, which allows the principal to begin the investigative process.

#### **Administrators will:**

- A. Complete any necessary documentation and complete the investigation.
- B. Notify the complainant of the outcome of the investigation, within the confines of educational law.
- C. If aggressive behavior is verified, the administrator will notify the parents of the victim, as well as those of the aggressor.
- D. Semi-annually, principals shall submit a written summary to the Superintendent of verified bullying and harassment incidents, which will then be submitted to the board and posted on the web site.

#### **Privacy and Immunity**

1. All efforts will be made to protect the identity of the complainant or witnesses. All records generated under this policy will be kept confidential to the extent permitted by law.
2. A school district employee, student or volunteer shall be individually immune from liability in a civil action for damages from reporting an incident in accordance with this policy and state law.

**Gifted And Talented Identification and Services:** *Due to the adoption of the new Operating Standards for Identifying and Serving Students Who are Gifted, the district is reviewing the current district policy and guidelines. The revised policy and guidelines will be available at the beginning of the 2017-2018 school year.*