

**LAUREL-CONCORD-COLERIDGE SCHOOL**

**STUDENT & FAMILY HANDBOOK  
2018 - 2019**



**Laurel-Concord-Coleridge School  
502 Wakefield  
PO Box 8  
Laurel, NE 68745  
402-256-3133**

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## FOREWORD

### Section 1 Intent of Student & Family Handbook

This handbook is intended to be used by students, parents and staff and patrons as a guide to the rules, regulations, and general information about Laurel-Concord-Coleridge School. Each student is responsible for becoming familiar with the handbook and knowing the information contained in it. Parents are encouraged to use this handbook as a resource and to assist their child in following the rules contained in this handbook.

Although the information found in this handbook is detailed and specific on many topics, the handbook is not intended to be all encompassing so as to cover every situation and circumstance that may arise during any school day, or school year. This handbook does not create a “contract.” The administration reserves the right to make decisions and make rule revisions at any time to implement the educational program and to assure the well-being of all students and the educational program. The administration will be responsible for interpreting the rules contained in the handbook. Should a situation or circumstance arise that is not specifically covered in this handbook, the administration will make a decision based upon all applicable school district policies, and state and federal statutes and regulations.

### Section 2 Members of the Board of Education

Name	Contact Information
Steve Schutte, President	steve.schutte@lccschool.org
Carol Erwin, Vice President	carol.erwin@lccschool.org
Betty Jo Leapley, Secretary	bettyjo.leapley@lccschool.org
Richard Brandow	richard.brandow@lccschool.org
Jay Hall	jay.hall@lccschool.org
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Dustin Thompson	dustin.thompson@lccschool.org
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### Section 3 Administrative Staff

Name	Position	Location	Contact Information
Jeremy Christiansen	Superintendent	Central Office	jeremy.christiansen@lccschool.org
Ken Swanson	Principal/AD	High School	ken.swanson@lccschool.org
Jay Vance	Principal	Middle School	jay.vance@lccschool.org
Paige Parsons	Principal	Elementary	paige.parsons@lccschool.org

### Section 4 Certified Staff

Name	Contact Information	Position
Beckman, Katrina	katrina.beckman@lccschool.org	Elementary Special Education
Benson, Shannon	shannon.benson@lccschool.org	Middle School Physical Education
Beyeler, Patti	patti.beyeler@lccschool.org	High/Middle School Instrumental Music Middle School Vocal Music
Choat, Evey	evey.choat@lccschool.org	High/Middle School Agriculture
Conley, Arianne	aconley@esu1.org	ESU 1 – Nurse
Cunningham, Patti	patti.cunningham@lccschool.org	Middle School Science
Depew, Eric	eric.depew@lccschool.org	Middle School Social Science
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Gould, Amy	amy.gould@lccschool.org	4th Grade
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Kinkaid, Shane	shane.kinkaid@lccschool.org	High School Mathematics

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McKamy, Alex	alex.mckamy@lccschool.org	Middle School Mathematics
Messersmith, Marcus	marcus.messersmith@lccschool.org	Technology Director
Milliken, Ann	ann.milliken@lccschool.org	High School English
Murphy, Sandy	sandy.murphy@lccschool.org	Early Childhood Program
Nordby, Laura	laura.nordby@lccschool.org	HAL Facilitator/Instructional Coach
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VanMeter, Jennifer	jennifer.vanmeter@lccschool.org	Middle School Language Arts
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Wolfgram, Lisa	lisa.wolfgram@lccschool.org	Kindergarten

## Section 5 Classified Staff

Name	Location	Position	Contact Information
Arduser, Shannon	Bus Barn	Transportation Services	shannon.arduser@lccschool.org
Arens, Pat	High School	Coach/Sponsor	pat.aren@lccschool.org
Bach, Mindy	Middle School	Nutrition Services	mindy.bach@lccschool.org
Badley, David	High School	Coach/Sponsor	david.badley@lccschool.org
Bartels, LuAnn	Elementary School	Paraprofessional	luann.bartels@lccschool.org
Bartling, Justin	High School	Coach/Sponsor (Vol)	justin.bartling@lccschool.org
Carlson, Larry	Bus Barn	Transportation Services	larry.carlson@lccschool.org
Christensen, Mindy	High School	Coach/Sponsor	mindy.christensen@lccschool.org



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Cunningham, Toby	HS/Middle/Elem	Transportation Director/Grounds Maintenance	toby.cunningham@lccschool.org
Dorschner, Linda	High/Elem School	Custodial Services	linda.dorschner@lccschool.org
Eriksen, Jessica	High School	Coach/Sponsor	jessica.eriksen@lccschool.org
Erwin, Todd	High School	Coach/Sponsor	todd.erwin@lccschool.org
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Forsberg, Michael	Bus Barn	Transportation Services	michael.forsberg@lccschool.org
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Greiner, Megan	District Office	Business Manager	megan.greiner@lccschool.org
Gubbels, Ben	HS/Elementary	Custodial Services	ben.gubbels@lccschool.org
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Schantz, Geri	Elementary School	Paraprofessional	geri.schantz@lccschool.org
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Stone, Trista	High School	Paraprofessional	trista.stone@lccschool.org
Swanson, Mandi	Elementary School	Paraprofessional	mandi.swanson@lccschool.org
Thompson, Deanna	Middle School	Level III Para	deanna.thompson@lccschool.org
Urwiler, Diane	Middle School	Paraprofessional	diane.urwiler@lccschool.org
Urwiler, Lois	District Office	District Secretary	lois.urwiler@lccschool.org
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Wattier, Elaine	HS/Elementary	Nutrition Services	elaine.wattier@lccschool.org
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Young, Jenny	Middle School	Coach/Sponsor	jenny.young@lccschool.org

**Section 6      School Calendar**

# LAUREL-CONCORD-COLERIDGE SCHOOL

## 2018-2019 SCHOOL YEAR CALENDAR

<p>6 1<sup>st</sup> Day FB/GG Practice 13 1<sup>st</sup> Day VB/CC Practice 13-14 Staff Preservice Days 15 1<sup>st</sup> Day of school</p> <p>13/15 Student/Staff Days</p>	<table border="1" style="width: 100%; text-align: center; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr style="background-color: #f4a460;"> <th colspan="7">AUGUST '18</th> </tr> <tr> <th>S</th><th>M</th><th>T</th><th>W</th><th>Th</th><th>F</th><th>S</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>1</td><td>2</td><td>3</td><td>4</td></tr> <tr><td>5</td><td>6</td><td>7</td><td>8</td><td>9</td><td>10</td><td>11</td></tr> <tr><td>12</td><td>13</td><td>14</td><td>15</td><td>16</td><td>17</td><td>18</td></tr> <tr><td>19</td><td>20</td><td>21</td><td>22</td><td>23</td><td>24</td><td>25</td></tr> <tr><td>26</td><td>27</td><td>28</td><td>29</td><td>30</td><td>31</td><td></td></tr> </tbody> </table>	AUGUST '18							S	M	T	W	Th	F	S				1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31								
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Early Out Days
Professional Development Days
No School

\*\*\*All Early Dismissals will be at 1:37 p.m. unless otherwise noted\*\*\*

### Article 1 – MISSION AND GOALS

## Section 1 School Mission Statement

“Equipping students with skills for Life, Career, & Challenges!  
In a Progressive, Rigorous, Inclusive Dynamic Environment!”

### Outcomes

Content Mastery  
Critical Thinking                      Collaboration  
Communication                      Creativity  
Citizenship

### Beliefs

At Laurel-Concord-Coleridge School, we believe the strongest predictor of our success is a shared vision that by working together we will make a difference. All stakeholders have a valuable role and operate under the expectation that with mutual trust and respect, we will achieve our mission.

## Section 2 Complaint Procedures

The proper procedure for a parent or student to make complaints or raise concerns is to begin with the school employee who is most immediately or directly involved in the matter, as illustrated in the complaint procedure set forth below. There are specific procedures to address certain complaints or concerns, such as discrimination or harassment, bullying, disciplinary actions. Those procedures should be used where applicable.

### 1. Complaint procedure

- Step 1. Schedule a conference with the staff person most immediately or directly involved in the matter.
- Step 2. Address the concern to the Principal if the matter is not resolved at Step 1.
- Step 3. Address the concern to the Superintendent if the matter is not resolved at Step 2.
- Step 4. Address the concern to the Board of Education if the matter is not resolved at Step 3.

### 2. Conditions Applicable to All Levels of Complaint Procedure

All information to be considered at each step should be placed in writing in order to be most effective. Action or decisions will be expedited as quickly as possible, typically within ten (10) calendar days, depending on the nature of the complaint and the need for prompt resolution.

## Article 2 – SCHOOL DAY

## **Section 1     Daily Schedule**

### High School

- Period 1 – 8:10 a.m. to 9:00 a.m.
- Period 2 – 9:03 a.m. to 9:53 a.m.
- Period 3 – 9:60 a.m. to 10:46 a.m.
- Period 4 – 10:49 a.m. to 11:39 a.m.
- Period 5 – 11:42 a.m. to 12:32 p.m.
- Lunch – 12:32 p.m. to 1:02 p.m.
- Period 6 – 1:02 p.m. to 1:52 p.m.
- Period 7 – 1:55 p.m. to 2:45 p.m.
- Period 8 – 2:48 p.m. to 3:50 p.m. (Monday – Thursday)

### Middle School

- 8:10 a.m. to 3:45 p.m. (Monday – Thursday)
- 8:10 a.m. to 2:45 p.m. (Friday)

### Elementary School

#### School Hours:

- 8:10 a.m. to 3:45 p.m. (Monday – Thursday)
- 8:10 a.m. to 2:45 p.m. (Friday)

#### Breakfast:

- 7:20 a.m. to 8:10 a.m. (7:50 a.m. - Walking Club)

#### Lunch:

- 10:55 a.m. to 11:25 a.m. – Kindergarten Lunch
- 11:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. – 1<sup>st</sup> Grade Lunch
- 12:10 p.m. to 12:40 p.m. – 2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade Lunch
- 12:15 p.m. to 12:45 p.m. – 4<sup>th</sup> Grade Lunch

#### Recess:

- 11:25 a.m. to 11:45 a.m. – Kindergarten Recess
- 11:30 a.m. to 11:50 a.m. – 1<sup>st</sup> Grade Recess
- 11:50 a.m. to 12:10 p.m. – 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade Recess
- 11:55 a.m. to 12:15 p.m. – 4<sup>th</sup> Grade Recess

#### Afternoon Recess:

- 2:05 p.m. to 2:20 p.m. – Kindergarten through 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade (Monday – Thursday)

## **Section 2      Severe Weather and School Cancellations**

The Superintendent of Schools is authorized by the Board of Education to close public schools in case of severe weather. Representatives of the Superintendent's staff will notify local news media when inclement weather warrants such action. The information is broadcast regularly by radio and television stations. Information will also be shared using the district's electronic messaging service.

### Decision to Close Schools

A decision to close school is made when forecasts by the weather service, law enforcement advisories or civil defense officials indicate that it would be unwise to hold school. If possible, a decision about the next school day will be made by 9 p.m. for announcement during the 10 p.m. news. An early decision is not always possible because of uncertain weather conditions. School officials will make periodic assessments of conditions during the night and will decide early in the morning (by 6 a.m. if possible). In any case, an announcement will be made to the news media when schools will be closed. In some instances, schools will be open, but certain services may be cancelled (bus transportation, kindergarten, student activities).

When it becomes necessary to cancel school, start late or dismiss early, announcements to this effect will be sent to your phone using our SchoolMessenger system and will also be made on radio and TV stations.

You may also check the school's websites for information: <http://www.lccschool.org>

### After School Starts

Every attempt will be made to avoid closing school once classes are in session. In some instances closing school during the day is inevitable if children are to safely return home before the brunt of a major storm hits. In these cases as much advance notice as possible will be given to parents. If school is closed during the day the notice will be broadcast by the media. Parents should have a plan in place to accommodate these circumstances.

### Parental Decisions

Parents may decide to keep their children at home in inclement weather because of personal circumstances. Students absent because of severe weather when school is in session will be marked absent. The absence will be treated like any other absence for legitimate causes provided parents properly notify the school of their decision. Parents may pick up their children in inclement weather during the school day. Students will not normally be dismissed from school during severe weather on the basis of a telephone request.

### What Not To Do

Parents should not attempt to come to school during a tornado warning. School officials are not permitted to release students from the school building during a tornado warning. Tornado safety procedures are practiced regularly by students and staff members. Also, parents are urged not to call radio and television stations and school buildings during

severe weather.

### Emergency Conditions

Laurel-Concord-Coleridge School has a signal which, when activated, includes the necessity to either evacuate the building or to move to safer areas of the building. All regular drills are held as required by law through the school year. There are plans for Emergency Evacuation, Tornado Warning System, and Critical Incident Response. **School officials are not permitted to release students from the school building during a tornado warning.** In the event of an emergency evacuation or tornado warning, the schools' established safety procedures will be implemented.

Recess Outside recesses are scheduled throughout the year. They are expected to wear adequate clothing and boots for cold and wet weather. Exceptions to the above rule are:

1. When weather is raining or snowing.
2. When the temperature is below 10 degrees F.
3. When lightening or approaching storm is in the immediate area.

Individual exceptions to the outside recess rule are:

1. Teacher request to keep the child indoors.
2. Doctor request to have the child remain indoors for a period of time designated by the physician. Please send a note to this effect.

The playground supervisor is responsible for maintaining a safe environment for all students. The following rules will be enforced on a consistent basis:

1. Respect person in charge.
2. Use appropriate language.
3. Play fair and safe.

## **Section 3      Open-Closed Campus**

To encourage students to eat a nutritious lunch, students will not be permitted to leave school during the school day for the purpose of lunch. Exceptions: Students may leave at lunch time if they will be eating lunch at home, with parent permission. Juniors and Seniors may leave campus for lunch, even if they will not be eating lunch at home, with parent permission. Students who leave campus for lunch may not bring any purchased meals or other food back to school. The administration may grant special exceptions to the closed campus rule as needed (e.g., for students with special dietary needs).

## **Section 4      Supervision Responsibility Before/After School**

### Arrival at School/Dismissal From School

Students are to enter through their assigned entrance and proceed to designated areas.

Students will be dismissed at the end of the last period of the school day unless there are other



circumstances (early dismissal, detention etc.). Upon dismissal, students must leave the school grounds and proceed home or to a previously designated location unless participating in a school-sponsored activity. The school is not responsible for supervision of students once the students are to have left school grounds.

Certain days on the calendar are “shortened days,” meaning that the school day starts or ends other than on the normal schedule. Parents are strongly encouraged to be aware of those days so their children are not left in an unsupervised situation or without a means to get home upon dismissal.

#### Signing a Child In and Out of School

Parents or guardians are required to sign their children in and/or out of school if they are entering after their first class or leaving prior to their final class. The parent or guardian must report to the main office for this purpose. The computer to check a child in and/or out of school is located in the main office. If a child is being signed out, the school secretary will call the appropriate classrooms. The schools will only release children to adults designated by the parent on the emergency card.

If there is a special circumstance, such as a court order limiting access to a student by a parent or guardian, affecting who a student can be released to, the parent must inform the Principal and provide the Principal with a copy of that order to maintain on file at the school.

#### Supervision at Dismissal

Parents or guardians of children in grades Pre-K to 4, where the child does not use district-provided transportation after dismissal, may request the school or program not release the child to walk home after dismissal unless the child is released to the parent or legal guardian or an escort designated by the parent or guardian. The parent or guardian may designate up to three (3) escorts. Parents or guardians requesting their children only be released to the parent or guardian or a designated escort after dismissal must submit a completed written request with the Principal to this effect.

Students who leave before the end of the day are to be signed out by a parent or guardian or an escort designated by the parent or guardian.

#### Emergency Closing Procedures

Parents are requested to provide an emergency contact telephone number to have on file in the event of an emergency closing or any other general or individual situation that requires the immediate presence of a parent/guardian. In the event that parents do not have such a number or cannot be contacted, it will be assumed that the parent has instructed their children concerning the procedure they are to follow should school be dismissed early. Realizing that the school might be unable to reach all parents, it is suggested that all children be advised as to what they are to do should they ever be dismissed early. It is recommended that parents give their children an alternate destination and that the building principal be made aware of this information.

If conditions allow and supervision is available in the event of an early dismissal, the child will

be held in school until the normal dismissal time. If the parent or guardian has not arrived to pick up the child by the normal dismissal time, law enforcement or child protective services may be contacted to ensure the safety of the child.

### **Article 3 – USE OF BUILDING AND GROUNDS**

#### **Section 1 Visitors**

All visitors must report to the office, upon entering the main entrance, to sign in and receive a visitor's pass. Visits to classrooms during the first week of school and the last week of school may be limited to ensure a smooth transition. Visits by parents to classrooms are encouraged; provided that the visits do not disrupt the educational program, individual students, or create a safety concern.

#### **Section 2 Smoke-Free Environment**

All of our school buildings and grounds are smoke and tobacco-free. We would appreciate your help in meeting the goal of a smoke and tobacco-free environment for our children. When you attend school events, including athletic events, please abide by our District's policy.

#### **Section 3 Care of School Property**

1. Students are responsible for the proper care of all books, equipment, supplies and furniture supplied by the school.
2. Students who disfigure property, break windows or do other damage to school property or equipment will be required to pay for the damage done or replace the item.

Fines are determined on books according to the following criteria:

Lost Book:	Replacement cost
Missing one or both covers:	Same as lost book
Loose Cover:	\$1.00
Missing Page:	50 cents per page (up to replacement cost)
Torn Page:	20 cents per page (up to replacement cost)
Marks that cannot be erased:	20 cents per mark (up to replacement cost)

School-issued items that are stolen or damaged from unlocked lockers are the responsibility of the student to whom they were issued. Students must pay all fines before they can receive school publications and final grades.

#### **Section 4      Lockers**

Each student will be assigned a locker. Students must use their own lockers and are not to share lockers with other students except as assigned by school officials. We recommend that the locker be locked with a combination lock. Students may turn in an extra key to the office if they choose to use a key lock. Students are expected to keep all books, etc., in their assigned locker. Students are also responsible for the cleanliness inside their locker and the door of their locker. Students may be assessed a fine for damage to lockers.

##### Locker Decorations and Treats:

The school will not post non-school activity locker decorations or hand out locker treats to students for non-school related activities. We encourage parents to bring school activity treats to practice the night before or they may be dropped off at the school office. Parents may decorate the outside of lockers for school activities; however, parents are not allowed to put treats into lockers.

#### **Section 5      Searches of Lockers and Other Types of Searches**

Student lockers, desks, computer equipment, and other such property are owned by the school. The school exercises exclusive control over school property. Students should not expect privacy regarding usage of or items placed in or on school property, including student vehicles parked on school property, because school property is subject to search at any time by school officials. Periodic, random searches of lockers, desks, computers and other such property may be conducted in the discretion of the administration.

The following rules apply to searches of students and of a student's personal property and to the seizure of items in a student's possession or control:

1. School officials may conduct a search if there is a reasonable basis to believe that the search will uncover evidence of a crime or a school rule violation. The search is to be conducted in a reasonable manner under the circumstances.
2. Illegal items or other items reasonably determined to be a threat to the safety of others or a threat to educational purposes may be taken and kept by school officials. Any firearm or other weapon will be confiscated and delivered to law enforcement officials as soon as practicable.
3. Items which have been or are reasonably expected to be used to disrupt or interfere with the educational process (that is, "nuisance items") may be removed from student possession.

## **Section 6      Video and Audio Surveillance**

The Board of Education has authorized the use of video cameras on School District property to ensure the health, welfare and safety of all staff, students and visitors to District property, and to safeguard District facilities and equipment. Video cameras may be used in locations as deemed appropriate by the Superintendent.

Notice is hereby given that video and audio surveillance may occur on District property. In the event a video or audio surveillance recording captures a student or other building user violating school policies or rules or local, state or federal laws, the video surveillance recording may be used in appropriate disciplinary proceedings against the student or other building user and may also be provided to law enforcement agencies.

## **Section 7      Use of Telephone**

Office phones are to be used during class time with staff permission.

## **Section 8      Bicycles**

Bicycles must be parked in the racks provided. All bicycles should be equipped with locks. The school is not responsible for damage or theft of parts while bicycles are on school property.

## **Section 9      Student Valuables**

Students, not the school, are responsible for their personal property. Students are cautioned not to bring large amounts of money or items of value to school. If it is necessary to bring valuable items or more money than is needed to pay for lunch, leave the money or valuables with a staff member in the school office for temporary safe-keeping. Even then, the school is not in a position to guarantee that the student's property will not be subject to loss, theft, or damage.

## **Section 10     Lost and Found**

Students who find lost articles are asked to take them to the office, where the articles can be claimed by the owner. If articles are lost at school, report that loss to office personnel.

## **Section 11     Accidents**

Every accident in the school building, on the school grounds, at practice sessions, or at any athletic event sponsored by the school must be reported immediately to the Principal.

## **Section 12    Laboratory Safety Glasses**

As required by law, approved safety glasses will be required when designated of every student and teacher while participating in or observing vocational, technical, industrial technology, science, and art classes. All visitors to these areas must check out a pair of safety glasses when entering any of these areas when designated.

## **Section 13    Insurance**

Under Nebraska law the District may not use school funds to provide general student accident or athletic insurance. The District requires that all student participants in athletic programs have injury and accident insurance and encourages all students who are in classes with risk of personal injury or accident to have insurance coverage. The District does not make recommendations nor handle the premiums or claims for any insurance company, agent or carrier. Information about student insurance providers will be available in the school office or on school bulletin boards.

## **Section 14    Bulletins and Announcements**

Bulletin boards and display cases are available for school-related and approved materials to be posted and displayed. Posters to be used in the halls or materials for distribution will need to be approved by an administrator with an administrator's signature/initials. Posters are not to be attached to any painted wall surfaces with permission of the administration. Place posters on marble, glass, metal, brick and wood. The person or organization responsible for distributing the posters is responsible to see that all posters are removed within 48 hours after the event.

## **Section 15    Copyright and Fair Use Policy**

It is the school's policy to follow the federal copyright law. Students are reminded that, when using school equipment and when completing coursework, they also must follow the federal copyright laws. The federal copyright law governs the reproduction of works of authorship. Copyrighted works are protected regardless of the medium in which they are created or reproduced; thus, copyright extends to digital works and works transformed into a digital format. Copyrighted works are not limited to those that bear a copyright notice.

The "fair use" doctrine allows limited reproduction of copyrighted works for educational and research purposes. The relevant portion of the copyright statute provides that the "fair use" of a copyrighted work, including reproduction "for purposes such as criticism, news reporting, teaching (including multiple copies for classroom use), scholarship, or research" is not an infringement of copyright. The law lists the following factors as the ones to be evaluated in determining whether a particular use of a copyrighted work is a permitted "fair use," rather than an infringement of the copyright:

- the purpose and character of the use, including whether such use is of a commercial nature or is for nonprofit educational purposes;

- the nature of the copyrighted work;
- the amount and substantiality of the portion used in relation to the copyrighted work as a whole, and
- the effect of the use upon the potential market for or value of the copyrighted work.

Although all of these factors will be considered, the last factor is the most important in determining whether a particular use is “fair.” Students should seek assistance from a faculty member if there are any questions regarding what may be copied.

## **Article 4 – ATTENDANCE**

### **Section 1      Attendance Policy**

Regular and punctual student attendance is required. The Board’s policies require such attendance. The administration is responsible for developing further attendance rules and regulations and staff is responsible for assisting in the enforcement of the rules and regulations. Students and parents are responsible for developing behaviors, which will result in regular and punctual student attendance.

### **Section 2      Attendance and Absences**

Excused and Unexcused Absences. An absence from school will be reported as:

(a) an excused absence or (b) an unexcused absence.

1. Excused Absences. Absences should be cleared through the Principal's office in advance whenever possible. An absence or tardy, even by parental approval, may not be excused. All absences, except for illness and/or death in the family, require advance approval. An absence for any of the following reasons will be excused, provided the required procedures have been followed:
  - a. Attendance at a funeral for a member of the immediate family (parents, siblings, and grandparents).
  - b. Illness, which causes a student to be absent from school.
  - c. Doctor or dental appointment, which require student to be absent from school.
  - d. Court appearances that are required by a court order and the student is not responsible for needing to be in court.
  - e. School sponsored activities, which require students to be absent from school.
  - f. Family trips in which student accompanies parent(s)/legal guardian(s).
  - g. Other absences, which have received prior approval from the Principal. It is

recommended that a student have documentation from his or her physician if that student misses school due to illness.

The Principal has the discretion to deny approval for the latter two (2) reasons, depending on circumstances such as the student's absence record, the student's academic status, the tests or other projects which may be missed, and in the case of a family trip, whether the trip could be taken during non-school time and the educational nature of the trip.

2. Unexcused Absences: An absence, which is not excused is unexcused. If a student's absence is unexcused the student may receive zeros for any class work missed during the absence, and may be required to make-up work and the time missed.

#### Tardy to School.

Students will be considered tardy to school if they are not seated in their assigned class or ready and attentive in their assigned area when the bell for their first class rings.

#### Tardy to Class.

Students have a sufficient time period between classes to make it to their next assigned class on time. Students will be considered tardy to class if they are not in their assigned classroom when the tardy bell rings, unless they have a pass from the teacher who detained them.

#### Leaving School or Class.

Students who leave school for any reason during the school day must check out at the office before leaving. Students leaving school must be cleared in advance by a note or phone call from the student's parent or legal guardian. Upon returning to school that same day, students are expected to sign in at the office. A sheet will be available on the office counter for this purpose.

Students who leave school without permission and without signing out in the proper manner, or who leave their assigned classroom without teacher permission, will be considered truant.

### **Section 3 Make-up Work**

Written make-up work may be assigned for each day missed regardless of the type of absence. If make-up work is not completed, students will receive no credit for the work required. It is the responsibility of the teachers and the students to communicate about make-up assignments.

For excused absences, two school days will be allowed to make up the work for each day missed with a maximum of ten (10) days allowed to complete make up work. Extensions may be granted with administrative permission. If requested, assignment sheets will be prepared for students who are ill. If parents or students request assignment sheets the school should be contacted by no later than 10:00 a.m.

For unexcused absences, the student will receive a failing mark for or in each class period missed.

#### **Section 4 Attendance is Required to Participate in Activities**

Students must attend school half of the day the day of any scheduled school activity in order to participate in the activity. This includes activity contests and all other after school activities. Failure to attend will result in a student being withheld from participation in the activity. The Principal retains the right to grant participation should exceptional circumstances prevail.

#### **Section 5 Truancy**

A student who engages in unexcused absences may be considered truant as per state law. Truancy is a violation of school rules. The consequence of truanies may include disciplinary action up to expulsion and referral to the county attorney for compulsory attendance violations.

##### Reporting and Responding to Truant Behavior

Any administrator, teacher, or member of the board of education who knows of any failure on the part of any child age six (6) to eighteen (18) to attend school regularly without lawful reason, shall within three days report such violation to the Superintendent. The Superintendent shall immediately cause an investigation into any such report to be made. The Superintendent shall also investigate any case when, based on the Superintendent's personal knowledge or based on a report or complaint from any resident of the district, the Superintendent believes that any child is unlawfully absent from school. The school shall render all services in its power to compel such child to attend some public, private, denominational, or parochial school, which the person having control of the child shall designate, in an attempt to remediate the child's truant behavior.

##### Excessive Absenteeism

Students who accumulate five (5) unexcused absences in a quarter shall be deemed to have "excessive absences." Such absences shall be determined on a per day basis for elementary students and on a per class basis for 5-12 grade students. When a student has excessive absences, the following procedures shall be implemented:

1. One or more meetings shall be held between a school attendance officer, guidance counselor, or other person designated by the school administration and the parent/guardian and the student to report and attempt to solve the truancy problem. If the parent/guardian refuses to participate in such meeting, the principal shall place in the student's attendance records documentation of such refusal.
2. Educational counseling to determine whether curriculum changes, including but not limited to, enrolling the child in an alternative education program that meets the specific educational and behavioral needs of the child.



3. Educational evaluation, which may include a psychological evaluation, to assist in determining the specific condition, if any, contributing to the truancy problem, supplemented by specific efforts by the school to help remedy any condition diagnosed.
4. Investigation of the truancy problem by the school attendance officer, or another person designated by the administration to identify conditions which may be contributing to the truancy problem. If services for the child and his or her family are determined to be needed, the person performing the investigation shall meet with the parent/guardian and the child to discuss any referral to appropriate community agencies for economic services, family or individual counseling, or other services required remedying the conditions that are contributing to the truancy problem.

Reporting Habitual Truancy

Students who accumulate twenty (20) unexcused absences or the hourly equivalent per year shall be deemed to be habitually truant. If the student continues to be or becomes habitually truant, the principal shall serve a written notice to the person violating the Nebraska truancy laws (i.e., the person who has legal or active charge or control of the student) warning him or her to comply with the provisions of that law. If within one (1) week after the time the notice is given such person is still violating the school attendance laws or policies, the Principal shall file a report with the county attorney of the county in which such person resides.

**Article 4 – SCHOLASTIC ACHIEVEMENT**

**Section 1                    Grading System**

Students will receive letter grades on report cards and transcripts. The following scale will be used to assign letter grades and a grade point average from a percent for grades 3-12:

Superior	93-100	A	The student is more than meeting the demands of the teacher. His work is on time. The work is of superior quality. It shows mastery of the subject matter. He has the ability to carry the job through, and exerts a positive influence on the class.
Above Average	85-92	B	The work is of superior nature and the required work is well done. The student meets the demands of the teacher and exerts a positive influence on the class.
Average	76-84	C	He does satisfactorily the required work. The work is on time and is of average quality. The student is showing achievement.

Below Average to Unsatisfactory	70-75	D	The student is not doing all of the assigned work, is dependent on others, is inconsistent, uncertain, and confused. Work is below normal, but shows some evidence of growth.
Failing	69 and below	F	Unsatisfactory, with little growth taking place, lack of interest and irregular attendance and attention. (Provides no credit toward those needed for graduation.)
P	Passing		Indicates that the student is passing regular work in the class.
I	Incomplete		Incompletes are assigned in cases where the student's work is incomplete at the end of the nine week period and/or semester. This may be due to absence because of illness, etc. The student and teacher will work together to arrange a timeline for the completion of the missed work. If the assigned work is not completed by the established deadline, the incomplete becomes an F. Incompletes not taken care of in this time frame will not be eligible for the honor roll.
Con.	Condition Mark		Condition marks may be assigned in cases that do not warrant an outright failure. The instructor may then give a passing grade at the close of the next grading period or may fail the student for both grading periods.

Each teacher will define the grading procedures to be used in their classes.

### **K-2/Specials Grading Scale**

Outstanding	96-100	O	Work is consistently excellent/Pupil is consistently giving optimum effort
Superior	90-95	S+	
Satisfactory	84-89	S	Work is generally good/Pupil applies himself most of the time.

Low Satisfactory	77-83	S-	
Needs Improvement	70-76	N	Work is not done well/Pupil displays minimum effort
Unsatisfactory	69-0	U	Work is unacceptable for grade standards.

**Section 2      Graduation Requirements**

To participate in commencement exercises or receive a Laurel-Concord-Coleridge School diploma a student must fully complete all requirements for graduation prior to the official commencement exercises, and complete other administrative requirements or conditions.

To be eligible for graduation from Laurel-Concord-Coleridge High School, a student must have earned a minimum of 250 semester hours credit in grades 9 through 12 inclusive. A minimum of 40 earned semester hours credits must be earned during the school year in which the student intends to graduate. Credit hours will be computed in accordance with the Nebraska Department of Education.

Satisfactory completion of the following courses must be presented in the candidate’s record:

English/Speech	40 hours	4 years
Social Sciences	40 hours	4 years
Mathematics	30 hours	3 years
Science	30 hours	3 years
Physical Education/and Health	10 hours	1 year
Community Service	4 clock hours each year	
Electives	100 hours	
Minimum	250 hours or instructional units	

Exceptions to these requirements may be made by the Board of Education upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, who will support the recommendation with justifiable reasons. A complete record of the recommendation and of the action taken upon it by the

Board shall be included in the minutes. The candidates for graduation shall be presented to the Board of Education for approval.

A student who has not met the requirements for graduation but who has attended school regularly may, with the recommendation of the Superintendent, be granted a Certificate of Attendance.

### **Section 3      Promotion and Retention**

Students will be placed at the grade level and in the courses best suited to them academically, socially and emotionally as determined by the administration. Students will typically progress annually from grade to grade. A student may be retained at a grade level or be required to repeat a course or program when such is determined in the judgment of the administration to be appropriate for the educational interests of the student and the educational program.

### **Section 4      Schedule Changes**

Students needing schedule changes should notify the Principal. Schedule changes must be initiated by the teachers involved, the Principal, or counselor, and the student's parent. Final approval of all schedule changes will be made by the Principal only.

### **Section 5      Interim Reports**

Various supplemental reports may be sent to parents throughout the school year concerning student's performance. These reports may describe student work of an exceptional nature or work, which needs improving. These reports will be sent as the teacher determines appropriate.

Included in the academic improvement report will be a request from the teacher for parents to contact the teacher by phone to discuss the student's academic progress. Teachers will arrange with the parents for days when the student can meet with the teacher outside the regular class period until the student returns to satisfactory academic standing.

### **Section 6      Report Cards**

Report cards are made available at the end of each quarter. Letter grades are used to designate a student's progress. A grade of "F" (failing) carries no credit. A grade of "I" (incomplete) received at the end of a grading period must be made up within two weeks or missing assignments will receive grades of F and those grades will be averaged into the final grade. No

incompletes will be given at the end of the fourth quarter, as all course work must be completed by the end of the fourth quarter.

### **Section 7 Parent-Teacher Conferences**

Parent-teacher conferences will be held once per semester. There will also be an open house. Refer to the school calendar for the schedule. Conferences with teachers, at any other time, are possible by calling the school office and making arrangements with the teachers.

### **Section 8 Honor Roll**

The purpose of the honor roll is to recognize those students who demonstrate academic excellence. Honor rolls will be determined for 1st, 2nd, 3rd and 4th quarters as well as 1st and 2nd semesters. Students will be recognized accordingly:

1. Students receiving all "A's" will be classified as students with DISTINCTION.
2. Students receiving no other grade lower than a "B" will be classified as students with HONOR.
3. All class grades are figured the same for honor roll status.
4. Honor roll lists are published in school and community publications.

### **Section 9 National Honor Society**

The National Honor Society chapter of Laurel-Concord-Coleridge School is a duly chartered and affiliated chapter of this prestigious national organization.

Students will be eligible to initially apply for National Honor Society after completing their third semester of high school (spring sophomore year), and must have minimum Weighted GPA of 93% or higher. Eligible students will receive an application packet and a copy of the scoring rubrics to complete. The application is determined to have the students demonstrate their commitment in different areas: activities/work experience, community service, awards/honors, teacher recommendations based off character and leadership, and two essays describing their experiences with leadership and character. To try to ensure that students all have a fair opportunity for selection, the applications will be made where each student is assigned a number, and that number is the only identifier of the subsequent pages of the application.

The faculty council will then review each application and rate each individual area of the application using the rubrics provided. A minimum number of points earned off the combined rubrics (39 points (80%) out of a possible 48 points for example) qualify students for eligibility. Students who do not qualify will then meet with the advisor and discuss the reasons why they did not qualify, and what they could do to help their application in the future. The faculty council is composed of staff members appointed by the principal (or designee of the principal)

and are a confidential list to allow for them to remain as unbiased as possible. Selection or removal of members to the National Honor Society is made by a majority vote of the faculty council and their decision is final.

## **Section 10 Academic Integrity**

### A. Policy Statement

Students are expected to abide by the standards of academic integrity established by their teachers and school administration. Standards of academic integrity are established in order for students to learn as much as possible from instruction, for students to be given grades which accurately reflect the student's level of learning and progress, to provide a level playing field for all students, and to develop appropriate values.

Cheating and plagiarism violate the standards of academic integrity. Sanctions will be imposed against students who engage in such conduct.

### **B. Definitions**

The following definitions provide a guide to the standards of academic integrity:

1. "Cheating" means intentionally to misrepresent the source, nature, or other conditions of academic work so as to accrue undeserved credit, or to cooperate with someone else in such misrepresentation. Such misrepresentations may, but need not necessarily, involve the work of others.

Cheating includes, but is not limited to:

- (a) Tests (includes tests, quizzes and other examinations or academic performances):
  - (1) Advance Information: Obtaining, reviewing or sharing copies of tests or information about a test before these are distributed for student use by the instructor. For example, a student engages in cheating if, after having taken a test, the student informs other students in a later section of the questions that appear on the test.
  - (2) Use of Unauthorized Materials: Using notes, textbooks, pre-programmed formula in calculators, or other unauthorized material, devices or information while taking a test except as expressly permitted. For example, except for "open book" tests, a student engages in cheating if the student looks at personal notes or the textbook during the test.

### Use of Other Student Answers:

Copying or looking at another student's answers or work, or sharing answers or work with another student, when taking a test, except as expressly permitted. For example, a student engages in cheating if the student looks at another student's paper during a test. A student also engages in cheating if the student tells another student answers during a test or while exiting the testing room, or knowingly allows another student to look at the student's answers on the test paper.

- (3) Use of Other Student to Take Test. Having another person take one's place for a test,

or taking a test for another student, without the specific knowledge and permission of the instructor.

(4) Misrepresenting Need to Delay Test. Presenting false or incomplete information in order to postpone or avoid the taking of a test. For example, a student engages in cheating if the student misses class on the day of a test, claiming to be sick, when the student's real reason for missing class was because the student was not prepared for the test.

(b) Papers (includes papers, essays, lab projects, and other similar academic work):

- (1) Use of Another's Paper: Copying another student's paper, using a paper from an essay writing service, or allowing another student to copy a paper, without the specific knowledge and permission of the instructor.
- (2) Re-use of One's Own Papers: Using a substantial portion of a piece of work previously submitted for another course or program to meet the requirements of the present course or program without notifying the instructor to whom the work is presented.
- (3) Assistance from Others: Having another person assist with the paper to such an extent that the work does not truly reflect the student's work. For example, a student engages in cheating if the student has a draft essay reviewed by the student's parent or sibling, and the essay is substantially re-written by the student's parent or sibling. Assistance from home is encouraged, but the work must remain the student's.
- (4) Failure to Contribute to Group Projects. Accepting credit for a group project in which the student failed to contribute a fair share of the work.
- (5) Misrepresenting Need to Delay Paper. Presenting false or incomplete information in order to postpone or avoid turning in a paper when due. For example, a student engages in cheating if the student misses class on the day a paper is due, claiming to be sick, when the student's real reason for missing class was because the student had not finished the paper.

(c) Alteration of Assigned Grades. Any unauthorized alteration of assigned grades by a student in the teacher's grade book or the school records is a serious form of cheating.

"Plagiarism" means to take and present as one's own a material portion of the ideas or words of another or to present as one's own an idea or work derived from an existing source without full and proper credit to the source of the ideas, words, or works. Plagiarism includes, but is not limited to:

- (1) Failure to Credit Sources: Copying work (words, sentences, and paragraphs or illustrations or models) directly from the work of another without proper credit. Academic work frequently involves use of outside sources. To avoid plagiarism, the student must either place the work in quotations or give a citation to the outside source.
- (2) Falsely Presenting Work as One's Own: Presenting work prepared by another in final or draft form as one's own without citing the source,

such as the use of purchased research papers or use of another student's paper.

2. "Contributing" to academic integrity violations means to participate or assist another in cheating or plagiarism. It includes but is not limited to allowing another student to look at your test answers, to copy your papers or lab projects, and to fail to report a known act of cheating or plagiarism to the instructor or administration.

### C. Sanctions

The following sanctions will occur for academic integrity offenses:

1. Academic Sanction. The instructor will refuse to accept the student's work in which the cheating or plagiarism took place, assign a grade of "F" or zero for the work, and require the student to complete a test or project in place of the work within such time and under such conditions as the instructor may determine appropriate. In the event the student completes the replacement test or project at a level meeting minimum performance standards, the instructor will assign a grade which the instructor determines to be appropriate for the work. Credit for the class may be withheld pending successful completion of the replacement test or project.
2. Report to Parents and Administration. The instructor will notify the Principal of the offense and the instructor will notify the student's parents or guardian.
3. Student Discipline Sanctions. Academic integrity offenses are a violation of school rules. The Principal may recommend sanctions in addition to those assigned by the instructor, up to and including suspension or expulsion. Such additional sanctions will be given strong consideration where a student has engaged in a serious or repeated academic integrity offense or other rule violations, and where the academic sanction is otherwise not a sufficient remedy, such as for offenses involving altering assigned grades or contributing to academic integrity violations.

## **Section 11    Testing Program**

The testing program at Laurel-Concord-Coleridge School involves group testing in grades K-12 and individual testing as needed or upon request. Included in the testing program at Laurel-Concord-Coleridge School are measures of mental ability, interest and achievement. The value of these tests is the objective information they provide in regard to your progress and in identifying your strengths and weaknesses. These test results are summarized and may be interpreted to you and your parents in order that a realistic and effective program of courses and activities may be arranged to meet your needs. Students may be involved in the following tests: NeSA, MAP, DIBELS, STAR Reading, NAEP, PSAT, and ASVAB.

Students taking MAP Assessments may have the option for retaking their MAP Assessment upon request of students, teachers, or parents. Any retakes on MAP Assessments will not be included in figuring final rank in class.



## **Section 12 Student Council**

The Student Council is an organization through which the students may express their opinions, assist in the administration of the school and participate in the management of school enterprises. The council tries to promote leadership, initiative, and self-control among its members. Any student who fulfills the qualifications of the organization's constitution may run for student council office.

Officers and class representatives are elected in the fall for the current school year. The term of office for which they are elected is for the current school year. Officer requirements include: President-Senior; Vice President-Senior; Secretary-Junior or Senior; Treasurer-Sophomore, Junior or Senior. All grades refer to the year during which the office is held.

Also serving on the student council are organizational representatives. These students are also elected and serve one year. The council members have an opportunity to voice their opinions on school government. One faculty member supervises their meetings.

## **Section 13 Class Rank**

Class rank is figured 3 times a year, in August to adjust for enrollment changes, at the end of the first semester and at the end of second semester and is determined through a formula converting the following performance areas:

Cumulative Semester Grades: 50% of Class Rank Formula

Semester grades (cumulative percentage) will be used in calculating points in the semester grade category for class rank.

ACT Test: 25% of Class Rank Formula

The highest ACT score will be used in the calculation for class rank.

MAPS: 25% of Class Rank Formula

Students will use an average of their highest high school student percentile range on each of the initial Fall/Spring MAP Assessments in grades 9-11 when calculating class rank. Note: Any retakes will not be included in figuring class rank.

\*The formula for calculating class rank will be 50% GPA, 25% average of the highest percentile rank on each MAP assessment, and 25% on the composite scores for the ACT exam.

\*Ties for class rank will be broken by using the percentage grade point average rounded to the nearest 10th of a point.

\*Traditional rounding will be used when figuring grade percentage points. 0.5 or higher will be rounded up the next whole percent.

Percentage Grade	Maps	ACT
98-100 = 22 pts	97-100 = 11 pts	35-36 = 11 pts
96-97 = 20	90-96 = 10	31-34 = 10
93-95 = 18	85-89 = 9	27-30 = 9
90-92 = 16	80-84 = 8	23-26 = 8
87-89 = 14	75-79 = 7	21-22 = 7
84-86 = 12	70-74 = 6	19-20 = 6
81-83 = 10	65-69 = 5	17-18 = 5
78-80 = 8	60-64 = 4	15-16 = 4
75-77 = 6	55-59 = 3	13-14 = 3
72-74 = 4	50-54 = 2	11-12 = 2
0-71 = 2	0-49 = 1	0-10 = 1

## Section 14 Dual Credit Courses

A dual credit course is a college class offered to high school students. Upon successful completion, the student accrues both high school credit towards a high school diploma *and* postsecondary credits that may lead to a certificate, associate's degree or bachelor's degree. Dual credit courses could include the following:

- Classes taught in the high school during the day, by the high school teacher.
- Online classes taught by dually certified instructors at a college and taught for early entry (high school) students only.

Online College Credit Only classes may also be taken during the regular school day. These may include the following:

- Classes taken online that include both Early Entry high school students and college students.

Note: Students are responsible for the tuition of these courses.

## Article 6 - SUPPORT SERVICES

### Section 1 Special Education Services

#### What Does Special Education Mean?

Special education means specially designed instruction and related services adapted as appropriate to the needs of an eligible student with a disability. Special education is provided at no cost to the parent to meet the unique needs of a child with a disability.

### Students Who May Benefit

A student verified as having autism, behavior disorders, deaf-blindness, developmental delay, hearing impairments, mental handicaps, multiple disabilities, orthopedic impairments, other health impairments, specific learning disabilities, speech-language impairments, traumatic brain injury or visual impairments, who because of these impairments need special education and related services.

### How are Students With Disabilities Identified?

Referrals are made by teachers or parents to a Student Assistance Team. If the student assistance team or comparable problem solving team feels that all viable alternatives have been explored, a referral for multidisciplinary evaluation is completed. An evaluation is conducted to assist in the determination of whether a student has a disability and the nature and extent of the special education and related services the student needs. The evaluation is conducted only with written consent of a parent or guardian. A multidisciplinary evaluation team (MDT) will then meet to determine whether the student is eligible for special education.

### Independent Evaluation

If a parent disagrees with an evaluation completed by the school district, the parent has a right to request an independent educational evaluation at public expense. Parents should direct inquiries to school officials to determine if the school district will arrange for further evaluation at public expense. If school district officials feel the original evaluation was appropriate and the parents disagree, a due process hearing may be initiated. If it is determined that the original evaluation was appropriate, parents still have the right to an independent educational evaluation at their own expense.

### Reevaluation

Students identified for special education will be reevaluated at least every three (3) years by the IEP team. The IEP team will review existing evaluation data on the student and will identify what additional data, if any, are needed. The school district will obtain parental consent prior to conducting any reevaluation of a student with a disability.

### Individual Education Program (IEP)

Upon a student being verified as having a disability, a conference will be held with parents. At the conference, an Individualized Education Program (IEP) will be developed specifying programs and services which will be provided by the schools. Parent consent will be obtained prior to a student being placed for the first time in a program providing special education and related services or early intervention services to infant and toddlers. Once in place, the IEP is reviewed on an annual basis, or more frequently as needed. Parents are given a copy of the IEP.

### Special Education Placement

The student's placement in a special education program is dependent on the student's educational needs as outlined in the Individual Education Program (IEP). To the maximum extent appropriate, students with disabilities are educated with students who are not disabled. Special classes, separate schooling, or other removal of children with disabilities from the regular educational environment occurs only when the nature or severity of the disability is such

that education in regular classes with the use of supplementary aids and services cannot be achieved satisfactorily. Determination of a student's educational placement will be made by the IEP team.

Written notice shall be given to parents a reasonable time before the school district: 1. Proposes to initiate or change the identification, evaluation, verification or educational placement of a child or the provision of a free appropriate public education; or 2. Refuses to initiate or change the identification, evaluation, or educational placement of the child or the provision of a free appropriate public education to the child.

### More Information

Anyone interested in obtaining a copy of the District's special education policy, the Parental Rights in Special Education brochure, or a copy of the Nebraska Department of Education Rule 51 (special education regulations and complaint procedures) or Rule 55 (special education appeal procedures) may contact the Superintendent. A notice of parental rights, Rules 51 and 55 and more information about special education are also available at the Nebraska Department of Education's website: <http://www.nde.state.ne.us/SPED/sped.html>.

## **Section 2      Students with Disabilities: Section 504**

Accommodations and related services are made available to students with disabilities under Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973. Under Section 504, parents have the following rights:

1. Have your child take part in, and receive benefits from, public education programs without discrimination because of your child's disability.
2. Have the school district advise you of your rights under federal law.
3. Receive notice with respect to identification, evaluation or placement of your child.
4. Have your child receive a free appropriate public education. This includes the right to be educated with non-disabled students to the maximum extent appropriate. It also includes the right to have the school district make reasonable accommodations to allow your child an equal opportunity to participate in school and school-related activities.
5. Have your child receive services and be educated in facilities which are comparable to those provided to students without disabilities.
6. Have your child receive an individualized evaluation and receive special education and related services if your child is found eligible under Section 504.
7. Have evaluation, eligibility, educational and placement decisions made based on a variety of information sources and by persons who know your child and who are knowledgeable about the evaluation data and placement options.
8. Have transportation provided to and from an alternative placement setting at no greater cost to you than would be incurred if your child were placed in a program operated by the school district.
9. Have your child be given an equal opportunity to participate in nonacademic and extracurricular activities offered by the school district.
10. Examine all relevant records relating to decisions regarding your child's

identification, evaluation and placement. Obtain copies of educational records at a reasonable cost on the same terms as records are provided students without a disability unless the fee would effectively deny you access to the records.

11. Receive a response from the school district to reasonable requests for explanations and interpretations of your child's records.
12. Request amendment of your child's educational records if there is reasonable cause to believe that they are inaccurate, misleading or otherwise in violation of the privacy rights of your child. If the school district refuses this request, it shall notify you within a reasonable time, and advise you of the right to a hearing.
13. File a local grievance in accordance with school policy.
14. Request an impartial hearing related to decisions regarding your child's identification, eligibility, and educational program or placement with opportunity for participation by the person's parents or guardian and representation by counsel, and a review procedure. This is provided in the local grievance procedure.

### **Section 3      Guidance Services**

Laurel-Concord-Coleridge School employs counselor(s) for the purpose of assisting with the District's testing program, to assist with scheduling and for students to discuss problems and resolve conflicts. If you wish to see a counselor, stop by a counselor's office and make arrangements for an appointment.

### **Section 4      Health Services**

#### Student Illnesses

School health personnel will notify parents when a student needs to be sent home from school due to illness. Conditions requiring a student be sent home include: Temperature greater than 100°F., vomiting, diarrhea, unexplained rashes, live head lice, or on determination by the school nurse that the child's condition prevents meaningful participation in the educational program, presents a health risk to the child or others, or that medical consultation is warranted unless the condition resolves.

Please include emergency daytime phone numbers on your child's enrollment card so that you can be reached if your child becomes ill or injured while at school. Please also inform your school health office staff of health related information you feel is important for your student's success in the classroom and/or safety at school.

#### Guidelines for Administering Medication

Whenever possible your child should be provided medications by you outside of school hours.

In the event it is necessary that your child take or have medication available at school, the parents/guardians must provide a signed written consent for the child to be given medication at school. A consent form is available at the school health office. If your child has asthma or

diabetes and is capable of self-managing his or her health condition, contact the health office to develop a self-management plan.

Medications must be provided to the school by the parent/guardian in the pharmacy-labeled or manufacturer-labeled bottle. Repackaged medications will not be accepted. All medications also require a physician's authorization to be given at school. The school nurse may limit medications to those set forth in the Physician's Desk Reference (PDR). Please limit the amount of medication provided to the school to a two-week supply.

### School Health Screening

Children in Preschool and Kindergarten through third grade, as well as children in sixth and ninth grades are screened for vision, hearing, dental defects, height and weight. The screening program also incorporates scoliosis and blood pressure at the sixth and ninth grades. Students entering the Student Assistance Process at any grade level, and those about whom health concerns are identified to the school nurse, may also be screened. Parents who do not wish their child to participate in the school screening program must communicate this in writing to the school health office at the start of the school year. Because Nebraska statutes require school-age screening, parents who remove their child from the screening program must submit findings from an alternate medical provider to the school by December 1.

### Physical and Visual Examination

Evidence of a physical examination and a visual evaluation is required within six (6) months prior to entrance into kindergarten and, in the case of transfer from out of state, to any other grade. A physical examination is also required prior to entrance into the seventh grade. The physical examination is to be completed by a physician, a physician's assistant, or an advanced practice registered nurse; the visual evaluation is to be completed by any of the foregoing or an optometrist. A parent or guardian who objects to the physical examination and/or visual evaluation may submit a written statement of refusal for his or her child. Waiver forms are available in the school health office. Additional physical examination requirements exist for students participating in athletic participation.

### Immunizations

Students must show proof of immunization. A student who does not comply with the immunization requirements will not be permitted to continue in school. Students with medical conditions or sincerely held religious beliefs which do not allow immunizations must complete a waiver statement or affidavit. Forms are available in school health offices.

Unimmunized students may be excluded from school in the event of a disease outbreak.

Summary of the School Immunization Rules and Regulations for 2018-2019 School Year

Student Age Group	Required Vaccines
<p>Ages 2 through 5 years enrolled in a school based program not licensed as a child care provider</p>	<p>4 doses of DTaP, DTP, or DT vaccine, 3 doses of Polio vaccine,                      3 doses of Hib vaccine or 1 dose of Hib given at or after 15 months of age, *Hib not required after child reaches 5 yrs. of age 3 doses of pediatric Hepatitis B vaccine,                      1 dose of MMR or MMRV given on or after 12 months of age, 1 dose of varicella (chickenpox) or MMRV given on or after 12 months of age. Written documentation (including year) of varicella disease from parent, guardian, or health care provider will be accepted.                      4 doses of pneumococcal or 1 dose of pneumococcal given on or after 15 months of age. *Pneumococcal not required after child reaches 5 yrs. of age.</p>
<p>Students from Kindergarten through 12th Grade, including all transfer students from outside the State of Nebraska and any foreign students</p>	<p>3 doses of DTaP, DTP, DT, or Td vaccine, one given on or after the 4th birthday,                      3 doses of Polio vaccine,                      3 doses of pediatric Hepatitis B vaccine or 2 doses of adolescent vaccine if student is 11-15 years of age.                      2 doses of MMR or MMRV vaccine, given on or after 12 months of age and separated by at least one month,                      2 doses of varicella (chickenpox) or MMRV given on or after 12 months of age. Written documentation (including year) of varicella disease from parent, guardian, or health care provider will be accepted. If the child has had varicella disease, they do not need any varicella shots.</p>
<p>Additionally, for 7th Grade Only</p>	<p>1 dose of Tdap (must contain Pertussis booster)</p>

Birth Certificate Requirements

State law requires that a certified copy of a student's birth certificate be provided within 30 days of enrollment of a student in school for the first time. You may obtain a certified copy from the Bureau of Vital Statistics in the state in which your child was born. Assistance in obtaining birth certificates may be obtained from Health Records Management, P.O. Box 95065, Lincoln, NE 68509-5065. There is a fee per certificate.

Please note: The document parents receive from the hospital looks like a birth certificate, but it is not a certified copy. A certified copy has the raised seal of the state of Nebraska on it and is signed by the director of vital statistics.

If a birth certificate is unavailable, other reliable proof of a student's identity may be used. These documents could include naturalization or immigration documents showing date of birth or official hospital birth records, a passport, or a translation of a birth certificate from another country. The documents must be accompanied by an affidavit explaining the inability to produce a copy of the birth certificate.

### Guidelines for Head Lice

The following guidelines are in place to: better control a nuisance condition; reduce absenteeism due to head lice; and involve parents as partners with the school in control efforts:

1. Children will be sent home from school for live head lice. In the event a child has two (2) cases of live lice in a semester, the child will be sent home until free of both live lice and nits (eggs).
2. Health office staff will provide written treatment information and instructions, including how to check and identify head lice\*.
3. A child who is sent home from school for head lice should miss no more than two (2) school days.
4. A child who has been sent from school due to head lice must come to the health office for inspection before returning to class.
5. A child who returns to class with nits (eggs) will be checked again in 7-10 days.
6. Families are encouraged to report head lice to the school health office.
7. Classroom-wide or school-wide head checks will be conducted as needed in order to control the condition at school.
8. \*Nit removal will be emphasized for effective management of the condition. For more information call the nurse at your child's school.

## **Section 5      Transportation Services**

Transportation to and from school is provided to students in accordance with law and Board policy. Students may also be provided transportation on field trips and when participating in school activities. Students are expected to follow the behavioral expectations for riding school buses.

### Behavior on School Buses

- I. **General Conduct Rules Apply:** While riding school buses you are expected to follow the same student conduct rules, which apply when you are on school property or attending school activities, functions or events. There are also special conduct rules for riding



school buses. These rules also apply to riding other school vehicles.

## II. Special Conduct Rules for Riding School Buses.

### A. Rules for Getting On and Off the Bus

1. Be on time to be picked up. As a general rule, get to your bus stop five (5) minutes before your scheduled pick up time. If you miss the bus, immediately return to your home and tell your parents so they can get you to school.
2. While waiting for the bus, stay at least five (5) feet away from the street, road or highway. Wait until the bus comes to a complete stop before approaching the bus.
3. You may exit the bus only at your approved destination (your school or your approved bus stop). Exit the bus as directed by the driver. Do not run.
4. If you must cross the street after exiting the bus, always cross in front of the bus where the driver can see you. Wait for the driver to signal to you before crossing the street.

### B. Rules on the Bus

1. Be respectful of the bus driver. Immediately follow all directions of the driver and any paraprofessional or adult on the bus.
2. Sit in your seat facing forward. Use seat belts in vehicles in which they are available.
3. Talk quietly and use appropriate language.
4. Keep all parts of your body inside the bus.
5. Keep your arms, legs and belongings to yourself.
6. No fighting, harassment, bullying, intimidation or horseplay.
7. Do not throw any object.
8. No eating, drinking, use of tobacco, alcohol, drugs or flammables.
9. Do not bring any weapon (real or imitation) or dangerous objects on the school bus.
10. Do not damage the school bus.

III. Getting the Driver's Assistance: If you need assistance from the driver, wait until the bus is at a full stop. If you are close enough, tell the driver what you need. If you are too far away for the driver to hear you, ask a student in front of you to get the driver's attention. If necessary, walk up to the driver, while the bus is at a full stop. If you need immediate assistance for an emergency, take all action needed to safely get the help of the driver.

IV. Consequences for Rule Violations: Consequences for school bus misconduct may include restriction or suspension of bus privileges and other disciplinary measures, up to and including expulsion from school.

## **Article 7 - DRUGS, ALCOHOL AND TOBACCO**

### **Section 1 Drug-Free Schools**

The District implements regulations and practices which will ensure compliance with the federal Safe and Drug-Free Schools and Communities Act and all regulations and rules promulgated pursuant thereto. The District's safe and drug-free schools program is established in accordance with principles of effectiveness as required by law to respond to such harmful effects. The consistent message of the program is that the use of illicit drugs and the unlawful possession and use of alcohol is wrong and harmful.

### **Section 2 Education and Prevention**

The District promotes comprehensive, age appropriate, developmentally based drug and alcohol education and prevention programs. The curriculum includes the teaching of both proper and incorrect use of drugs and alcohol for all students in all grades. The District provides in-service orientation and training for staff with regard to drug and alcohol education and prevention programs.

Drug and Alcohol Use and Prevention. Each student of the District is hereby provided a copy of the standards of conduct for student behavior in the District which prohibit the unlawful possession, use, or distribution of illicit drugs and alcohol on school premises or as a part of any of the school's activities.

Drug and Alcohol Education and Prevention Program of the District Pursuant to the Safe and Drug-Free Schools and Communities Laws and Regulations. All students are provided an age appropriate, developmentally based drug and alcohol education and prevention program. The program educates on the adverse effects of the use of illicit drugs and alcohol, with the primary objective being the prevention of illicit drug and alcohol use by students.

Drug and Alcohol Counseling, Rehabilitation and Re-entry Programs. Information concerning available drug and alcohol counseling, rehabilitation, and re-entry programs is available to all of the students upon request of the Counselor. In the event of disciplinary proceedings against a student for any District policy pertaining to the prohibition against the unlawful possession, use, or distribution of illicit drugs and alcohol, appropriate school personnel will confer with the student and the student's parents or guardian concerning available drug and alcohol counseling, rehabilitation, and re-entry programs that appropriate school personnel consider to be of benefit.

Safe and Drug-Free Schools—Parental Notice. Pursuant to the provisions of the No Child Left Behind Act, if upon receipt of information regarding the content of safe and drug free school programs and activities other than classroom instruction a parent objects to the participation of their child in such programs and activities, the parent may notify the District of such objection in

writing. Upon the receipt of such notice the student will be withdrawn from the program or activity to which parental objection has been made.

### **Section 3        Standards of Student Conduct Pertaining to Drugs, Alcohol and Tobacco**

These standards are in addition to standards of student conduct elsewhere adopted by board policy or administrative regulation.

The District's standards prohibit the possession, use, or distribution of illicit drugs or alcohol on school premises, in school vehicles, or as a part of any of the school's activities on or off school premises. Conduct prohibited at places and activities as hereinabove described shall include, but not be limited to, the following:

1. Possession, use, distribution or being under the influence of any controlled substance, including but not limited to marijuana, any narcotic drug, any hallucinogen, and any stimulant, or any depressant.
2. Possession of any prescription drug in an unlawful fashion.
3. Possession, use, distribution or being under the influence of alcohol.
4. Possession, use, distribution, or being under the influence of any abusable glue or aerosol paint or any other chemical substance for inhalation, including but not limited to lighter fluid, whiteout, and reproduction fluid, when such activity constitutes a substantial interference with school purposes.
5. Possession, use, or distribution of any look-alike drug or look-alike controlled substance when such activity constitutes a substantial interference with school purposes.
6. Possession, use or distribution of any tobacco product.

#### Disciplinary Sanctions

Violation of any of the above prohibited acts will result in disciplinary sanction being taken within the bounds of applicable law, up to and including expulsion and referral to appropriate authorities for criminal prosecution. In particular, students should be aware that:

1. Violation of these standards may result in suspension or expulsion.
2. Prohibited substances will be confiscated and unlawful substances will be turned over to law enforcement authorities.
3. The student may be referred for counseling or treatment.
4. Parents or legal guardian will be notified.
5. Law enforcement will be notified.
6. If it appears there is imminent danger to the student, other students, school personnel, or students involved, emergency medical services will be contacted.

#### Intervention

The District does not have the authority or responsibility to make medical or health determinations regarding chemical dependency. However, when observed behavior indicates that a problem exists which may affect the student's ability to learn or function in the educational environment, the school has the right and responsibility to refer the student for a formal chemical dependency diagnosis based on behavior observed by school staff.

### Administration

The administration is authorized to adopt such administrative rules, regulations or practices necessary to properly implement this policy. Such regulations, rules or practices may vary the procedures set forth herein to the extent necessary to fit the circumstances of an individual situation. Such rules, regulations and practices may include administrative forms, such as checklists to be used by staff to record observed behavior and to determine the proper plan of action.

## **Article 8 - STUDENT CONDUCT RULES**

### **Section 1 Purpose of Student Conduct Rules**

These student conduct rules are established to maintain a school atmosphere which is conducive to learning, to aid student development, to further school purposes, and to prevent interference with the educational process. Violations of the rules will result in disciplinary action.

### **Section 2 Forms of School Discipline**

- A. Short-Term Suspension: Students may be excluded by the Principal or the Principal's designee from school or any school function for a period of up to five (5) school days (short-term suspension) on the following grounds:
  - a. Conduct that constitutes grounds for expulsion, whether the conduct occurs on or off school grounds; or,
  - b. Other violations of rules and standards of behavior adopted by the Laurel-Concord-Coleridge School Board of Education or the administrative or teaching staff of the school, which occur on or off school grounds, if such conduct interferes with school purposes or there is a nexus between such conduct and school.

The following process will apply to short-term suspensions:

1. The Principal or the Principal's designee will make a reasonable investigation of the facts and circumstances. A short-term suspension will be made upon a determination that the suspension is necessary to help any student, to further school purposes, or to prevent an interference with school purposes.
2. Prior to commencement of the short-term suspension, the student will be given oral or written notice of the charges against the student. The student will be advised of what the student is accused of having done, an explanation of the evidence the authorities have, and be afforded an opportunity to explain the student's version of the facts.

3. Within 24 hours or such additional time as is reasonably necessary following the suspension, the Principal or administrator will send a written statement to the student and the student's parent or guardian describing the student's conduct, misconduct or violation of the rule or standard and the reasons for the action taken.
4. An opportunity will be given to the student, and the student's parent or guardian, to have a conference with the Principal or administrator ordering the short-term suspension before or at the time the student returns to school. The Principal or administrator shall determine who in addition to the parent or guardian is to attend the conference.
5. A student on a short-term suspension shall not be permitted to be on school grounds without the express permission of the Principal.

B. Long-Term Suspension: A long-term suspension means an exclusion from school and any school functions for a period of more than five (5) school days but less than twenty (20) school days. A student who on a long-term suspension shall not be permitted to be on school grounds without the express permission of the Principal. A notice will be given to the student and the parents/guardian when the Principal recommends a long-term suspension. The notice will include a description of the procedures for long-term suspension. The procedures will be those set forth in the Student Discipline Act.

C. Expulsion:

1. Meaning of Expulsion.

Expulsion means exclusion from attendance in all schools, grounds and activities of or within the system for a period not to exceed the remainder of the semester in which it took effect unless (a) the misconduct occurred within ten (10) school days prior to the end of the first semester, in which case the expulsion shall remain in effect through the second semester, or (b) the misconduct occurred within ten (10) school days prior to the end of the second semester, in which case the expulsion shall remain in effect for summer school and the first semester of the following school year, or (c) the expulsion is for conduct specified in these rules or in law as permitting or requiring a longer removal, in which case the expulsion shall remain in effect for the period specified therein. Such action may be modified or terminated by the school district at any time during the expulsion period.

2. Suspensions Pending Hearing. When a notice of intent to discipline a student by long-term suspension, expulsion, or mandatory reassignment is filed with the superintendent, the student may be suspended by the principal until the date the long-term suspension, expulsion, or mandatory reassignment takes effect if no hearing is requested or, if a hearing is requested, the date the hearing examiner makes the report of his or her findings and a recommendation of the action to be taken to the superintendent. The suspension pending hearing may be imposed if the principal determines that the student must be suspended immediately to prevent or substantially reduce the risk of (a) interference with an educational function or school purpose or (b) a personal injury to the student himself or herself, other students, school employees, or school volunteers.

3. Summer Review.

Any expulsion that will remain in effect during the first semester of the following school year will be automatically scheduled for review before the beginning of the school year in

accordance with law.

4. **Alternative Education.** Students who are expelled may be provided an alternative education program that will enable the student to continue academic work for credit toward graduation. In the event an alternative education program is not provided, a conference will be held with the parent, student, the Principal or another school representative assigned by the Principal, and a representative of a community organization that assists young people or that is involved with juvenile justice to develop a plan for the student in accordance with law.
  5. **Suspension of Enforcement of an Expulsion.** Enforcement of an expulsion action may be suspended (i.e., “stayed”) for a period of not more than one (1) full semester in addition to the balance of the semester in which the expulsion takes effect. As a condition of such suspended action, the student and parents will be required to sign a discipline agreement.
  6. **Students Subject to Juvenile or Court Probation.** Prior to the readmission to school of any student who is less than 19 years of age and who is subject to the supervision of a juvenile probation officer or an adult probation officer pursuant to a court order, who chooses to meet conditions of probation by attending school, and who has previously been expelled from school, the Principal or the Principal’s designee shall meet with the student’s probation officer and assist in developing conditions of probation that will provide specific guidelines for behavior and consequences for misbehavior at school (including conduct on school grounds and conduct during an educational function or event off school grounds) as well as educational objectives that must be achieved. If the guidelines, consequences, and objectives provided by the Principal or the Principal’s designee are agreed to by the probation officer and the student, and the court permits the student to return to school under the agreed to conditions, the student may be permitted to return to school. The student may with proper consent, upon such return, be evaluated by the school for possible disabilities and may be referred for evaluation for possible placement in a special education program. The student may be expelled or otherwise disciplined for subsequent conduct as provided in Board policy and state statute.
- D. **Other Forms of Student Discipline.** Administrative and teaching personnel may take actions regarding student behavior, other than removal of students from school, which are reasonably necessary to aid the student, further school purposes, or prevent interference with the educational process. Such actions may include, but are not be limited to, counseling of students, parent conferences, rearrangement of schedules, requirements that a student remain in school after regular hours to do additional work, restriction of extracurricular activity, or requirements that a student receive counseling, psychological evaluation, or psychiatric evaluation upon the written consent of a parent or guardian to such counseling or evaluation. The actions may also include in-school suspensions. When in-school suspensions, after-school assignments, or other disciplinary measures are assigned, the student is responsible for complying with such disciplinary measures. A failure to serve such assigned discipline as directed will serve as grounds for further discipline, up to expulsion from school.

### **Section 3 Student Conduct Expectations**

Students are not to engage in conduct which causes or which creates a reasonable likelihood that it will cause a substantial disruption in or material interference with any school function, activity or purpose or interfere with the health, safety, well being or rights of other students, staff or visitors.

A. Grounds for Short-Term Suspension, Long-Term Suspension, Expulsion or Mandatory Reassignment

The following conduct has been determined by the Board of Education to have the potential to seriously affect the health, safety or welfare of students, staff and other persons or to otherwise seriously interfere with the educational process. Such conduct constitutes grounds for long-term suspension, expulsion, or mandatory reassignment, and any other lesser forms of discipline. The conduct is subject to the consequence of long-term suspension, expulsion, or mandatory reassignment where it occurs on school grounds, in a vehicle owned, leased, or contracted by the school and being used for a school purpose or in a vehicle being driven for a school purpose by a school employee or an employee's designee, or at a school-sponsored activity or athletic event.

1. Willfully disobeying any reasonable written or oral request of a school staff member, or the voicing of disrespect to those in authority.
2. Use of violence, force, coercion, threat, intimidation, harassment, or similar conduct in a manner that constitutes a substantial interference with school purposes or making any communication that reasonable recipient would interpret as a serious expression of an intent to harm or cause injury to another;
3. Willfully causing or attempting to cause substantial damage to property, stealing or attempting to steal property of substantial value, repeated damage or theft involving property, or setting or attempting to set a fire of any magnitude;
4. Causing or attempting to cause personal injury to any person, including any school employee, school volunteer, or student. Personal injury caused by accident, self-defense, or other action undertaken on the reasonable belief that it was necessary to protect some other person shall not constitute a violation of this subdivision;
5. Threatening or intimidating any student for the purpose of or with the intent of obtaining money or anything of value from such student or making a threat which causes or may be expected to cause a disruption to school operations;
6. Knowingly possessing, handling, or transmitting any object or material that is ordinarily or generally considered a weapon or that has the appearance of a weapon or bringing or possessing any explosive device, including fireworks;
7. Selling, using, possessing or dispensing of alcohol, tobacco, narcotics, drugs, controlled substance, or an inhalant; being under the influence of any of the above; possession of drug paraphernalia, or the selling, using, possessing, or dispensing of an imitation controlled substance as defined in section 28-401 of the Nebraska statutes, or material represented to be alcohol, narcotics, drugs, a controlled substance or inhalant. Use of a controlled substance in the manner prescribed for the student by the student's physician is not a violation. The term

“under the influence” has a less strict meaning than it does under criminal law; for school purposes, the term means any level of impairment and includes even the odor of alcohol or illegal substances on the breath or person of a student; also, it includes being impaired by reason of the abuse of any material used as a stimulant;

8. Public indecency or sexual conduct;
9. Engaging in bullying, which includes any ongoing pattern of physical, verbal, or electronic abuse on school grounds, in a vehicle owned, leased, or contracted by a school being used for a school purpose by a school employee or a school employee’s designee, or at school-sponsored activities or school-sponsored athletic events;
10. Sexually assaulting or attempting to sexually assault any person. This conduct may result in an expulsion regardless of the time or location of the offense if a complaint alleging such conduct is filed in a court of competent jurisdiction;
11. Engaging in any activity forbidden by law which constitutes a danger to other students or interferes with school purposes. This conduct may result in an expulsion regardless of the time or location of the offense if the conduct creates or had the potential to create a substantial interference with school purposes, such as the use of the telephone or internet off-school grounds to threaten; or
12. Repeated violation of any rules established by the school district or school officials if such violations constitute a substantial interference with school purposes;
13. Truancy or failure to attend assigned classes or assigned activities; or tardiness to school, assigned classes or assigned activities;
14. The use of language, written or oral, or conduct, including gestures, which is profane or abusive to students or staff members. Profane or abusive language or conduct includes, but is not limited to, that which is commonly understood and intended to be derogatory toward a group or individual based upon race, gender, disability, national origin, or religion;
15. Dressing or grooming in a manner which is dangerous to the student's health and safety or a danger to the health and safety of others or repeated violations of the student dress and grooming standards; dressing, grooming, or engaging in speech that is lewd or indecent, vulgar or plainly offensive; dressing, grooming, or engaging in speech that school officials reasonably conclude will materially and substantially disrupt the work and discipline of the school; dressing, grooming, or engaging in speech that a reasonable observer would interpret as advocating illegal drug use.
16. Willfully violating the behavioral expectations for those students riding Laurel-Concord-Coleridge School’ buses.
17. A student who engages in the following conduct shall be expelled for the remainder of the school year in which it took effect if the misconduct occurs during the first semester, and if the expulsion for such conduct takes place during the second semester, the expulsion shall remain in effect for the first semester of the following school year, with the condition that such action may be modified or



terminated by the school district during the expulsion period on such terms as the administration may establish:

- a. The knowing and intentional use of force in causing or attempting to cause personal injury to a school employee, school volunteer, or student, except if caused by accident, self-defense, or on the reasonable belief that the force used was necessary to protect some other person and the extent of force used was reasonably believed to be necessary, or
  - b. The knowing and intentional possession, use, or transmission of a dangerous weapon other than a firearm.
18. Knowingly and intentionally possessing, using, or transmitting a firearm on school grounds, in a school-owned or utilized vehicle, or during an educational function or event off school grounds, or at a school-sponsored activity or athletic event. This conduct shall result in an expulsion for one (1) calendar year. "Firearm" means a firearm as defined in 18 U.S.C. 921, as that statute existed on January 1, 1995. That statute includes the following statement: "The term 'firearm' means (a) any weapon (including a starter gun) which will or is designed to or may readily be converted to expel a projectile by the action of an explosive; (b) the frame or receiver of any such weapon; (c) any firearm muffler or firearm silencer; or (d) any destructive device." The Superintendent may modify such one (1) year expulsion requirement on a case-by-case basis, provided that such modification is in writing.

Bringing a firearm or other dangerous weapon to school for any reason is discouraged; however, a student will not be subject to disciplinary action if the item is brought or possessed under the following conditions:

- a. Prior written permission to bring the firearm or other dangerous weapon to school is obtained from the student's teacher, building administrator and parent.
- b. The purpose of having the firearm or other dangerous weapon in school is for a legitimate educational function;
- c. A plan for its transportation into and from the school, its storage while in the school building and how it will be displayed must be developed with the prior written approval by the teacher and building administrator. Such plan shall require that such item will be in the possession of an adult staff member at all times except for such limited time as is necessary to fulfill the educational function.
- d. The firearm or other dangerous weapon shall be in an inoperable condition while it is on school grounds.

#### B. Additional Student Conduct Expectations and Grounds for Discipline

The following additional student conduct expectations are established. Failure to comply with such rules is grounds for disciplinary action. When such conduct occurs on school grounds, in a vehicle owned, leased, or contracted by a school being used for a school purpose or in a vehicle being driven for a school purpose by a school employee or by his

or her designee, or at a school- sponsored activity or athletic event, the conduct is grounds for long-term suspension, expulsion or mandatory reassignment.

1. Student Appearance: Students at Laurel-Concord-Coleridge School are expected to dress in a way that is appropriate for the school setting. Students should not dress in a manner that is dangerous to the health and safety of anyone or interferes with the learning environment or teaching process in our school. Following is a list of examples of attire that will not be considered appropriate, such list is not exclusive and other forms of attire deemed inappropriate by the administration may be deemed inappropriate for the school setting:
  - a. Clothing that shows an inappropriate amount of bare skin or underwear (midriffs, spaghetti straps, sagging pants) or clothing that is too tight, revealing or baggy, or tops and bottoms that do not overlap or any material that is sheer or lightweight enough to be seen through, or otherwise of an appropriate size and fit so as to be revealing or drag on the ground.
  - b. Clothing or jewelry that advertises or promotes beer, alcohol, tobacco, or illegal drugs.
  - c. Clothing or jewelry that could be used as a weapon (chains, spiked apparel) or that would encourage “horse-play” or that would damage property (e.g. cleats).
  - d. Head wear including hats and caps.
  - e. Clothing or jewelry, which exhibits nudity, makes sexual references or carries lewd, indecent, or vulgar double meaning.
  - f. Clothing or jewelry that is gang related.

Consideration will be made for students who wear special clothing as required by religious beliefs, disability, or to convey a particularized message protected by law. The final decision regarding attire and grooming will be made by the Principal or Superintendent. In the event a student is uncertain as to whether a particular item or method of grooming is consistent with the school’s guidelines, the student should contact the Principal for approval, and may also review such additional posting of prohibited items or grooming which may be available in the Principal’s office.

Coaches, sponsors or teachers may have additional requirements for students who are in special lab classes, students who are participants in performing groups or students who are representing the school as part of an extracurricular activity program.

On a first offense of the dress code, the student may call home for proper apparel. If clothes cannot be brought to school, the student will be assigned to in-school suspension for the remainder of the day. Students will not be allowed to leave campus to change clothes. Continual violations of the dress code will result in more stringent disciplinary actions, up to expulsion. Further, in the event the dress code violation is determined to also violate other student conduct rules (e.g.,

public indecency, insubordination, expression of profanity, and the like), a first offense of the dress code may result in more stringent discipline, up to expulsion.

## 2. Electronic Devices

- a. Philosophy and Purpose. Laurel-Concord-Coleridge School strongly discourages students from bringing and/or using electronic devices at school. The use of electronic devices can be disruptive to the educational process and are items that are frequently lost or stolen. In order to maintain a secure and orderly learning environment, and to promote respect and courtesy regarding the use of electronic devices, the District hereby establishes the following rules and regulations governing student use of electronic devices, and procedures to address student misuse of electronic devices.
- b. Definitions.
  - i. “Electronic devices” include, but are not limited to, cell phones, Mp3 players, iPods, personal digital assistants (PDAs), compact disc players, portable game consoles, cameras, digital scanners, lap top computers, and other electronic or battery powered instruments which transmit voice, text, or data from one person to another.
  - ii. “Sexting” means generating, sending or receiving, encouraging others to send or receive, or showing others, through an electronic device, a text message, photograph, video or other medium that:
    1. Displays sexual content, including erotic nudity, any display of genitalia, unclothed female breasts, or unclothed buttocks, or any sexually explicit conduct as defined at Neb. Rev. Stat. § 28-1463.02; or
    2. Sexually exploits a person, whether or not such person has given consent to creation or distribution of the message, photograph, or video by permitting, allowing, encouraging, disseminating, distributing, or forcing such student or other person to engage in sexually explicit, obscene or pornographic photography, films, or depictions; or,
    3. Displays a sexually explicit message for sexual gratification, flirtation or provocation, or to request or arrange a sexual encounter.
- c. Possession and Use of Electronic Devices.
  - i. Students are not permitted to possess or use any electronic devices during class time except as otherwise provided by this policy. Electronic devices/cell phone usage is strictly prohibited during any class period without teacher permission; including voice usage, digital imaging, or text messaging.
  - ii. Students are permitted to possess and use electronic devices before school hours, at lunchtime, and after school hours, provided that the student not commit any abusive use of the device (see paragraph (4)(a)). Administrators have the discretion to prohibit student possession or use of electronic devices on school grounds during these times in the event the

administration determines such further restrictions are appropriate; an announcement will be given in the event of such a change in permitted use.

- iii. Electronic devices may be used during class time when specifically approved by the teacher or a school administrator in conjunction with appropriate and authorized class or school activities or events (i.e., student use of a camera during a photography class; student use of a lap top computer for a class presentation).
- iv. Students may use electronic devices during class time when authorized pursuant to an Individual Education Plan (IEP), a Section 504 Accommodation Plan, or a Health Care Plan, or pursuant to a plan developed with the student's parent when the student has a compelling need to have the device (e.g., a student whose parent is in the hospital could be allowed limited use of the cell phone for family contacts, so the family can give the student updates on the parent's condition).

d. Violations

- i. Prohibited Use of Electronic Devices: Students shall not use electronic devices for: (a) activities which disrupt the educational environment; (b) illegal activities in violation of state or federal laws or regulations; (c) unethical activities, such as cheating on assignments or tests; (d) immoral or pornographic activities; (e) activities in violation of Board or school policies and procedures relating to student conduct and harassment; (f) recording others (photographs, videotaping, sound recording, etc.) without direct administrative approval and consent of the person(s) being recorded, other than recording of persons participating in school activities that are open to the public; (g) "sexting;" or (h) activities which invade the privacy of others. Such student misuses will be dealt with as serious school violations, and immediate and appropriate disciplinary action will be imposed, including, but not limited to, suspension and expulsion from school.

ii. Disposition of Confiscated Electronic Device

- 1. Electronic devices possessed or used in violation of this policy may be confiscated by school personnel and returned to the student or parent/guardian at an appropriate time. If an electronic device is confiscated, the electronic device shall be taken to the school's main office to be identified, placed in a secure area, and returned to the student and/or the student's parent/guardian in a consistent and orderly way.

- a. First Violation: Depending upon the nature of the violation and the imposition of other appropriate disciplinary action, consequences at a minimum may include a relinquishment of the electronic device to the school administration and a conference between the student and school principal or assistant principal. The electronic device shall remain in the possession of the school administration until such time as

- the student personally comes to the school's main office and retrieves the electronic device.
- b. Second Violation: Depending upon the nature of the violation and the imposition of other appropriate disciplinary action, consequences at a minimum may include a relinquishment of the electronic device to the school administration and a conference between the student and his/her parent/guardian and the school principal or assistant principal. The electronic device shall remain in the possession of the school administration until such time as the student's parent/guardian personally comes to the school's main office and retrieves the electronic device.
  - c. Third Violation: Depending upon the nature of the violation and the imposition of other appropriate disciplinary action, consequences at a minimum may include a relinquishment of the electronic device to the school administration, a conference between the student and his/her parent/guardian and the school principal or assistant principal, and suspension of the student from school. The electronic device shall remain in the possession of the school administration until such time as the student's parent/guardian personally comes to the school's main office and retrieves the electronic device.
- e. Penalties for Prohibited Use of Electronic Devices: Students who receive a "sexting" message are to report the matter to a school administrator and then delete such message from their electronic device. Students shall not participate in sexting or have any "sexting" message on their electronic devices regardless of when the message was received while on school grounds or at a school activity. Students who violate the prohibitions of this policy shall be subject to the imposition of appropriate disciplinary action, up to and including expulsion, provided that at a minimum the following penalties shall be imposed:
- i. Students found in possession of a "sexting" message shall be subject to a one (1) day suspension from school.
  - ii. Students who send or encourage another to send a "sexting" message shall be subject to a five (5) day suspension from school.
- f. Reporting to Law Enforcement. Violations of this policy regarding the prohibited use of electronic devices that may constitute a violation of federal or state laws and regulations, including, but not limited to, the Nebraska Child Protection Act or the Nebraska Child Pornography Prevention Act shall be reported to appropriate legal authorities and law enforcement.
- g. Responsibility for Electronic Devices. Students or their parents/guardians are expected to claim a confiscated electronic device within ten (10) days of the date it was relinquished. The school shall not be responsible, financially or otherwise, for any unclaimed electronic devices. By bringing such devices to school, students and parents authorize the school to dispose of unclaimed devices at the

end of each semester. The District is not responsible for the security and safekeeping of students' electronic devices and is not financially responsible for any damage, destruction, or loss of electronic devices.

3. Harassment and Bullying Policy: One of the missions of Laurel-Concord- Coleridge School is to provide safe and secure environments for all students and staff. Positive behaviors (non-violence, cooperation, teamwork, understanding, and acceptance of others) are encouraged in the educational program and required of all students and staff. Inappropriate behaviors (bullying, intimidation and harassment are to be identified and corrected. Students and staff are to avoid such behaviors. Strategies and practices are implemented to reinforce positive behaviors and to discourage and protect others from inappropriate behaviors.

“Bullying” is behavior where one person or group engages in harmful action towards another person or group acting on a real or perceived imbalance of power or view of superiority. The behavior typically includes verbal (e.g. teasing or name-calling) and physical aggression (e.g., hitting, pushing), threatening, excluding or ignoring, spreading rumors, or taking, defacing or destroying the others' property. “Harassment” includes the same actions, though not necessarily from a standpoint of perceived power. Harassment is prohibited. Bullying and harassment is a violation of student conduct rules and appropriate disciplinary measures, up to expulsion, will be enforced. When bullying or harassment is done on the basis of gender, disability, race, or other protected status, it is considered a very serious offense for which expulsion may be a likely consequence depending on the severity of the conduct.

Students who are the victim of bullying or harassment or who observe such occurring are to promptly report the problem to their teacher or to the Principal so the problem can be addressed. Students who make reports of bullying activity will not be retaliated against for making the report.

4. Inappropriate Public Displays of Affection (IPDA): Students are not to engage in inappropriate public displays of affection on school property or at school activities. Such conduct includes kissing, touching, fondling or other displays of affection that would be reasonably considered to be embarrassing or a distraction to others. Students will face the following consequences for IPDA:

- a. 1st Offense: Student will be confronted and directed to cease.
- b. 2nd Offense: Student will be confronted, directed to cease, and parents will be notified.
- c. 3rd Offense: Student will be suspended from school for a minimum of one (1) day, and parents and student will need to meet with Administrator(s) and/or counselor.
- d. If this type of behavior continues, or if the IPDA is lewd or constitutes sexual conduct, the student could face long-term suspension or expulsion.

5. Specific Rule Items: The following conduct may result in disciplinary action which,

in the repeated violations, may result in discipline up to expulsion.

- a. Seeds are not allowed in the school building or classrooms. The pop machine is closed until after school and pop is to be consumed outside.
  - b. Students are expected to bring all books and necessary materials to class. This includes study halls.
  - c. Assignments for all classes are due as assigned by the teacher.
  - d. Students are not to operate the mini-blinds or the windows without permission of the teacher.
  - e. Classes are ended by the teacher. Students are not to begin to pack up or leave the class until the dismissal bell has rung or the teacher has dismissed the class
  - f. Students are to be in their seats and ready for class on the tardy bell
  - g. Special classes such as Industrial Technology, Art, P.E., and computer courses will have other safety or clean-up rules that will be explained to students by that teacher which must be followed.
  - h. Students are not to bring “nuisance items” to school. A nuisance item is something that is not required for educational purposes and which would cause a distraction to the student or others.
  - i. Students are to stand back from the entry steps and doors in the mornings before school and at noon before the bell so that others may pass in and out of the entry doors.
  - j. Snow handling is prohibited.
6. Network, E-Mail, Internet and Other Computer Use Rules:
- a. General Rules:
    - i. The network is provided to staff and students to conduct research and communicate with others. Access to network services is given to staff and students who have agreed to act in a responsible manner. Parental permission is required for student use. Access for all staff and students is a privilege and not a right.
    - ii. Individual users of the district network are responsible for their behavior, actions, problems, and communications involving and over the network. Users will comply with district rules and will honor the agreements they have signed. Beyond clarification of such rules, the district is not responsible for restricting, monitoring, editing, or controlling the information, equipment or communications of individuals utilizing the network or the end product or result of such utilization.
    - iii. Network storage areas shall be treated like school lockers for students. Network administrators may review files, information, equipment, messages and communications of staff and students to maintain system integrity and insure that users are using the network system responsibly. Users should not expect that files or any information stored or otherwise used or retained on the network, district servers, or in computers, will be private. No reasonable expectation of privacy shall exist in relation to network use.

- iv. Users should not expect, and the district does not warrant, any information or products obtained from the network, that files or information stored, obtained or used on the network will be private, and use of the network waives and relinquishes all such privacy rights, interests or claims to confidentiality the user may have under state or federal law.
  - v. The district will not be liable for, and does not warrant in any way, purchases made by any user over the network. Users shall not make purchases of goods and/or services via the district's network.
- b. Policy and Rules for Acceptable Use of Computers and the Network: The following policy and rules for acceptable use of computers and the network, including Internet, shall apply to all district administrators, faculty, staff and students. The term "Users", as contained herein, shall apply to all such individuals. The Superintendent, or the Superintendent's designee, is hereby delegated all authority and is the ultimate person in charge of the district network and technology resources or equipment, and the same shall also be under the direct supervision of the site or building administrator where located, sometimes herein called "network administrators."
- i. Users shall not erase, remake, or make unusable anyone else's computer, information, files, programs or disks. In addition to any other disciplinary action or legal action that may occur, any user violating this rule shall be liable for any and all damages to the computer, information, files, programs or disks.
  - ii. Users shall not let other persons use their name, account, log-on password, or files for any reason (except for authorized staff members).
  - iii. Users shall not use or try to discover another user's account or password.
  - iv. Users shall not use the computers or network for non-instructional or non-administrative purposes (e.g., games or activities for personal profit).
  - v. Users shall not use the computer for unlawful purposes, such as illegal copying or installation of unauthorized software.
  - vi. Users shall not copy, change, or transfer any software or documentation provided by teachers, or other students without permission from the network administrators.
  - vii. Users shall not write, produce, generate, copy, propagate, or attempt to introduce any computer code, software or information designed to self-replicate, damage, or otherwise hinder the performance of the network or any computer's memory, file system, or software. Such software is often called a bug, virus, worm, Trojan horse, or similar name.
  - viii. Users shall not use the computer to annoy or harass others with language, images, or threats. Users shall not access, accept, create or send any obscene, vulgar, lewd, tasteless, or objectionable messages, information, language, or images.
  - ix. Users shall not damage the network or equipment, damage information belonging to others, misuse network resources, or allow others to misuse network resources. In addition to any other disciplinary action or legal action that may occur, any user violating this or any other rule shall be



- liable for any and all damages to the computer, network, information, files, programs or disks.
- x. Users shall not tamper with computers, networks, printers, or other associated equipment except as directed by the teacher or network administrator.
  - xi. Users shall not take technology equipment (hardware or software) from the school grounds or remove such from computer work areas without written permission of the network administrator.
- c. **Etiquette and Rules for Use of Computers and the Network:** All users of computers and the network are expected to abide by the generally accepted rules of network etiquette. Informal rules of behavior have evolved for the use of and communication on the network, Internet and other online services.

Breaches can result in harsh criticism by others. These rules of behavior include (but are not limited to) the following:

- i. Be polite. Do not become abusive in your messages to others.
- ii. Use appropriate language. Do not swear, use vulgarities or any other inappropriate language, message, information or images.
- iii. Do not reveal your personal account, address or phone numbers, or that of other students or colleagues.
- iv. Note that electronic mail (e-mail) is specifically not guaranteed to be private. People who operate the system do have access to mail. Messages relating to or in support of illegal activities may be reported to the authorities. Messages which violate the rules will result in disciplinary action.
- v. All communications and information accessible via the network should be assumed to be private property of others.
- vi. Do not place unlawful information on any network system.
- vii. Keep paragraphs and messages short and to the point. Focus on one subject per message.
- viii. Include your signature at the bottom of email messages. Your signature footer should include your name, position, affiliation, and network or Internet address.
- ix. Other rules may be established by the network administrators or teachers from time to time.

d. **Penalties for Violation of Rules:** All of the policies, rules, and procedures for acceptable use of computers and the network are intended to make the computers and the network more reliable for users. They are also intended to minimize the burden of administering the networks so that more time can be spent on education and enhancing services. Use of the computer and access to telecommunications resources is a privilege and not a right. Violation of the policies, rules, and procedures concerning the use of computers and the network may result in disciplinary action up to, and including, loss of access, suspension and/or expulsion of students from school and loss of access,

suspension, termination, non-renewal or cancellation of the contract of administrators, teachers, or other school employees.

e. Student and Parent Agreements: Students and parents may be required to sign a computer and network use agreement as a condition of the student being permitted to use such equipment.

7. Risks of MySpace, Facebook and other Social Networking: The purpose of this message is to give our students information about the risks of using MySpace, Facebook, Xanga, and similar social networking sites.

These sites are public sources of information. The information may be seen by your school administrators, your parents, and law enforcement. It is also accessible to people who you don't even know now, but may later want to impress—such as university admissions and scholarship officials and prospective employers. In fact, many large companies now search the internet as a means of conducting background checks on job applicants. What you say now on social media sites may affect you years later.

What you say now on social media sites may also affect you right now. Pictures or writings that show that you have violated student conduct rules may result in school discipline. A picture of a student drinking a beer may very well lead to a suspension from activities if the school learns about it. Criminal charges may be filed against you based on information posted on social media.

MySpace has published a Guide for schools with some suggestions that we would like to share with you:

Here are some common sense guidelines that you should follow when using MySpace and the Internet in general:

- Don't forget that your profile and MySpace forums are public spaces.
- Don't post anything you wouldn't want the world to know (e.g., your phone number, address, IM screens name, or specific whereabouts).
- Avoid posting anything that would make it easy for a stranger to find you, such as where you hang out every day after school.
- People aren't always who they say they are. Be careful about adding strangers to your friends list. It's fun to connect with new MySpace
- friends from all over the world, but avoid meeting people in person whom you do not fully know. If you must meet someone, do it in a public place
- and bring a friend or trusted adult.
- Harassment, hate speech and inappropriate content should be reported. If
- you feel someone's behavior is inappropriate, react. Talk with a trusted adult, or report it to MySpace or the authorities.
- Don't post anything that would embarrass you later. Think twice before posting a photo or info you wouldn't want your parents or boss to see!

- Don't mislead people into thinking that you're older or younger. If you lie about your age, MySpace will delete your profile.

We urge all students to following these common sense guidelines.

#### **Section 4 Reporting Student Law Violations**

1. Cases of law violations or suspected law violations by students will be reported to the police and to the student's parents or guardian as soon as possible.
2. When a Principal or other school official releases a minor student to a peace officer (e.g., police officer, sheriff, and all other persons with similar authority to make arrests) for the purpose of removing the minor from the school premises, the Principal or other school official will take immediate steps to notify the parent, guardian, or responsible relative of the minor regarding the release of the minor to the officer and regarding the place to which the minor is reportedly being taken.

An exception applies when a minor has been taken into custody as a victim of suspected child abuse; in that event the Principal or other school official shall provide the peace officer with the address and telephone number of the minor's parents or guardian.

3. In an effort to demonstrate that student behavior is always subject to possible legal sanctions regardless of where the behavior occurs it shall be the policy of the Laurel-Concord-Coleridge School to notify the proper legal authorities when a student engages in any of the following behaviors on school grounds or at a school sponsored event:
  - a. Knowingly possessing illegal drugs or alcohol.
  - b. Assault.
  - c. Vandalism resulting in significant property damage.
  - d. Theft of school or personal property of a significant nature.
  - e. Automobile accident.
  - f. Any other behavior which significantly threatens the health or safety of students, staff or other persons or which is required by law to be reported.

### **Article 9 - EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES**

#### **Section 1 Extracurricular Activity Philosophy**

Extracurricular activity programs enrich the curriculum of the school by making available a wide variety of activities in which a student can participate. Extracurricular activity programs are considered an integral part of the school's program of education that provide experiences that will help students physically, mentally and emotionally.

The element of competition and winning, though it exists, is controlled to the point it does not determine the nature or success of the program. This is considered to be educationally and psychologically sound because of the training it offers for living in a competitive society. Students are stimulated to want to win and excel, but the principles of good sportsmanship prevail at all times to enhance the educational values of contests. Participation in activities, both as a competitor and as a student spectator, is an integral part of the students' educational experiences. Such participation is a privilege that carries with it responsibilities to the school, team, student body, community and the students themselves. In their play and their conduct, students are representing all of these groups. Such experiences contribute to the knowledge, skill and emotional patterns that they possess, thereby making them better individuals and citizens.

### Safety

The District's philosophy is to maintain an activities program, which recognizes the importance of the safety of the participants. To ensure safety, participants are required to become fully familiar with the dangers and safety measures established for the activity in which they participate, to adhere to all safety instructions for the activity in which they participate, to inform their coach or sponsor when they are injured or have health problems that require their activities be restricted, and to exercise common-sense.

### Warning for Participants and Parents

The purpose of this warning is to bring your attention to the existence of potential dangers associated with athletic injuries. Participation in any intramural or athletic activity may involve injury of some type. The severity of such injury can range from minor cuts, bruises, sprains and muscle strains to more serious injuries to the body's bones, joints, ligaments, tendons, or muscles, to catastrophic injuries to the head, neck and spinal cord. On rare occasions, injuries can be so severe as to result in total disability, paralysis or death. Even with appropriate coaching, appropriate safety instruction, appropriate protective equipment and strict observance of the rules, injuries are still a possibility.

## **Section 2 Extracurricular Activity Code of Conduct**

Purpose of the Code of Conduct. Participation in extracurricular activities is a privilege. The privilege carries with it responsibilities to the school, team, student body, and the community. Participants are not only representing themselves, but also their school and community in all of their actions. Others judge our school on the student participants' conduct and attitudes, and how they contribute to our school spirit and community image.

The student participants' performance and devotion to high ideals and values make their school and community proud. Consequently, participation is dependent upon adherence to this Code of Conduct and the school district's policies, procedures and rules.

### Scope of the Code of Conduct.

Activities Subject to the Code of Conduct: The Code of Conduct applies to all

extracurricular activities. Extracurricular activities means student activities or organizations which are supervised or administered by the school district which do not count toward graduation or grade advancement and in which participation is not otherwise required by the school.

Extracurricular activities include but are not limited to: all sports, cheerleading, dance team, pep band, vocal, band, speech and drama, One-Act, FFA, FBLA, FCCLA, Spanish Club, Art Club, Student Council, National Honor Society, and other school sponsored organizations and activities. The Code of Conduct also applies to participation in school- sponsored activities such as school dances and royalty for such activities.

A participant means a student who participates in, has participated in, or will participate in an extracurricular activity.

When:

The Code of Conduct rules apply to conduct which occurs at any time during the school year, and also includes the time frame which begins with the official starting day of the fall sport season established by the NSAA and extends to the last day of the spring sport season established by the NSAA, whether or not the student is a participant in an activity at the time of such conduct.

The rules also apply when a student is participating or scheduled to participate in an extracurricular activity that is held outside the school year or the NSAA season. For example, if an FFA, FBLA or FCCLA student plans to participate in a conference in July and commits a Code of Conduct infraction in June, the student may be suspended from participating in the conference. Conduct during the summer months may also affect a student's participation under the team selection and playing time guidelines.

Where: The Code of Conduct rules apply regardless of whether the conduct occurs on and off school grounds. If the conduct occurs on school grounds, at a school function or event, or in a school vehicle, the student may also be subject to further discipline under the general student code of conduct. A student who is suspended or expelled from school shall not be permitted to participate in activities during the period of the suspension or expulsion, and may also receive an extended activity suspension.

Grounds for Extracurricular Activity Discipline.

Students who participate in extracurricular activities are expected to demonstrate cooperation, patience, pride, character, self respect, self- discipline, teamwork, sportsmanship, and respect for authority. The following conduct rules have been determined by the Board of Education to be reasonably necessary to aid students, further school purposes, and prevent interference with the educational process. Such conduct constitutes grounds for suspension from participation in extracurricular activities and grounds for other restrictions or disciplinary measures related to extracurricular activity participation:

1. Willfully disobeying any reasonable written or oral request of a school staff member, or the voicing of disrespect to those in authority.
2. Use of violence, force, coercion, threat, intimidation, harassment or similar conduct in a manner that constitutes a substantial interference with school or extracurricular activity purposes or making any communication that a reasonable person would interpret as a serious expression of an intent to harm or cause injury to another.
3. Willfully causing or attempting to cause substantial damage to property, stealing or attempting to steal property, repeated damage or theft involving property or setting or attempting to set a fire of any magnitude.
4. Causing or attempting to cause personal injury to any person, including a school employee, school volunteer, or student. Personal injury caused by accident, self-defense, or other action undertaken on the reasonable belief that it was necessary to protect another person shall not constitute a violation.
5. Threatening or intimidating any student for the purpose of, or with the intent of, obtaining money or anything of value from a student or making a threat which causes or may be expected to cause a disruption to school operations.
6. Knowingly possessing, handling, or transmitting any object or material that is ordinarily or generally considered a weapon or that has the appearance of a weapon, or bringing or possessing any explosive device, including fireworks, on school grounds or at a school function or event, or in a manner that is unlawful or contrary to school activity rules.
7. Selling, using, possessing or dispensing alcohol, tobacco, narcotics, drugs, a controlled substance, or an inhalant; being under the influence of any of the above; possession of drug paraphernalia, or the selling, using, possessing, or dispensing of an imitation controlled substance as defined in section 28-401 of the Nebraska statutes, or material represented to be alcohol, narcotics, drugs, a controlled substance or inhalant. Use of a controlled substance in the manner prescribed for the student by the student's physician is not a violation. (Note: Refer to "Drug and Alcohol Violations" for further information).
8. Public indecency.
9. Sexual assault or attempting to sexually assault any person. Engaging in sexual conduct, even if consensual, on school grounds or at a school function or event.
10. Engaging in bullying, which includes any ongoing pattern of physical, verbal, or electronic abuse on school grounds, in a vehicle owned, leased, or contracted by a school being used for a school purpose by a school employee or a school employee's designee, or at school-sponsored activities or school-sponsored athletic events;
11. Engaging in any activity forbidden by law which constitutes a danger to other students, interferes with school purposes or an extracurricular activity, or reflects a lack of high ideals.
12. Repeated violation of any of the school rules.
13. Truancy or failure to attend assigned classes or assigned activities; or tardiness to school, assigned classes or assigned activities.
14. The use of language, written or oral, or conduct, including gestures, which is profane or abusive to a school employee, school volunteer, or student. Profane or abusive language or conduct includes, but is not limited to, that which is commonly understood and intended to be derogatory toward a group or individual based upon race, gender, national origin, or religion.

15. Dressing or grooming in a manner which is dangerous to the student's health and safety or a danger to the health and safety of others or repeated violations of dress and grooming standards; dressing, grooming, or engaging in speech that is lewd or indecent, vulgar or plainly offensive; dressing, grooming, or engaging in speech that school officials reasonably conclude will materially and substantially disrupt the work and discipline of the school or of an extracurricular activity; dressing, grooming, or engaging in speech that a reasonable observer would interpret as advocating illegal drug use.
16. Willfully violating the behavioral expectations for those students riding Laurel-Concord-Coleridge School buses or vehicles used for activity purposes.
17. Failure to report for the activity at the beginning of the season. Reporting for one activity may count as reporting on time if there is a change in activity within the season approved by the coach or the supervisor.
18. Failure to participate in regularly scheduled classes on the day of an extracurricular activity or event.
19. Failure to attend scheduled practices and meeting. If circumstances arise to prevent the participant's attendance, the validity of the reason will be determined by the coach or sponsor. Every reasonable effort should be made to notify the coach or sponsor prior to any missed practice or meeting.
20. All other reasonable rules or regulations adopted by the coach or sponsor of an extracurricular activity shall be followed, provided that participants shall be advised by the coach or sponsor of such rules and regulations by written handouts or posting on bulletin boards prior to the violation of the rule or regulation.
21. Failure to comply with any rule established by the Nebraska School Activities Association, including, but not limited to, the rules relating to eligibility.

All terms used in the Code of Conduct have a less strict meaning than under criminal law and are subject to reasonable interpretation by school officials.

### Drug and Alcohol Violations.

#### Meaning of Terms.

Use or consume includes any level of consumption or use. Use of a controlled substance in the manner prescribed for the student by the student's physician is not a violation.

Under the influence means any level of impairment and includes even the odor of alcohol on the breath or person of a student, or the odor of an illicit drug on the student. Also, it includes being impaired by reason of the abuse of any material used as a stimulant.

Possession includes having control of the substance and also includes being in the same area where the substance is present and no responsible adult present and responsible for the substance. Possession includes situations where, for example:

1. Alcohol is in a vehicle in which the student is present. The student is considered to be in possession if the student is aware that the alcohol is in the vehicle, even though the student has not touched or consumed the alcohol; and

2. Alcohol is present at a party attended by the student. The student is considered to be in possession if the student is aware that alcohol is at the party and fails to immediately leave the party, even though the student has not touched or consumed the alcohol.

In these situations, a violation would not exist if the alcohol is in the control of a parent or guardian or other responsible adult (age 21 or older) such that students are not allowed to access the alcohol. A violation would also not exist if the student did not know or have a reasonable basis to know that alcohol would be present, and the student leaves the location where the alcohol is present as soon the student could safely do so. (Students are expected to leave immediately, but are not to do so in a manner that would endanger them. For example, you are not to leave in a car being driven by a person who has been drinking just to get away from the alcohol party immediately when there is no other way to get home. Instead, you should call for a safe ride home and, while waiting, clearly distance yourself from the alcohol).

#### Consequences.

Students may be suspended from practices or participation in interscholastic competition or participation in co-curricular activities for violations of the Code of Conduct. The period of suspension or other discipline for such offenses shall be determined by the school administration.

The disciplinary consequence will be determined based on consideration of the seriousness of the offense, any prior violations, the student's compliance with the self-reporting obligations, the student's level of cooperation and willingness to resolve the matter, and the student's demonstration of a commitment to not commit future violations.

Because of the significance of drug and alcohol violations on the student participants, other students and the school, the following consequences are established for such violations:

Students who violate the drug or alcohol rules (other than steroids) shall be prohibited from participating in any activity for the following minimum periods:

1. First Violation: 21 days.
2. Second or Any Subsequent Offense: Nine (9) weeks or six (6) weeks and proof (certificate) of completion of an approved alcohol/drug evaluation in the following circumstances: Counseling, education, or evaluation are the financial responsibility of the student.
3. Reduction for Self-Reporting: If the student has self-reported, the first violation shall be reduced to 14 days for the first violation. A commensurate reduction for a second or subsequent violation shall be given for self-reporting.
4. Reduction for Participation in Chemical Dependency Program: If the student and parents agree to participate in a school-approved program for chemical dependency, the consequence will be reduced to only the next activity in which the student was to participate (including at least one contest) in the case of a first violation, and to a



commensurate reduction (approximately 80%, as determined by the administration, for a second or subsequent violation).

The program must be administered by a certified alcohol and drug abuse counselor and be approved by the school authorities. The student will need to successfully complete the approved chemical dependency program. Proof of successful completion of the program must be submitted in writing to the Activities Director. Failure to participate and successfully complete the approved chemical dependency program may cause the participating student to be suspended from extracurricular activities for one (1) calendar year. All costs associated with the program are to be borne by the student/parent or guardian.

5. More Serious Violations: In the event of more serious drug or alcohol violations, such as students engaging in use of especially serious drug offenses (cocaine, meth, etc.) or procuring alcohol for minors, the consequence of the violation is not restricted by the foregoing, and may be established in the good discretion of the administration.

#### Steroid Offenses.

A student who possesses, dispenses, delivers, or administers anabolic steroids shall be prohibited from participating in any extracurricular activity for the following minimum periods:

1. First Violation: Thirty (30) consecutive days.
2. Second or Any Subsequent Offense: One (1) calendar year.

#### When Suspensions Begin.

All suspensions begin with the next scheduled activity in which the student is a participant, after the determination by school officials of the sanction to be imposed; provided that the school officials shall have the discretion to establish a time period for the suspension that makes the suspension have a real consequence for the student. During a suspension, participants may be required or permitted to practice at the sole discretion of the coach or activity sponsor.

Suspensions in the Spring will be carried over to the Fall when the suspension has not been fully served or when determined appropriate for the suspension to have a real consequence for the student.

#### Letters and Post-Season Honors.

A student who commits a Code of Conduct violation is:

1. Eligible to letter, provided the student meets the criteria of the coach or sponsor.
2. Not eligible to receive honors during the sport or activity in which they are participating at the time of the offense and/or in sports or activities in which they have been suspended due to a code violation. The coach/sponsor, with the Athletic Director's approval, may make an exception where the student has self-reported or otherwise demonstrated excellence in character allowing for such honors.

#### Self-Reporting.

A student who violates the Code of Conduct must self-report. A failure to self-report will lead to a longer suspension or other discipline. The self-report must be made to: the principal, athletic director, or the head coach or sponsor of an activity in which the student participates. The

student's parent or guardian may initiate the self-reporting process, but the student will be later required to give a written statement of the self-report. The self-report must be made the earlier of: (1) before the end of the next school day after the conduct occurred and (2) before participation in an extracurricular or co-curricular activity.

In making a self-report, the student must identify the events that took place, what conduct the student engaged in, and any witnesses to the student's conduct, and will be required to put this information in a written statement. In the event the student has received a criminal citation, charge, or ticket, and proclaims innocence of a violation, the student will be required to self-report such offense and provide information as to why they should be found innocent, not as it relates to the criminal offense, but as it relates to the Code of Conduct.

All students are expected to be honest and forthright with school officials. In the event the coach or activity sponsor or any school administrator asks a student participant for information pertaining to compliance (or lack of compliance) by the student or other student participants with the Code of Conduct or eligibility conditions for participation in activities, the student is expected to fully, completely, and honestly provide the information. Students may be disciplined for a failure to be honest and forthright.

**Determining a Violation Has Occurred.** A violation of the Code of Conduct will be determined to have occurred based on any of the following criteria:

1. When a student is cited by law enforcement and school officials have a reasonable basis for determining that grounds for the issuance of the citation exist.
2. When a student is convicted of a criminal offense. Conviction includes, without limitation, a conviction, a plea of no contest and an adjudication of delinquency by a juvenile court.
3. When a student admits to violating one of the standards of the Code of Conduct.
4. When a student is accused by another person of violating one of the standards of the Code of Conduct and school officials determine that such information is reliable.
5. When school officials otherwise find sufficient evidence to support a determination that a violation has occurred.

#### Procedures for Extracurricular Discipline.

The following procedures are established for suspensions from participation in extracurricular activities:

1. **Investigation.** The school official(s) considering the suspension will conduct a reasonable investigation of the facts and circumstances and determine whether the suspension will help the student or other students, further school purposes, or prevent an interference with a school purpose.
2. **Meeting.** Prior to commencement of the suspension, the school official considering the suspension or their designee will provide the student an opportunity to give the student's side of the story. The meeting for this purpose may be held in person or via a telephone conference.

- a. The student will be given oral or written notice of what the student is accused of having done, an explanation of the evidence the school has, and the opportunity to explain the student's version. Detail is not required where the activity participant has made a self-report or otherwise admits the conduct. Names of informants may be kept confidential where determined to be appropriate.
  - b. The suspension may be imposed prior to the meeting if the meeting cannot reasonably be held before the suspension is to begin. In that case the meeting will occur as soon as reasonably practicable. The student is responsible for cooperating in the scheduling of the meeting.
3. Notice Letter. Within two (2) school days (two (2) business days if school is not in session), or such additional time as is reasonably necessary following the suspension, the Athletic Director or the Athletic Director's designee will send a written statement to the student and the student's parents or guardian. The statement will describe the student's conduct violation and the discipline imposed. The student and parents or guardian will be informed of the opportunity to request a hearing.
4. Informal Hearing Before Superintendent. The student or student's parent/guardian may request an informal hearing before the Superintendent. The Superintendent may designate the Athletic Director or another administrator not responsible for the suspension decision as the Superintendent's designee to conduct the hearing and make a decision.
  - a. A form to request such a hearing must be signed by the parent or guardian. A form will be provided with the notice letter or otherwise be made available by request from the Principal's office.
  - b. The request for a hearing must be received by the Superintendent's office within five (5) days of receipt of the notice letter.
  - c. If a hearing is requested:
    - i. The hearing will be held within ten (10) calendar days of receipt of the request; subject to extension for good cause as determined by the Superintendent or the Superintendent's designee.
    - ii. The Superintendent or the Superintendent's designee will notify the participants of the time and place of the hearing a reasonable time in advance to allow preparation for the hearing.
    - iii. Upon conclusion of the hearing, a written decision will be rendered within five (5) school days (ten (10) calendar days if school is not in session). The written decision will be mailed or otherwise delivered to the participant, parents or guardian.
    - iv. A record of the hearing (copies of documents provided at the hearing and a tape recording or other recordation of the informal hearing) will be kept by the school if requested sufficiently in advance of the hearing by the parent/guardian.
5. No Stay of Penalty. There will be no stay of the penalty imposed pending completion of the due process procedures.
6. Opportunity for Informal Resolution. These due process procedures do not prevent the student or parent/guardian from discussing and settling the matter with the appropriate school officials at any stage.

### **Section 3 Attendance**

Student participants are expected to meet the following attendance expectations:

1. Attend school regularly. Students who have “excessive absences” as determined under the school’s attendance policy are ineligible to participate in extracurricular activity contests or performances. Students who have four (4) or more unexcused absences in the semester of participation will be ineligible to participate in extracurricular activity contests or performances.
2. Be on time for all scheduled practices, contests and departure for contests. In the event a participant is unable to attend a practice or contests the participant should contact the coach or sponsor in advance.
3. On the day of a contest, performance or other activity, be in attendance for half of the day. A student who is not in attendance half the day is ineligible for the contest, performance, or activity.

Exceptions may be made for extenuating circumstances, such as doctor/dentist appointments or family emergencies. The exception must be approved by the Principal or Athletic Director.

Every attempt should be made to be in attendance the day of a contest. Sleeping in to rest up for the game will not be considered an extenuating circumstance, nor will going home ill and then returning to play in the contest later that day.

### **Section 4 Academic Standards**

Participation in extracurricular school activities is encouraged and desirable for all students. At the same time, the primary mission and responsibility for each student is to establish a firm academic foundation. A student participating in extracurricular school activities shows evidence of sincere effort towards scholastic achievement. To be eligible for participation in extracurricular activities students must:

1. Be enrolled in at least 25 credit hours in the semester of participation.
2. To be eligible to compete in extra-curricular activities, after the second week of the quarter, a student must be passing in all but one (1) subject area. Any student failing more than one (1) course will be placed on academic probation for one (1) week (Monday-Sunday). Students will have a one (1) week period to bring their grades to a passing level. If, after the end of that time, the student is failing two (2) or more classes (does not have to be the same classes), the student will be ineligible for the following week. Raising grades during that time will have no effect on the eligibility for that week. If, at the end of the week in which the student was ineligible, the student is still failing more than one (1) class, the ineligibility continues for the next week. Students do not get another week of probation until they have worked themselves off of the ineligibility list by having one (1) or fewer failing grade averages. During a period of ineligibility,

students are expected to attend practice sessions for the activities in which they are involved. The eligibility list will be run at 8:00 a.m. on Mondays.

## **Section 5 “Team Selection” and “Playing Time”**

“Team selection” and “playing time” decisions are the responsibility of the individual coach or sponsor of the activity. Consistent, however, with the purposes of the activities program, the coaches and sponsors shall follow the following established guidelines for team selection and playing time decisions, along with such other guidelines as each individual coach and sponsor may develop which are not inconsistent with these established guidelines:

1. School Representative. Student participants must demonstrate that they can and will represent themselves and their school in a manner which reflects the development of high ideals and appropriate values, which shall include good citizenship in the school and in the community.
2. Success. Student participants must demonstrate that they can make the activity program more successful, both from a standpoint of competitive success and success in promoting a positive school spirit. Characteristics for purposes of these criteria include the student’s: (1) talent or skill, (2) desire to improve the student's own skills or talents as well as those of others in the activity, and (3) attitude of respect towards teammates, the coach, the school, and the community.

## **Section 6 School Dances**

A school sponsored dance is a school activity subject to all provisions of the Student Activity Code, and is a privilege available to students meeting all requirements for participation.

General Rules of Student Conduct at Dances. In addition to all rules of student conduct in the Student handbook, students attending dances shall adhere to the following rules of conduct:

1. Who Can Attend: Only students of Laurel-Concord-Coleridge School and their guests may attend.
  - a. Students currently attending Laurel-Concord-Coleridge High School or another Nebraska high school who have not been restricted from attending extracurricular activities at Laurel-Concord-Coleridge High School or their own school are generally considered appropriate dates or invited guests.
  - b. Persons who are younger than 16 or older than 20 years of age and not attending high school are generally considered to not be appropriate dates or invited guests for our school dances.
  - c. Some school dances may be restricted to students attending specified grades levels at Laurel-Concord-Coleridge School. For any dances at the middle school

level, only students attending Laurel-Concord-Coleridge School in the grade(s) for which the dance is being held may attend.

- d. Students who have been suspended from school or from extracurricular activities may not attend.
  - e. The school reserves the right to exclude persons who may or do cause a disruption or detract from the event. Dates or invited guests not attending our school are expected to follow the same rules of conduct which apply to our students.
  - f. Rules for dances may restrict students and their guests from leaving the dance until the dance ends without written parental permission on a form provided.
  - g. Students or their guests who engage in inappropriate behavior, whether on or off of the dance floor, may be asked to leave.
2. Prohibited Substances: Alcoholic beverages, illegal drugs, and tobacco are prohibited. Anyone using prohibited substances or showing the affects of use will not be allowed admission or, if discovered after admission, be removed from the dance. Their parents may be contacted.

Students and their dates may be required to submit to a breathalyzer prior to gaining entrance. Those who choose not to submit to a breathalyzer will not gain entrance. Law enforcement will be contacted if there is reasonable suspicion that the student or a student's date is under the influence of alcohol or drugs.

3. Appropriate Attire: Students and their guests must meet the dress code requirements established for each dance. Teachers or administrators will make the final decision as to whether or not a student's attire is appropriate. Students will be asked to change unacceptable items, which may mean that the student may have to return home to change the inappropriate clothing. It is advisable to check in advance of the dance with the Principal or staff sponsor for the event if you are uncertain about your attire.

#### Eligibility for Selection as Royalty.

Nomination and selection as royalty for school sponsored dances is an honor awarded by students to those of their peers that exemplify the highest standards of integrity and achievement. Students nominated for dance royalty must have demonstrated through their conduct, academic achievement and activities that they have represented, and will represent, themselves, their classmates, and their school in a manner which reflects outstanding effort, commitment to their school and fellow students, and integrity and good citizenship in the school and in the community. The students selected to be the "royalty" for the Homecoming shall meet that general standard as determined by the administration and, in addition, meet the following specific academic, activity and conduct standards:

- Only a senior girl shall be eligible to be Queen and only a Senior boy shall be eligible to be King.
- To be eligible, a candidate must agree to attend the entire Homecoming Dance and represent the school properly.
- The queen and king will be chosen from the qualified nominees by secret vote of the student body during Homecoming week. Crowning will be held at the fall sports event.

## **Section 7 Relationships Between Parents and Coaches/Sponsors**

Both parenting and coaching are very difficult vocations. By establishing an understanding between coaches and parents, both are better able to accept the actions of the other and provide a more positive experience for everyone.

Parents have the right to know the expectations placed on them and their children. Coaches and sponsors have the right to know that if parents have a concern, they will discuss it with the coach at the appropriate time and place.

### **Parents' Role in Interscholastic Athletics and Other Extracurricular Activities**

Communicating with your children:

- Make sure that your children know that win or lose, scared or heroic, you love them, appreciate their efforts and are not disappointed in them. This will allow them to do their best without fear of failure. Be the person in their life they can look to for constant positive reinforcement.
- Try your best to be completely honest about your child's athletic ability, competitive attitude, sportsmanship and actual skill level.
- Be helpful but don't coach them. It's tough not to, but it is a lot tougher for the child to be flooded with advice and critical instruction.
- Teach them to enjoy the thrill of competition, to be "out there trying," to be working to improve their skills and attitudes. Help them develop the feeling for competing, for trying hard, for having fun.
- Try not to relive your athletic life through your child in a way that creates pressure. If they are comfortable with you win or lose, then they are on their way to maximum enjoyment.
- Don't compete with the coach. If your child is receiving mixed messages from two (2) different authority figures, he or she will likely become disenchanted.
- Don't compare the skill, courage, or attitude of your child with other members of the team.
- Get to know the coach(es). Then you can be assured that his or her philosophy, attitudes, ethics, and knowledge are such that you are happy to have your child under his or her leadership.
- Always remember that children tend to exaggerate, both when praised and when criticized. Temper your reaction and investigate before overreacting.

Communicating with the Coach

- Communication you should expect from your child's coach includes:
  - Philosophy of the coach
  - Expectations the coach has for your child

- Locations and times of all practices and contests
- Team requirements
- Procedure should your child be injured
- Discipline that results in the denial of your child's participation
- Communication coaches expect from parents
  - Concerns expressed directly to the coach
  - Notification of any schedule conflicts well in advance
  - Specific concerns in regard to a coach's philosophy and/or expectations
- Appropriate concerns to discuss with coaches:
  - The treatment of your child, mentally and physically
  - Ways to help your child improve
  - Concerns about your child's behavior
  - Injuries or health concerns. Report injuries to the coach immediately!! Tell the coach about any health concerns that may make it necessary to limit your child's participation or require assistance of trainers. Students are sometimes unwilling to tell coaches when they are injured, so please make sure the coach is told.
- Issues not appropriate to discuss with coaches:
  - Playing time
  - Team strategy
  - Play calling
  - Other student-athletes (except for reporting activity code violations)
- Appropriate procedures for discussing concerns with the coaches:
  - Call to set up an appointment with the coach
  - Do not confront a coach before or after a contest or practice (these can be emotional times for all parties involved and do not promote resolution)
- What should a parent do if the meeting with the coach did not provide satisfactory resolution?
  - Call the activities director to set up a meeting with the director, coach, student, and parent present.
  - At this meeting, an appropriate next step can be determined, if necessary.

## **Section 8 Good Sportsmanship—Behavior Expectations of Spectators**

Good sportsmanship is expected to be exhibited by all coaches, sponsors, students, parents and other spectators. The school can be punished by NSAA for a lack of good sportsmanship at NSAA sanctioned events. More importantly, activities are more enjoyable for the students when good sportsmanship is displayed.

Responsibilities of Spectators Attending Interscholastic Athletics and Other Extracurricular Activities



1. Show interest in the contest by enthusiastically cheering and applauding the performance of both teams.
2. Show proper respect for opening ceremonies by standing at attention and remaining silent when the National Anthem is played.
3. Understand that a ticket is a privilege to observe the contest, not a license to verbally attack others, or to be obnoxious. Maintain self-control.
4. Do not “boo,” stamp feet or make disrespectful remarks toward players or officials.
5. Learn the rules of the game, so that you may understand and appreciate why certain situations take place.
6. Know that noise makers of any kind are not proper for indoor events.
7. Obey and respect officials and faculty supervisors who are responsible for keeping order. Respect the integrity and judgment of game officials.
8. Stay off the playing area at all times.
9. Do not disturb others by throwing material onto the playing area.
10. Show respect for officials, coaches, cheerleaders and student-athletes.
11. Pay attention to the half-time program and do not disturb those who are watching.
12. Respect public property by not damaging the equipment or the facility.
13. Know that the school officials reserve the right to refuse attendance of individuals whose conduct is not proper.
14. Refrain from the use of alcohol and drugs on the site of the contest.

## **Section 9 Student Fees Policy**

The Board of Education of Laurel-Concord-Coleridge School has adopted this student fees policy in accordance with the Public Elementary and Secondary Student Fee Authorization Act.

The District’s general policy is to provide for the free instruction in school in accordance with the Nebraska Constitution and state and federal law. This generally means that the District’s policy is to provide free instruction for courses which are required by state law or regulation and to provide the staff, facility, equipment, and materials necessary for such instruction, without charge or fee to the students.

The District does provide activities, programs, and services to children which extend beyond the minimum level of constitutionally required free instruction. Students and their parents have historically contributed to the District’s efforts to provide such activities, programs, and services. The District’s general policy is to continue to encourage and, to the extent permitted by law, to require such student and parent contributions to enhance the educational program provided by the District.

Under the Public Elementary and Secondary Student Fee Authorization Act, the District is required to set forth in a policy its guidelines or policies for specific categories of student fees. The District does so by setting forth the following guidelines and policies. This policy is subject to further interpretation or guidance by administrative or Board regulations which may be

adopted from time to time. The Policy includes Appendix “1,” which provides further specifics of student fees and materials required of students for the current school year. Parents, guardians, and students are encouraged to contact their building administration or their teachers or activity coaches and sponsors for further specifics.

1. Guidelines for non-specialized attire required for specified courses and activities.

Students have the responsibility to furnish and wear non-specialized attire meeting general District grooming and attire guidelines, as well as grooming and attire guidelines established for the building or programs attended by the students or in which the students participate. Students also have the responsibility to furnish and wear non-specialized attire reasonably related to the programs, courses and activities in which the students participate where the required attire is specified in writing by the administrator or teacher responsible for the program, course or activity.

The District will provide or make available to students such safety equipment and attire as may be required by law, specifically including appropriate industrial-quality eye protective devices for courses of instruction in vocational, technical, industrial arts, chemical or chemical- physical classes which involve exposure to hot molten metals or other molten materials, milling, sawing, turning, shaping, cutting, grinding, or stamping of any solid materials, heat treatment, tempering, or kiln firing of any metal or other materials, gas or electric arc welding or other forms of welding processes, repair or servicing of any vehicle, or caustic or explosive materials, or for laboratory classes involving caustic or explosive materials, hot liquids or solids, injurious radiations, or other similar hazards. Building administrators are directed to assure that such equipment is available in the appropriate classes and areas of the school buildings, teachers are directed to instruct students in the usage of such devices and to assure that students use the devices as required, and students have the responsibility to follow such instructions and use the devices as instructed.

2. Personal or consumable items & miscellaneous

- a. Extracurricular Activities. Students have the responsibility to furnish any personal or consumable items for participation in extracurricular activities.
- b. Courses
  - i. General Course Materials. Items necessary for students to benefit from courses will be made available by the District for the use of students during the school day. Students may be encouraged, but not required, to bring items needed to benefit from courses including, but not limited to, pencils, paper, pens, erasers, notebooks, trappers, protractors and math calculators. A specific class supply list will be published annually in a Board-approved student handbook or supplement or other notice. The list may include refundable damage or loss deposits required for usage of certain District property.
  - ii. Damaged or Lost Items. Students are responsible for the careful and appropriate use of school property. Students and their parents or guardian will be held responsible for damages to school property where such

damage is caused or aided by the student and will also be held responsible for the reasonable replacement cost of school property which is placed in the care of and lost by the student.

- iii. **Materials Required for Course Projects.** Students are permitted to and may be encouraged to supply materials for course projects. Some course projects (such as projects in art and shop classes) may be kept by the student upon completion. In the event the completed project has more than minimal value, the student may be required, as a condition of the student keeping the completed project, to reimburse the District for the reasonable value of the materials used in the project. Standard project materials will be made available by the District. If a student wants to create a project other than the standard course project, or to use materials other than standard project materials, the student will be responsible for furnishing or paying the reasonable cost of any such materials for the project.
- iv. **Music Course Materials.** Students will be required to furnish musical instruments for participation in optional music courses. Use of a musical instrument without charge is available under the District's fee waiver policy. The District is not required to provide for the use of a particular type of musical instrument for any student.
- v. **Parking.** Students may be required to pay for parking on school grounds or at school-sponsored activities, and may be subject to payment of fines or damages for damages caused with or to vehicles or for failure to comply with school parking rules.

3. **Extracurricular Activities—Specialized equipment or attire.** Extracurricular activities means student activities or organizations which are supervised or administered by the District, which do not count toward graduation or advancement between grades, and in which participation is not otherwise required by the District. The District will generally furnish students with specialized equipment and attire for participation in extracurricular activities. The District is not required to provide for the use of any particular type of equipment or attire. Equipment or attire fitted for the student and which the student generally wears exclusively, such as dance squad, cheerleading, and music/dance activity (e.g. choir or show choir) uniforms and outfits, along with T-shirts for teams or band members, may be required to be provided by the participating student. The cost of maintaining any equipment or attire, including uniforms, which the student purchases or uses exclusively, shall be the responsibility of the participating student. Equipment which is ordinarily exclusively used by an individual student participant throughout the year, such as golf clubs, softball gloves, and the like, are required to be provided by the student participant. Items for the personal medical use or enhancement of the student (braces, mouth pieces, and the like) are the responsibility of the student participant. Students have the responsibility to furnish personal or consumable equipment or attire for participation in extracurricular activities or for paying a reasonable usage cost for such equipment or attire. For musical extracurricular activities, students may be required to provide specialized equipment, such as musical instruments, or specialized attire, or for paying a reasonable usage cost for such equipment or attire.

4. Extracurricular Activities–Fees for participation. Any fees for participation in extracurricular activities for the current school year are further specified in Appendix “1.” Admission fees are charged for extracurricular activities and events.

5. Postsecondary education costs. Students are responsible for postsecondary education costs. The phrase “postsecondary education costs” means tuition and other fees only associated with obtaining credit from a postsecondary educational institution. For a course in which students receive high school credit and for which the student may also receive postsecondary education credit, the course shall be offered without charge for tuition, transportation, books, or other fees, except tuition and other fees associated with obtaining credits from a postsecondary educational institution.

6. Transportation costs. Students are responsible for fees established for transportation services provided by the District as and to the extent permitted by federal and state laws and regulations.

7. Copies of student files or records. The Superintendent or the Superintendent's designee shall establish a schedule of fees representing a reasonable cost of reproduction for copies of a student's files or records for the parents or guardians of such student. A parent, guardian or student who requests copies of files or records shall be responsible for the cost of copies reproduced in accordance with such fee schedule. The imposition of a fee shall not be used to prevent parents of students from exercising their right to inspect and review the students' files or records and no fee shall be charged to search for or retrieve any student's files or records. The fee schedule shall permit one (1) copy of the requested records be provided for or on behalf of the student without charge and shall allow duplicate copies to be provided without charge to the extent required by federal or state laws or regulations.

8. Participation in before-and-after-school or Pre Kindergarten services. Students are responsible for fees required for participation in before-and-after-school or Pre Kindergarten services offered by the District, except to the extent such services are required to be provided without cost

9 Participation in summer school or night school. Students are responsible for fees required for participation in summer school or night school. Students are also responsible for correspondence courses.

#### 10. Breakfast Lunch Programs

Students shall be responsible for items which students purchase from the District's breakfast and lunch programs. The cost of items to be sold to students shall be consistent with applicable federal and state laws and regulations. Students are also responsible for the cost of food, beverages, and personal or consumable items which the students purchase from the District or at school, whether from a “school store,” a vending

machine, a booster club or parent group sale, a book order club, or the like. Students may be required to bring money or food for field trip lunches and similar activities.

11. Waiver Policy. The District’s policy is to provide fee waivers in accordance with the Public Elementary and Secondary Student Fee Authorization Act. Students who qualify for free or reduced-price lunches under United States Department of Agriculture child nutrition programs shall be provided a fee waiver or be provided the necessary materials or equipment without charge for: (1) participation in extracurricular activities and (2) use of a musical instrument in optional music courses that are not extracurricular activities. Participation in a free-lunch program or reduced-price lunch program is not required to qualify for free or reduced- price lunches for purposes of this section. Students or their parents must request a fee waiver prior to participating in or attending the activity, and prior to purchase of the materials.

12. Distribution of Policy. The Superintendent or the Superintendent's designee shall publish the District's student fee policy in the Student Handbook or the equivalent (for example, publication may be made in an addendum or a supplement to the student handbook). The Student Handbook or the equivalent shall be provided to every student of the District or to every household in which at least one (1) student resides, at no cost.

13. Student Fee Fund. The School Board hereby establishes a Student Fee Fund. The Student Fee Fund shall be a separate school district fund not funded by tax revenue, into which all money collected from students and subject to the Student Fee Fund shall be deposited and from which money shall be expended for the purposes for which it was collected from students. Funds subject to the Student Fee Fund consist of money collected from students for: (1) participation in extracurricular activities, (2) postsecondary education costs, and (3) summer school or night school.

**Certification**

On the 11 day of June, 2018, the school board held a public hearing at a meeting of the school board on a proposed student fee policy. Such public hearing followed a review of the amount of money collected from students pursuant to, and the use of waivers provided in, the student fee policy for the preceding school year. The foregoing student fee policy was adopted after such public hearing by a majority vote of the school board at an open public meeting in compliance with the public meetings laws.

Jeremy Christiansen  
 Superintendent or Other Authorized School Official

**Appendix“1” to 2018-2019 Student Fees Policy of Laurel-Concord-Coleridge School—  
 Additional Specification of Required Materials and Fees**

Program	General Description of Fee or Material	\$ Amount of Fee (Anticipated or Maximum) <sup>1</sup> or Specific Material Required
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Elementary Program		
Physical Education classes	Appropriate clothing (non-specialized attire)	Tennis shoes and socks, running shorts, T- shirt
Art classes and special projects or events	Appropriate clothing (non-specialized attire)	Old shirt for painting; other clothing which may get paint on it or otherwise be damaged
Music—Optional band courses	Musical instruments	Musical instruments and accessories (reeds, valve oil, drum sticks, lyres, flip folders, slide grease, reed guards, cleaning swabs, mouthpiece brushes, pad savers, ligatures, and a "gig bag", etc.) Limited instruments available for use by any student. Refundable damage deposit of \$20.00 for use of school owned instrument.
Classroom supplies	General supplies, such as writing instruments (pens, pencils, crayons, markers), notebooks, etc.	None—necessary classroom supplies will be made available by the school. Students will be responsible for the replacement cost of damaged or lost supplies. Students are encouraged but not required to bring items from class supply lists which may be handed out by the office or individual teachers.
Field Trips	Transportation and admission costs of field trips	None—costs of school sponsored, class- related field trips will be paid for by the school. Parents may be encouraged but not required to pay for field trip costs of up to \$5.00 per student for each field trip to defray costs. (With administrative approval, the requested donation may be up to \$100.00 for special field trips). Meals on field trips will be at the expense of the student. School lunches will be provided as needed for free- reduced lunch eligible students.

Summer school courses	Classes offered during the summer, or at night, if any	Cost varies
Copies	Use of school copiers (except for one copy of the student file, which will be provided without charge)	Twenty cents (.20) per page when charges apply. Twenty-five cents (.25) per page for color copies when charges apply.
School Meals		Breakfast—\$1.60 (PreK-4) Breakfast—\$3.00 (Adults) Lunch—\$2.55 (PreK-4) Lunch—\$4.00 (Adults)

Generally, dollar amounts are stated in terms of “maximums.” The actual fee or charge may be less during the 2018-2019 school year.

		Prices are maximums based on one meal per day, will vary depending on the number of meals or items purchased by the student, and may be adjusted during the year.
Secondary Program	General Description of Fee or Material	\$ Amount of Fee (Anticipated or Maximum) or Specific Material Required
Physical Education classes	Appropriate clothing (non- specialized attire)	Tennis shoes and socks, running shorts, T- shirt
Art and shop classes and special projects	Appropriate clothing (non-specialized attire)	Old shirt for painting; other clothing which may get paint on it or otherwise be damaged; protective clothing for shop classes
Music—Optional band courses	Musical instruments	Musical instruments and accessories (reeds, valve oil, etc.) Limited instruments available for use by any student. Damage deposit of \$20.00 for use of school owned instrument.

Classroom Supplies	General supplies, such as writing instruments (pens, pencils, crayons, markers), notebooks, etc.	None—necessary classroom supplies will be made available by the school. Students will be responsible for the replacement cost of damaged or lost supplies. Students are encouraged but not required to bring items from class supply lists which may be handed out by the office or individual teachers.
Advanced math or science classes	Specialized calculators	Refundable damage deposit of \$25 per semester will be required for students who wish to use school calculators outside the classroom. Students are encouraged but not required to purchase such equipment for their personal use.
Copies	Use of school copiers (except for one copy of the student file, which will be provided without charge)	Twenty cents (.20) per page when charges apply. Twenty-five cents (.25) per page for color copies when charges apply.
School Meals		Breakfast—\$2.10 (Grades 5-12) Breakfast—\$3.00 (Adults) Lunch—\$2.85 (Grades 5-12) Lunch—\$4.00 (Adults) Prices are maximums based on one meal per day, will vary depending on the number of meals or items purchased by the student, and may be adjusted during the year.
Post-secondary education classes	Tuition and fees for college courses taken for credit.	None—Any postsecondary education costs are to be paid directly by students to the college.
College entrance tests and preparation	Prep programs & tests	Costs of college entrance tests or prep courses, such as ACT preparation tutoring, PSAT test, and ACT test, are optional and to be paid directly to the private companies involved.
Summer school courses	Classes offered during the summer, or at night, if any	Drivers' education class: Cost varies Other classes: Cost varies



Extracurricular and other programs	General Description of Fee or Material	\$ Amount of Fee (Anticipated or Maximum) or Specific Material Required	
Athletic Programs			
1. Admission	Spectator fees for admission to events	\$5.00 per event maximum. Students may purchase an Activity Ticket for \$20.00 per year. For District and Conference events hosted by the School, cost to be set by NSAA but not to exceed \$20.00 per event.	
2. Athletic Physicals	NSAA required athletic physicals	Cost varies; payable directly to student's physician or clinic.	
3. Athletic Participation Fee	Fee to participate in athletic programs.	In the event an athletic participation fee is charged, the fee will be \$50 per year maximum.	
4. Equipment and attire	Students are responsible for required equipment and attire appropriate to the sport or activity which are not provided by the school, and are responsible for any optional clothing, equipment, or other items associated with the sport or activity.	Required items include athletic undergarments (supporter, bra, socks and undershirts), practice attire, including shorts, shirts, socks and shoes suitable for the activity, and dress attire suitable for team travel. Optional items for which students are responsible include: personal athletic bags, hair ties, sweat bands, non-required gloves, swim goggles, towels, forearm pads and personal medical devices (braces, orthopedic inserts, etc.). Additional required items for particular sports or activities include:	
		Basketball	No additional
		Cross Country	No additional
		Football	Mouthpiece
		Golf	Golf bag & clubs

		Speech/Debate	Dress attire; copies of research
		Track	No additional
		Volleyball	Volleyball knee pads
		Wrestling	Wrestling head gear
		Cheerleading and Dance Team Squads	Shoes, approved uniforms (top & skirt; jacket), poms and other accessories
5. Camps and clinics	Registration and other costs of camps or clinics	Students are responsible for the cost of all clinics, camps and conditioning programs. Any personal items purchased at camps or clinics, such as t-shirts, shall be at the student's expense.	
6. Athletic Clubs	Letterman's club and other clubs supporting the athletic program	Annual dues not to exceed \$50.00 per club.	
7. Marching Band and Musical Groups	Equipment and attire.	Students will be responsible for the same costs as are set out for the athletic program.	

		Students will be responsible for supplying their own musical instruments and accessories and for their own uniforms. Uniforms for the marching band will be supplied by the school; students may be required to pay a refundable band uniform rental fee of up to \$50.00.	
Social & Recognition Activities			

1. School plays, musicals and social activities	Admission to events	Cost varies.
2. School dances	Admission to prom, homecoming, etc.	Cost varies.
3. Senior recognition assessment	Optional graduation activities	Participation in class activities attendant to graduation (such as being part of the composite picture, special yearbook pages, etc.) is not required in order for students to receive their high school diploma. Students who choose to participate will be required to pay the cost of the items involved in the graduation ceremony and attendant class activities. These may include the rental of graduation robes, caps, tassels, class flowers, class gift, yearbook picture page, and class composite picture.

**Article 10 – STATE AND FEDERAL PROGRAMS**

**Section 1 Notice of Nondiscrimination**

The Laurel-Concord-Coleridge School does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, disability, age, sex, pregnancy, childbirth or related medical condition, or other protected category in admission or access to, or treatment of employment, in its programs and activities. The Coordinators listed in Section 2 have been designated to handle inquiries regarding complaints, grievance procedures or the application of these policies of nondiscrimination.

Local complaint or grievance procedures are provided for by the District and set forth in this handbook. If an employee does not feel that a complaint of nondiscrimination has been satisfactorily resolved at the school level, the employee may file a complaint with the appropriate federal or state agency. Complaints are to be filed with the regional Department of Education, Office for Civil Rights where the complaint relates to Title IX (discrimination, harassment or lack of equity based on gender), Title VI (discrimination or harassment based on race, color, or national origin) or Section 504 (discrimination, harassment or failure to accommodate a

disability). Complaints are to be filed with the the regional U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC) if the complaint relates to Title VII (discrimination or harassment based on race, color, gender, national origin, or religion), the Americans with Disabilities Act (discrimination, harassment or failure to accommodate a disability), or the Age Discrimination in Employment Act (discrimination based on age). The contact information for the OCR and the EEOC in this regard are:

Office for Civil Rights in the U.S. Department of Education (OCR)  
 601 East 12<sup>th</sup> Street, Room 353  
 Kansas City, MO 64106  
 (800) 368-1019 (voice), Fax (816) 426-3686  
 (800) 537-7697 (telecommunications device for the deaf),  
 or [ocr.kansascity@ed.gov](mailto:ocr.kansascity@ed.gov).

The U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC)  
 Gateway Tower II  
 400 State Avenue, Suite 905  
 Kansas City, KS 66101  
 (800) 669-4000; TTY: (800) 669-6820; Fax (913) 551-6957

A publication provided by the federal government concerning rights of non-discrimination is attached as Appendix “D” to this handbook.

## Section 2 Designation of Coordinators

Any person having inquiries concerning the District’s compliance with anti-discrimination laws or policies or other programs should contact or notify the following person(s) who are designated as the coordinator for such laws, policies or programs. The contact address for the coordinators are:

Laurel-Concord-Coleridge School, 502 Wakefield St, PO Box 8, Laurel, Nebraska 68745, (402) 256-3133.

Law, Policy or Program	Issue or Concern	Coordinator
Title VI	Discrimination or harassment based on race, color, or national origin; harassment	Jeremy Christiansen
Title IX	Discrimination or harassment based on sex; gender equity	Ken Swanson
Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act and the Americans with Disability Act (ADA)	Discrimination, harassment or reasonable accommodations of persons with disabilities	Ken Swanson

Homeless student laws	Children who are homeless	Jeremy Christiansen
Safe and Drug Free Schools and Communities	Safe and drug free schools	Jeremy Christiansen

### **Section 3      Anti-discrimination & Harassment Policy**

#### Elimination of Discrimination

The Laurel-Concord-Coleridge School hereby gives this statement of compliance and intent to comply with all state and federal laws prohibiting discrimination or harassment and requiring accommodations. This school district intends to take necessary measures to assure compliance with such laws against any prohibited form of discrimination or harassment or which require accommodations.

#### Preventing Harassment and Discrimination

Purpose: Laurel-Concord-Coleridge School is committed to offering employment and educational opportunity to its employees and students in a climate free of discrimination. Accordingly, unlawful discrimination or harassment of any kind by administrators, teachers, co-workers, students or other persons is prohibited. In addition, the Laurel-Concord-Coleridge School will try to protect employees and students from reported discrimination or harassment by non-employees or others in the workplace and educational environment.

For purposes of this policy, discrimination or harassment based on a person's race, color, national origin, sex, disability, religion, age, pregnancy, childbirth or related medical condition, or other protected status is prohibited. The following are general definitions of what might constitute prohibited harassment.

In general, ethnic or racial slurs or other verbal or physical conduct relating to a person's race, color, national origin, sex, disability, religion, age, pregnancy, childbirth or related medical condition, or other protected category constitute harassment when they unreasonably interfere with the person's work performance or create an intimidating work, instructional or educational environment.

Age harassment (40 years of age and higher) has been defined by federal regulations as a form of age discrimination. It can consist of demeaning jokes, insults or intimidation based on a person's age.

Sexual harassment is defined by federal and state regulations as a form of sex discrimination. It can consist of unwelcome sexual advances, requests for sexual favors, or physical or verbal conduct of a sexual nature by supervisors or others in the workplace, classroom or educational environment. Sexual harassment may exist when:

- Submission to such conduct is either an explicit or implicit term and condition of employment or of participation and enjoyment of the school's programs and activities;

- Submission to or rejection of such conduct is used or threatened as a basis for employment related decisions, such as promotion, performance, evaluation, pay adjustment, discipline, work assignment, etc., or school program or activity decisions, such as admission, credits, grades, school assignments or playing time;
- The conduct has the purpose or effect of unreasonably interfering with an individual's work or educational performance or creating an intimidating, hostile, or offensive working, class room or educational environment.
- Sexual harassment may include explicit sexual propositions, sexual innuendo, suggestive comments, sexually oriented "kidding" or "teasing", "practical jokes", jokes about gender-specific traits, foul or obscene language or gestures, displays of foul or obscene printed or visual material, and physical contact, such as patting, pinching or brushing against another's body.

### Complaint and Grievance Procedures

Employees or students should initially report all instances of discrimination or harassment to their immediate supervisor or classroom teacher. However, if the employee or student is uncomfortable in presenting the problem to the supervisor or teacher, or if the supervisor or teacher is the problem, the employee or student is encouraged to go to the next level of supervision. In the case of a student, the Principal would be the next or alternative person to contact.

If the employee or student's complaint is not resolved to his or her satisfaction within five (5) to ten (10) calendar days, or if the discrimination or harassment continues, or if as a student you feel you need immediate help for any reason, please report your complaint to the Superintendent of Laurel-Concord-Coleridge School. If a satisfactory arrangement cannot be obtained through the Superintendent, the complaint may be processed to the Board of Education.

The supervisor, teacher or the Superintendent will thoroughly investigate all complaints. These situations will be treated with the utmost confidence, consistent with resolution of the problem. Based on the results of the investigation, appropriate corrective action, up to and including discharge of offending employees, and disciplinary action up to expulsion against a harassing student, may be taken. Under no circumstances will any threats or retaliation be permitted to be made against an employee or student for alleging in good faith a violation of this policy.

### **Section 4      Grievance Procedure for Persons with a Disability**

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act address discrimination, harassment or failure to provide reasonable accommodations to persons with a disability. The following grievance procedure shall be used for resolution of complaints of alleged violations of the ADA or Section 504:

1. Complaints shall be filed with the ADA and Section 504 Coordinator. Complaints shall be made in writing, unless the Complainant's disability prevents such, in which event the Complaint can be made verbally.

2. Complaints shall set forth: (a) the name of the Complainant, (b) the address and telephone number or other such information sufficient to enable the Coordinator to contact the Complainant, (c) a brief description of the alleged violation, and (d) the relief requested by the Complainant.
3. Complaints shall be investigated by the Coordinator or the Coordinator's designee. Investigations shall be thorough, but informal, and the Complainant shall be given a full opportunity to submit evidence relevant to the complaint.
4. The Coordinator shall make a decision on the Complaint within thirty (30) days of the filing of the Complaint, unless such time period is extended by agreement with the Complainant or a longer period is reasonably necessitated by the circumstances. The decision shall be made in writing, shall set forth the Coordinator's proposed resolution of the Complaint, and shall be forwarded to the Complainant.
5. The Complainant shall have ten (10) days from the date the Coordinator's decision is sent to the Complainant to accept or reject the Coordinator's proposed resolution. The Complainant shall be deemed to have accepted the proposed resolution unless the Complainant rejects the proposed resolution within such time period.
6. In the event the Complainant rejects the proposed resolution, the Complainant shall be given the opportunity to file a request for reconsideration within ten (10) days from the date the Coordinator's decision is sent to the Complainant. The request for reconsideration shall be filed with the Coordinator. Upon receipt of the request for reconsideration, the Coordinator shall promptly forward the request for reconsideration and all evidence received by the Coordinator in connection with the Complaint to a third person for review (either an administrator or other employee of the District, or members of the Board of Education or Committee of the Board).
7. A decision on the request for reconsideration shall be made within ten (10) days after the request for reconsideration was filed unless the Board or Committee of the Board is the reviewer, in which event the decision shall be made within thirty (30) days of the filing of the request for reconsideration, unless such time period is extended by agreement with the Complainant or a longer period is reasonably necessitated by the circumstances.

## **Section 5      Confidentiality of Student Records (FERPA)**

The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) gives parents and students over 18 years of age rights of access and confidentiality with respect to education records. Employees are expected to provide access rights and maintain the confidentiality of education records in accordance with FERPA and Board policy. Further information about FERPA and the District's policies under FERPA are found in Board policy and in the student handbook.

## **Section 6      Disclosure of Student Information to Military Recruiters and Colleges**

The "Every Student Succeeds" Act of 2015 (ESSA) Section 8025 requires the District to provide military recruiters and institutions of higher education access to secondary school students' names, addresses, and telephone listings. Parents and secondary students have the right to request

that the school not provide this information (i.e., not provide the student’s name, address, and telephone listing) to military recruiters or institutions of higher education, without their prior written consent. Employees are expected to follow these requirements.

## **Section 7      Disclosure of Staff Qualifications**

The “Every Student Succeeds” Act of 2015 (ESSA) gives parents/guardians the right to request information about the professional qualifications of their child’s classroom teachers. The District designates the following information as “directory information” and will give parents/guardians such information upon request:

- Whether the teacher has met State qualifications and licensing criteria for the grade levels and subject areas in which the teacher provides instruction.
- Whether the teacher is teaching under an emergency or provisional teaching certificate.
- The baccalaureate degree major of the teacher, along with information about other graduate certification or degrees held by the teacher, and the field of discipline of the certification or degree.
- Whether the parent/guardian’s child has been assigned, or has been taught for four or more consecutive weeks, by a teacher who does not meet the requirements of ESSA.

## **Section 8      Student Privacy Protection**

The “Every Student Succeeds” Act of 2015 (ESSA) requires the District to protect the privacy of students. Further information about student privacy and the District’s policies with regard to student privacy are found in Board policy and in the student handbook. In general, employees are expected to comply with these provisions of the ESSA and related Board policy, as follows:

- Student surveys created by and administered by either the United States Department of Education or a third party (a group or person other than the District)—give parent/guardian the opportunity to inspect the survey upon request before the survey is administered or distributed to the students;
- Student surveys which involve “sensitive” matters—make suitable arrangements to protect student privacy (that is, do not include the name or other identifying information about a particular student) and give parents the opportunity, in advance, to “opt-out” their child from the survey. Sensitive matters include:
  - Political affiliations or beliefs of the student or the student’s parent;
  - Mental or psychological problems of the student or the student’s parent;
  - Sex behavior or attitudes;
  - Illegal, anti-social, self-incriminating or demeaning behavior;
  - Critical appraisals of other individuals with whom the student has close family relationships;
  - Legally recognized privileged or analogous relationships, such as those of lawyers, physicians, and ministers;
  - Religious practices, affiliations, or beliefs of the students or the student’s parent;



- Income (other than that required by law to determine eligibility for participation in a program or for receiving financial assistance under such program).
- Instructional materials. We will permit parents upon reasonable request to inspect any instructional material used as part of the educational curriculum for their child. The term “instructional materials” does not include academic tests or academic assessments for purposes of this parent inspection requirement. If you receive such a request, direct the parent to contact your building principal and also inform the building principal yourself about the request to get instructions.
- Collection, disclosure, or use of personal information collected from students for the purpose of marketing or for selling that information. The District policy is to not gather such information for such purposes.

## **Section 9      Parental Involvement**

### General - Parental/Community Involvement in Schools

The District’s policy is to welcome parental involvement in the education of their children. As a part of this policy, employees are expected to:

- provide parents timely information about their child’s progress, including use of quarterly report cards, active and constructive attendance at parent-teacher conferences, and more frequent parent contacts where warranted by the student’s academic and behavioral needs;
- make textbooks, completed tests and other curriculum materials available for review by parents upon request;
- permit parents access to their child’s records according to law and school policy;
- encourage parents to attend courses, assemblies, counseling sessions and other instructional activities with prior approval of the proper teacher, counselor or administrator, provided that such parent attendance be educationally appropriate and not disruptive to the educational program;
- assure that testing occurs to assure proper measurement of each child’s educational progress and achievement;
- permit parents to excuse their child from testing, classroom instruction and other school experiences when possible and educationally appropriate;
- notify parents of student surveys in accordance with district policy, obtain parental permission for surveys where required by District policy or law, and allow parents to opt-out of such surveys in accordance with District policy and law; and
- encourage parents to express their concerns, share their ideas and advocate for their child’s education.

### Title I Parental Involvement

The District has a separate policy established pursuant to the “Every Student Succeeds” Act of 2015 (ESSA) relating to parental involvement applicable to parents of children enrolled in Title I programs. The policy requires that parents of Title I children have been given the opportunity to participate in regular, two-way, and meaningful communication involving student academic learning and other school activities, including ensuring:

- a. that parents play an integral role in assisting their child’s learning;
- b. that parents are encouraged to be actively involved in their child’s education at school;
- c. that parents are full partners in their child’s education and are included, as appropriate, in decision making and on advisory committees to assist in the education of their child; and
- d. the carrying out of other activities, such as those described in the parental involvement policy. Employees are expected to comply with the Title I parental involvement policy.

**Section 10 Homeless Students**

The “Every Student Succeeds” Act of 2015 (ESSA) requires that homeless students not be stigmatized or segregated on the basis of their status as homeless. Homeless children generally include children who lack a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence. The Superintendent serves as the District’s designated Homeless Coordinator and should be contacted for questions relating to a homeless student.

**Section 11 Breakfast and Lunch Programs**

The District participates in the National School Lunch Program. Employees are expected to keep information about the participation of students in the program confidential.

**Section 12 Confidentiality of Protected Health Information**

It is the policy of the District to develop and implement all necessary practices, policies, and procedures to comply with the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996 (HIPAA) where and to the extent applicable and to maintain the privacy of protected health information (PHI), as that term is defined by HIPAA, that it receives, obtains, or transmits for employees and students. The District designates the Superintendent as its HIPAA privacy officer. Student and employee records containing PHI shall be accessible only to those who require such information to carry out their duties.

**Article 10 – EARLY CHILDHOOD PROGRAM**

**Section 1 Program Description**

The Laurel-Concord-Coleridge Early Childhood Program will feature hands on learning opportunities for children ages 3-5 based on Creative Curriculum Guidelines as suggested by the State of Nebraska Department of Education as well as the Nebraska Early Learning Guidelines for Ages 3-5.

Our goals are to provide each child with a variety of developmentally appropriate activities that are designed to meet each child's individual needs; to help children recognize and use appropriate social skills; and provide a safe and secure environment.

## **Section 2 Accidents - Emergencies**

When you enroll your child we ask you to complete and sign an "Authorization To Call A Physician" form. We need the following information it provides, such as:

1. The name of your family doctor.
2. The home phone number and business phone of both parents.
3. The name and phone number of a close friend or relative, in the event you cannot be reached.

If your child is injured at school, immediate first aid is applied and parents are notified. If parents are not available an emergency contact provided by the parent will be called. If that person is also not available, and the child's well being is in danger, the student may be taken to a physician or medical facility.

## **Section 3 Class Schedule**

The Early Childhood Program has three attendance options:

Monday through Friday Monday, Wednesday, and Friday Tuesday and Thursday

Hours of the program will be:

A.M. Session: 8:15-11:30 a.m.

P.M. Session Monday through Thursday: 12:30-3:45 p.m.

P.M. Session Friday: 12:30-2:45 p.m.

\*When there is a late start for the Laurel-Concord-Coleridge School, morning classes will not be held.

## **Section 4 Class Cancellations**

We will follow the same weather delays/cancellations as Laurel-Concord-Coleridge School. Classes that are cancelled will not be rescheduled. Classes that are dismissed early due to bad weather will not be rescheduled.

## **Section 5 Communicable Disease Control**

STUDENTS WHO ARE ILL SHOULD BE KEPT HOME UNTIL THEY ARE WELL. KEEP CHILDREN HOME IF THEY EXPERIENCE ANY OF THE FOLLOWING SYMPTOMS:

1. Fever of 100 degrees F orally, or higher in the last 24 hrs.
2. Vomiting (must eat & keep last meal down)
3. Diarrhea
4. Severe headache, stiff neck, earache, croupy cough, listlessness or oozing sores.

Any of these symptoms usually indicate the presence of communicable disease and will need medical attention and rest if they persist. When students are ill enough to be put on antibiotics they should usually stay at home for extra rest for 24 hours to allow their bodies to utilize the medicine to the utmost.

## **Section 6      Locked Doors**

For safety purposes all doors in the elementary will be locked all day every day. You may enter the school through the Main Entrance located on the east side of the school.

## **Section 7      Eligibility**

Laurel-Concord-Coleridge Early Childhood Program is offered to boys and girls who are toilet trained and are 3, 4, and 5 years of age. If your child will be 5 on or before July 31, they should be enrolled in our kindergarten program.

## **Section 8      Emergency Evacuation Procedures For Fire/Tornado Drills Fire Drill**

1. The fire warning is a continuous buzzer.
2. Move quietly and orderly with your class to the assigned exit.

## **Tornado Drill**

In a tornado warning, Early Childhood students will stay in the classroom which is the designated tornado station.

## **Section 9      Fees**

Fees:

\$6.00 per day will be charged. Those qualifying for free or reduced prices will be charged \$4.00 per day. There is no refund given due to illness or absence. However, if classes are cancelled, you will receive credit for that day.

A monthly statement will be mailed home. Payment is due the 10th of

each month. If payment is not received by the 10th, your child will not be able to continue to attend the Laurel-Concord-Coleridge Early Childhood Program. For information regarding free or reduced prices, contact the office for the necessary paperwork.

### **Section 10 Field Trips**

Students may be involved in various field trips throughout the year. A signed permission slip is required for any field trip that will take students more than ten miles distance from the city of Laurel. This slip will be sent home with the student in advance of the field trip.

### **Section 11 Message Book**

Your child will bring home a message book each night. Please read your child's message book and write any comments you may have in it and return it the next day. The message book is a great way to communicate with your child's teacher and a safe place to attach bills, book orders, and changes in pick-up times or who is picking them up.

### **Section 12 Parents/Visitors/Volunteers**

**FOR THE SAFETY OF ALL OUR STUDENTS, ALL PARENTS/VISITORS/VOLUNTEERS MUST CHECK IN AT THE CENTRAL OFFICE.**

1. Stop in the office when arriving at school.
2. Bring all items to the office that have been forgotten or are needed by the student in order that the office personnel can deliver it.
3. Call the office and request a return call from the teacher if information is needed.
4. Volunteers, please stop in the office when arriving and pick up a nametag.

Parents are encouraged to visit school. Classroom visits give parents the opportunity to observe their child's participation and provides insight into curricula, expectations, and classroom procedures. These visits will need to be set up prior with the building principal.

### **Section 13 Parties/Gifts**

Three parties are part of the school program: Fall, Christmas, and Valentine's Day. If you would like to help with any parties, please let the office know.

A child's birthday is a very important day, and deserves special recognition. Such recognition is extended to the classroom. Party invitations may not be distributed in school unless all members of a classroom are invited.

The school encourages healthy treats for parties or birthdays. Healthy treats are foods that are not of minimal nutritional value, and that are low in fats, sodium and sugars, and high per serving in the nutrients which are needed to meet Reference Daily Intakes.

Gifts: At Christmas time, we will have a gift exchange. No more than \$3.00 per gift should be spent.

#### **Section 14 Release Of A Child**

If anyone other than those specified on the emergency release form is allowed to pick up your child, you must inform the school before your child can be released.

#### **Section 15 Share Bag**

Children can bring things (books, toys, etc.) to share when they bring home the share bag. Each child will bring home the share bag several times throughout the year. The school will not assume responsibility for toys brought from home.

#### **Section 16 Snack**

Snack will be provided by the school district. Juice/Milk will be provided by the parent through the Laurel-Concord-Coleridge School. Juice/Milk costs \$0.50 per day. Juice/Milk tickets are available at the office. The cost is \$10.00 for 20 punches.

A monthly calendar will be sent home informing you when your child is responsible for snack. The monthly calendar will also contain special events, i.e. field trips, programs etc.

### **Article 11 – NON-DISCRIMINATION STATEMENT**

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

Persons with disabilities who require alternative means of communication for program information (e.g. Braille, large print, audiotape, American Sign Language, etc.), should contact the Agency (State or local) where they applied for benefits. Individuals who are deaf, hard of hearing or have speech disabilities may contact USDA through the Federal Relay Service at

(800) 877-8339. Additionally, program information may be made available in languages other than English.

To file a program complaint of discrimination, complete the USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form, (AD-3027) found online at:

[http://www.ascr.usda.gov/complaint\\_filing\\_cust.html](http://www.ascr.usda.gov/complaint_filing_cust.html), and at any USDA office, or write a letter addressed to USDA and provide in the letter all of the information requested in the form.

To request a copy of the complaint form, call (866) 632-9992. Submit your completed form or letter to USDA by: (1) Mail: U.S. Department of Agriculture  
Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, D.C. 20250-9410; (2) Fax: (202) 690-7442; or (3) Email: [program.intake@usda.gov](mailto:program.intake@usda.gov). This institution is an equal opportunity provider.

Article 3

## **BUSINESS OPERATIONS**

Policy No. 3571

### Meal Charge Policy

It is the policy of the District to comply with the National School Lunch Program and School Breakfast Program and all other federal grant programs that provide free or reduced meals to qualifying students.

### Student Eligibility

Families of students who may be eligible for free or reduced price school meals should submit an application to determine their eligibility. Applications are available through the Superintendent or Superintendent's designee. As long as an application is submitted on or after July 1, the application will be considered current for the new school year. A student may become eligible for free or reduced meals at any time during the school year if the household experiences a change in financial circumstances.

### Meal Account Balances

The District will ensure that families can check their meal account balances in a manner other than exclusively online. The District will ensure that at least one form of meal account payment is free of charge.

The District encourages families to pre-pay without charge for free or reduced price meals. Notwithstanding the option to pre-pay, students and families will have a method to add funds during the school day. Any balance remaining in a pre-paid account shall carry over into the next month. Households approved for free or reduced price meals with funds remaining in their meal account at the end of the school year shall receive a refund. When a student leaves the District or graduates, the District shall attempt to contact the student's household to return any funds remaining in the student's meal account.

Unpaid meal charges may be carried over at the end of the school year as a delinquent debt and the District shall undertake reasonable collection efforts to collect unpaid meal charges classified as delinquent debt, pursuant to and in compliance with state and federal law. The District shall maintain records of its collection efforts and, once delinquent meal charges are converted to bad debt, its documentation establishing and handling of the bad debt.

#### Student Confidentiality

The District will disclose individual student eligibility information only to those persons (and organizations) who require the information in order to carry out an activity specifically authorized by the National School Lunch Act, subject to applicable legal exceptions.

The District shall not use or implement any colored or coded meal cards, tickets, tokens, or other methods of payment that would overtly identify a student as being eligible for free or reduced price meals.

#### Distribution Annually

This policy shall be provided in writing to all students' households at the start of each school year and to households transferring to the District during the school year.

This policy shall also be provided annually to District staff members responsible for the enforcement of this policy, including food service professionals.

The Superintendent or the Superintendent's designee shall maintain documentation of the annual distribution of this policy to students' households and District staff.



**RECEIPT OF THE  
2018-2019 STUDENT-FAMILY HANDBOOK**

The 2018-2019 Student-Family Handbook of Laurel-Concord-Coleridge School is available on the internet at <http://www.lccschool.org/>.

Because of the expense of printing the handbooks, we are asking that you consider using the internet to access and review the 2018-2019 Student-Family Handbook. Using the internet to access the handbook will allow the district to direct printing dollars to instructional needs and eliminate the need for you to search for your handbook when you have questions throughout the year. Thank you for considering this new use of technology to improve school-home communication.

**Please sign and return this page to the Principal's Office  
on or before Friday, August 24, 2018.**

**RECEIPT OF 2018-2019 STUDENT-FAMILY HANDBOOK**

This signed receipt acknowledges receipt of the 2018-2019 Student-Family Handbook of Laurel-Concord-Coleridge School. It is understood that the handbook contains student conduct and discipline rules and information about Safe and Drug-Free Schools and that the undersigned, as student, agrees to follow such conduct and discipline rules. This receipt also serves to acknowledge that it is understood that the District's policies of non-discrimination and equity, and that specific complaint and grievance procedures exist in the handbook, which should be used to respond to harassment or discrimination.

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Student's Printed Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Student's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent or Legal Guardian's Printed Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent or Legal Guardian's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

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\_\_\_\_\_ I prefer a paper copy of the Student-Family Handbook be sent home for review.

Printed Name \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_