



**DISTRICT
STUDENT HANDBOOK**

2023-2024

Burlington Community School District

BOARD OF EDUCATION

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Public Notice:

It is the policy of the Burlington Community School District not to discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability, religion, creed, age, marital status, sexual orientation, gender identity, and socioeconomic status, in its educational programs, and its employment practices. If you have questions or a grievance related to this policy please contact the district's Equity Coordinators. For Educational Programs: Cory Johnson, Director of Curriculum, cory.johnson@bcsds.org. For Employment: Laci Johnson, Director of Human resources, laci.johnson@bcsds.org.

WELCOME FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT

Much of my first year as Superintendent of Burlington Community School District has been spent listening to and learning about this community that bleeds purple and gray.

I've heard from administrators, teachers, support staff, students, parents and other community members about what makes our schools great and what we could do to make them even better, and I look forward to continuing and building upon these conversations.

In addition to remaining accessible, my priorities include investing in STEM by adding a STEM rotation at the elementary buildings; expanding learning opportunities at the high school, such as by adding a Public Safety CTE pathway; increasing student participation in a growing number of extracurriculars; and continuing to reduce barriers for our students and families.

It's been so exciting to see the talent of our teachers and staff members. Every time I walk into a building, I am struck by the level of kindness, tremendous effort and commitment that staff have for our Grayhounds as they prepare them for life outside of our classroom walls.

I take great pride in our district — so much so that my blood now runs purple and gray, too.

Go, Grayhounds!

BCSD 2023-2024 School Calendar

Summary of Calendar:

Days/Hrs. in classroom:
 First Trimester..... 59/377.5
 Second Trimester.....57/362.5
 Third.....60/386
TOTAL DAYS/HRS 176/1126

CALENDAR LEGEND

- Start/End
- Flex Days
- New Teachers
- Prof. Learning
- Trimester Ends
- No School Days

Does not include Professional Development days/hours.

HOLIDAYS:

- Labor Day (9/4)
- Thanksgiving Day (11/23)
- Martin Luther King Jr. Day (1/15)
- Easter (3/31)
- Memorial Day (5/27)

GRADUATION: May 25th



August 2023					Student Days/Hours	
M	T	W	Th	F		
				11		
14	15	16	17	18		
21	22	23	24	25	3	19.5
28	29	30	31		7	45.5
September 2023						
				1	8	50
4	5	6	7	8	12	78
11	12	13	14	15	16	102
18	19	20	21	22	21	134.5
25	26	27	28	29	26	167
October 2023						
2	3	4	5	6	31	197.5
9	10	11	12	13	36	230
16	17	18	19	20	40	256
23	24	25	26	27	45	288.5
30	31				47	301.5
November 2023						
		1	2	3	50	319
6	7	8	9	10	55	351.5
13	14	15	16	17	59	377.5
20	21	22	23	24	62	397
27	28	29	30		66	423
December 2023						
				1	67	429.5
4	5	6	7	8	72	460
11	12	13	14	15	77	492.5
18	19	20	21	22	81	516.5
25	26	27	28	29	81	516.5
January 2024						
1	2	3	4	5	84	536
8	9	10	11	12	89	566.5
15	16	17	18	19	93	592.5
22	23	24	25	26	97	618.5
29	30	31			100	638
February 2024						
			1	2	102	651
5	6	7	8	9	107	681.5
12	13	14	15	16	112	714
19	20	21	22	23	116	740
26	27	28	29		120	766
March 2024						
				1	121	772.5
4	5	6	7	8	125	798.5
11	12	13	14	15	125	798.5
18	19	20	21	22	130	831
25	26	27	28	29	135	863.5
April 2024						
1	2	3	4	5	139	889.5
8	9	10	11	12	144	920
15	16	17	18	19	149	952.5
22	23	24	25	26	153	978.5
29	30				155	991.5
May 2024						
		1	2	3	158	1011
6	7	8	9	10	163	1041.5
13	14	15	16	17	168	1074
20	21	22	23	24	173	1106.5
27	28	29	30	31	176	1126
June 2024						
3	4	5	6	7		

- 180 Days/1080 Hours Calendar**
- Aug 11, 14, 15 New Teacher Work Days
 - Aug 16, 17, 21, 22 Certified Staff Work Days/PD
 - Aug 18 TQ Days
 - Aug 23 First Day of School
 - Aug 30 First Day of Preschool
- Sept 1 2 Hr. Early Out (Prof. Development)
 - Sept. 4 Labor Day (No School)
 - Sept 15 No School (Prof. Development)
- Oct 6 2 Hr. Early Out (Prof. Development)
 - Oct 20 No School (Prof. Development)
- Nov. 3 2 Hr. Early Out (Prof. Development)
 - Nov. 16 End 1st Trimester (59 days/377.5 hrs.)
 - Nov. 17 No School (Prof. Development)
 - Nov. 22 Staff Flex Day (No School)
 - Nov. 23-24 Thanksgiving Holiday (No School)
- Dec. 8 2 Hr. Early Out (Prof. Development)
 - Dec. 21 2 Hr. Early Out
 - Dec. 22-Jan. 2 Winter Break (No School)
- Jan. 12 2 Hr. Early Out (Prof. Development)
 - Jan. 15 Martin Luther King Day (No School)
 - Jan. 26 No School (Prof. Development)
- Feb. 9 2 Hr. Early Out (Prof. Development)
 - Feb. 22 End 2nd Trimester (57 days/362.5 hrs.)
 - Feb. 23 No School (Prof. Development)
- Mar. 8 No School (Prof. Development)
 - Mar. 11-15 Spring Break (no school)
 - Mar. 29 Staff Flex Day (No School)
- Apr. 1 No School
 - Apr. 12 2 Hr. Early Out (Prof. Development)
 - Apr. 26 No School (Prof. Development)
- May 10 2 Hr. Early Out (Prof. Development)
 - May 17 Projected Seniors' Last Day
 - May 23 Last Day of Preschool
 - May 25 Graduation
 - May 27 Memorial Day
 - May 30 End 3rd Trimester (60 Days/386 hrs.)
 - May 30 Last Day of School

Board Approved: 1/23/2023

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Board of Directors

2023-2024 Official District Calendar

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NOTIFICATIONS

Equal Education Opportunities (Board Policy)

The policy of the District shall be to provide educational programs and opportunities for students as needed on the basis of individual interests, values, abilities and potential. No student enrolled in the Burlington Community School District shall be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to unlawful discrimination in the District's programs on the basis of race, color, creed, sex, national origin, religion, age, marital status, disability, sexual orientation, gender identity, or socio-economic background.

It is the policy of the District to provide a free appropriate public education to each disabled student regardless of the nature or severity of the disability. It is the intent of the District to ensure that students who are disabled within the definition of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act or who are disabled within the definition of Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 or the Americans with Disabilities Act are identified, evaluated, and provided with appropriate educational services. Due process rights of disabled students and their parents will be enforced.

Inclusion of minority and disabled students shall occur throughout the District's programs. In order to monitor compliance and progress, District, attendance center and course enrollment data shall be collected on the basis of race, national origin, gender and disability.

Inquiries regarding compliance with equal educational opportunities shall be directed to the Director of Curriculum who shall be the District's compliance officer (319-753-6791). Inquiries regarding compliance with equal education opportunities for disabled students shall be directed to the District's 504/ADA Coordinator.

The superintendent will also appoint grievance officer(s) and publicize the name(s), office address(es), and telephone number(s). Grievance procedure and form will be on file in each building.

The District affirms it will comply with all applicable regulations under the following laws:

1. Title I
2. Title X – Homeless Children and Youth
3. Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964
4. Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973
5. Title IX of the Educational Amendments of 1973
6. The Age Discrimination Act of 1975
7. Title VII Employment
8. All regulations, guidelines, and standards lawfully adopted under the above statutes by the United States Department of Education.

Pictures/Videos

Student pictures (image or likeness) and videos periodically feature district activities and events for educational and promotional purposes. Pictures and videos are sometimes used for building and district newsletters and local/regional media coverage. If you do not want your child's picture taken or for him/her to participate in a school sanctioned video, please notify the school office by September 15th. Individual pictures (image or likeness) and videotaping of a student is sometimes necessary to indicate

the extent of his/her behavioral or academic concerns. These pictures and videotapes will be evaluated by your son or daughter's educational team. You will be notified by your building principal before the taping begins.

The following grievance officers for this policy are:

Title I	Stephanie Vititoe, Assistant Dir. of Curriculum	Adm. Building	753-6791
Title X – Homeless Children and Youth	Cassie Gerst	Adm. Building	753-6791
Title VI Civil Rights	Laci Johnson, Human Resources	Adm. Building	753-6791
Title VII Employment	Laci Johnson, Human Resources	Adm. Building	753-6791
Section 504/Americans with Disabilities Act	Cory Johnson, Dir. of Curriculum	Adm. Building	753-6791
Title IX Sex Discrimination/Section 504	Laci Johnson, Human Resources	Adm. Building	753-6791
Level I Investigator	Laci Johnson, Human Resources	Adm. Building	753-6791
Level 1 Alternate Investigator	Cory Johnson, Dir. of Curriculum	Adm. Building	753-6791

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Equal Employment Opportunity/Affirmative Action Employer

Parents'/Guardians' Right Notification

Parents/Guardians in the Burlington Community School District have the right to learn about the following qualifications of their child's teacher/paraprofessional: state licensure requirements for the grade level and content areas taught, the current licensing status of your child's teacher/paraprofessional, and baccalaureate/graduate certification/degree. You may also request the qualifications of an instructional paraprofessional who serves your student in a Title I program or if your school operates a schoolwide Title I program. Parents/Guardians may request this information from the Office of the Superintendent by calling 319-753-6791, ext. 1403 or by sending a letter of request to the Office of the Superintendent, 1429 West Ave., Burlington, IA 52601

The Burlington Community School District ensures that parents will be notified in writing if their child has been assigned, or has been taught by a teacher for four or more consecutive weeks by a teacher who is not considered highly qualified.

Student Records

Parents of students under age 18 and students over 18 may exercise the right to review educational records of the student, to obtain copies of reports, to write a response to material in the record, to challenge the content of the record on grounds of inappropriateness, inaccuracy or an invasion of privacy, and to have the records explained. The procedure to be followed in exercising any of the rights under the "Family Privacy Act of 1974" can be found in the Board Policy book which is

available in all school buildings, as well as the central administrative offices. Should a student move from the district, the district will transfer the student's educational records to the next district upon written request of that district.

STUDENT ATTENDANCE

Absence Procedures

Regular attendance by students is essential for students to obtain the maximum opportunities from the education program. Parents and students alike are encouraged to ensure an absence from school is a necessary absence. Students shall attend school unless excused by the principal of their attendance center. The importance of regular attendance cannot be over emphasized. Research consistently shows a strong correlation between attendance and academic achievement. When a student is absent, it is the responsibility of the parent to call in the absence to the school office before 10:00 a.m. If the parent does not call, the school will make an attempt to call for the excuse. The school needs and requires an emergency contact number in case of interrupted phone service. If there is no contact, the student must bring a signed written excuse to the office the day they return. Failure to meet this requirement will result in an unexcused absence. A medical appointment is a possible reason for an excused tardy. If a student is late because of the school district's late bus, they will be admitted to class and not counted "tardy."

Students are expected to show up on time for school every day. Certain absences may be excused under this policy, but students will still be required to make up work missed due to any absence. Excessive absences may result in disciplinary action under this policy. Truancy is any absence from school or from a class or classes without parent/guardian AND school permission. Students who are truant six days or more during any school year will be reported to the County Attorney as truant. This policy shall apply to all students including special education students except in those cases where decisions involve a special education student's evaluation or placement.

Attendance - In accordance with Iowa law, it is the parent's responsibility to cause the child to attend school (Code of Iowa, Chapter 299)

Absence -Parents/guardians are expected to notify the school regarding a student's absence on the morning of the student's absence. If parent does not call in, the school will attempt to contact the parent. If requested, students who were absent from school shall submit in writing the specific reasons for their absence. Such notice shall include the specific days or times they were absent, verification by a health care provider (when appropriate), and a signature of a parent/guardian.

Valid reasons for which an absence may be excused:

Occasional illness reported by a parent/guardian. (Chronic illness or excessive number of sick days may require verification by a doctor or a trip into the school to have the illness verified by the school nurse. The school principal will notify the parent/guardian in writing when the number of sick days will require verification by a doctor or the school nurse.)

- Verified medical care
- Death or serious illness in the immediate family or household.
- Religious holidays requiring absence from school.
- Court appearance or other legal proceedings beyond the control of the family.

- Classes missed because of attendance at a school-sponsored trip or activity.
- Other verified emergency as approved by the principal.
- Other reasons which can be justified educationally which are approved in advance by the principal, and only when all make-up work is completed in advance.

Unexcused absences will include (but are not limited to.)

- Missing school (even if reported as ill) when the student is not ill enough to stay in bed.
- “Skip days”
- “Take your daughter (son) to work day.” (This can be done without loss of instructional time during the summer.)
- Traveling with parent that is not approved in advance and/or when make-up work is not completed in advance.

Ultimately, the principal determines whether an absence is excused or unexcused.

Tardiness

A note of explanation or call from the parent or guardian to the school will be required in each case of tardiness. Tardiness is a student’s initial appearance in an assigned area at any time after the designated starting time. Tardiness at the beginning of the school day will only be excused for medical appointments and/or when the school bus is running late. All incidences of class tardiness will become the direct responsibility of the teacher. Teachers will emphasize the importance of punctuality and class rules and procedures for tardies. The following action(s) may be taken by the teacher when dealing with a student who is tardy and does not have an acceptable reason.

- a) Warning
- b) Notification of parents/guardians
- c) Loss of privilege(s) or other in-class sanctions
- d) Conference with parent or guardian
- e) Detention(s)
- f) Referral to principal for other in-school sanctions and/or support services

If your child will be late to school please feed your child breakfast. Breakfast will be closed when school starts.

Excessive Absence

When a student misses five days of school (excused or unexcused), the district truancy officer will send a “letter of concern” to the parent by regular U.S. Mail. When a student misses six days of school, the truant officer will analyze each absence to determine whether it was excused or unexcused. If the number of unexcused absences reaches six or more, the student will be referred to the Des Moines County District Attorney as truant. A copy of the referral will also be sent to the Burlington School District’s Curriculum Director. When the number of “sick” days is considered to be excessive (10 total per policy), the building principal may require verification of future sick days by a physician (or the parent may bring the child in to see the school nurse to have the illness verified.) Failure to comply with this requirement will result in the future absence being deemed “unexcused.”

Perfect Attendance

Perfect attendance should be a goal for every student at some time in their life. Showing up every day on time is an important work habit that is extremely important for success in the workplace. Perfect attendance will only be awarded for students who have attended school each and every school day.

Requests to Leave Early

Requests to leave school early should be made only when necessary. When necessary, a written request to have a child excused from classes early should be sent with the child on the morning of the dismissal. Please include the time the child is to be picked up and the reason. The student will meet the parent in the office. Parents are not to pick up a child in the classroom. Prior to dismissing the child, the adult must complete a check-out form providing the date, time, reason for leaving and adult signature.

Change of Address/Telephone

Change of address/telephone should be reported to the school as soon as possible. If your change of residence involves a school transfer, please notify the school two or three days prior to withdrawing the child. If you relocate during the year, please see your building principal. Arrangements to accommodate your child remaining at his/her current school can be made on a space available basis.

DRESS CODE – STUDENT APPEARANCE

Introduction

The students of the Burlington Community School District have great traditions. One of these traditions is that they dress and groom themselves in a fashion that is complementary to the school and not distracting to other students. Your appearance sends a message to those around you, including any guests that may be visiting our school. This is your school, please show pride in it.

The major responsibility for appropriate dress and grooming rests with the students and their parents. Students are expected to dress appropriately for school and all related school activities. A student's dress may not constitute a threat to the health, safety, and welfare, or property of others, must be in accordance with the public decency and civil statutes, and must not disrupt the orderly, disciplined atmosphere of the school. Students will be asked to correct the inappropriate clothing or inappropriate decorative items in their lockers. This includes but is not limited to:

Students MUST Wear

- A shirt or dress with fabric in the front, back, and on the sides under the arms
- Pants/jeans or the equivalent, such as a skirt, sweatpants, leggings, a dress, or shorts
- Shoes

Students MUST Cover

- All private parts, cleavage, and undergarments

Students MAY Wear

- Hats. Faces must be clearly visible, and the student must maintain a clear line of sight.
- Religious headwear
- Hoodie sweatshirts. Like hats, the face must be visible, and the student must maintain a clear line of sight.
- Fitted pants, including leggings, yoga pants, and skinny jeans. Material must be thick and opaque enough to cover undergarments
- Ripped jeans

Students CANNOT Wear

- Inappropriate language or images, including but not limited to: profanity, violent language, hate speech, pornography, language depicting drugs or alcohol, language depicting illegal item or activity, or anything that could instigate or perpetuate a hostile or intimidating environment based on protected class or consistently marginalized groups.
- Bandanas may not be worn on school premises.
- Clothing that reveals undergarments.
- Swimsuits (except as required in class or athletic practice)
- Accessories that could be considered dangerous or could be used as a weapon.
- Any item that obscures the face or ears (except as religious observance and PPE when necessary).

CODE OF CONDUCT

Philosophy of Discipline

- The goal of discipline policies is to ensure the right of all students to a productive educational environment in which they may learn the social skills necessary to develop into mature, responsible students, accountable for their own actions.
- The schools have the duty to aid each student in becoming aware of rights and responsibilities, and to approach discipline in a positive and productive manner.
- The school environment is designed to encourage responsible behavior by the students. A student has the right to pursue education without unnecessary disruption from others.
- Parental support is imperative to the disciplinary teaching process and, to this end, parents will be kept informed and be requested to aid in the process.
- When a student's conduct jeopardizes the good order, management or welfare of the school, disciplinary action will be taken.
- The Discipline Plan shall apply to students while on school premises, while attending school-sponsored events, while on school buses, or on chartered buses while students are engaged in school-sponsored activities, and while students are away from school at such activities.

School Discipline Plan

Each student is expected to abide by the district's Code of Conduct. Behavior which tends to conflict with the educational program or which is harmful or threatening to the welfare of other students, and/or staff will not be tolerated. Failure to abide by the following guidelines is a violation of the School Discipline Plan:

- Disciplinary measures such as warnings, detentions, suspensions, and expulsion will be used singly or in combination depending on the severity and/or frequency of the misconduct.

Code of Conduct

■***In-School Suspension/Office Detention Conduct:*** Each student is expected to behave in a respectable manner and to abide by the rules and procedures set. Any student who violates the Student Code of Conduct may be assigned in-school suspension by the administration.

■***Fighting:*** Fighting entails the practice of two or more students engaging in a physical struggle or a conflict that does not result in serious injury. This is not acceptable behavior.

■***Assault/Threats To Others:*** Assault is an attempt to apply force with intent to do physical injury to another with present means to execute the attempt. There may be an assault even though there is no personal injury inflicted. This is not acceptable behavior and may result in charges being filed. Students will be automatically suspended for assault upon a school employee. The board will meet to discuss whether further sanctions, including expulsion, should be ordered against the student.

■***Tobacco Products*** (Board Policy 502.7) Students who are in possession of or using or distributing tobacco products shall be subject to school disciplinary actions and may also be reported to law enforcement officials. This includes “look alike” substances that appear to be a tobacco/nicotine product. This includes but not limited to the follow: cigarettes, dissolvable, spitless, cigars, snuff, snus, chewing, and e-cigarettes, pipes, and electronic smoking/vaping devices.

■ ***Alcoholic Beverages, Controlled Substances*** (Board Policy 502.7) Students are prohibited from possessing, using, being under the influence of, distributing, selling, or manufacturing beer, wine or other alcoholic beverages, controlled substances, paraphernalia for administering substances or of “look alike” alcoholic or controlled substances while on school premises or vehicles, while they are participating in or attending District activities and while they are away from school premises if the conduct directly affects the good order of the District. A student who leaves the school premises during his/her normal times of attendance will be considered as being in school for purposes of this policy.

Distribution, sale or manufacture of alcohol, controlled substance or “look alike” substance or intent to do so: Parents/Guardians notified, Law enforcement officials notified. Student placed on out of school suspension pending recommendation to School Board for expulsion.

First Offense possession alcohol, controlled substance, paraphernalia or “look alike” substance: Parent/Guardian notified; Law enforcement officials notified, 1-5 days out of school suspension. Before re-admittance: parent/guardian must provide proof student has had valid substance abuse evaluation and that student is participating in any recommended counseling or treatment. Within thirty calendar days of readmittance, parent/guardian is required to provide proof student has successfully participated in any recommended counseling or treatment. Failure to comply - recommendation for expulsion.

Second and Subsequent Offenses of possession in the same school year: Parents/Guardians notified, Law enforcement officials notified. Student placed on out of school suspension pending recommendation to Board of Directors for expulsion.

■***Possession Or Use Of Dangerous Objects:*** Students are prohibited from using, possessing, carrying, or manufacturing dangerous or potentially dangerous objects, such as: knives, matches, lighters, ice snowballs, projectiles, guns, and any instrument that can be used as a weapon. Any student who threatens another person on school property or at a school event with a dangerous weapon, or who displays any object in such a manner as reasonably to place another person in fear for his or her safety shall be subject to discipline including possible suspension or recommendation for expulsion.

■**Firearms:** Firearms are not allowed on school grounds or at school activities with the exception of firearms in the control of law enforcement officials or those being used for educational purposes and approved by the principal. Students bringing firearms to school or possessing firearms at school will be expelled for not less than one year. Parents of students found in violation of this policy may be contacted and the student will be reported to law enforcement.

■**Intimidation:** Threatening another student or staff member is not acceptable.

■**Extortion:** Obtaining another person's property or money by the threatened use of force or exercise of power is not acceptable.

■**Gambling:** Participating in games of chance or skill for money or profit, unless it is a school-sanctioned event, is not acceptable.

■**Vandalism:** Vandalism is the willful or ignorant destruction of a public property, in which the actual damage is of a minor nature. Any person found willfully damaging or defacing property belonging to the school district will be held responsible for the replacement or the repair of such property.

■**Malicious Mischief:** When damage to property is assessed at \$150 or more, the violation becomes malicious mischief or criminal damage to property. Malicious mischief includes, but is not limited to, malicious injury, defacing or destruction of any building, fixture, or equipment, the willful writing, making marks, or drawing characters on walls, furniture and fixtures. The student is responsible for the repair or replacement of the damaged item.

■**Setting False Fire Alarms:** A person who sets false fire alarms could be guilty of reckless conduct. Chapter 712.7, Code of Iowa. May include costs incurred from the city.

■**Arson/Setting Fires:** Arson is committed when, by means of fire or explosives, a person knowingly damages any real property or personal property. Chapter 712, Code of Iowa.

■**Stealing:** Taking the property of another without permission is not acceptable.

■**Loitering/Trespass:** Special permission from the building principal is required to visit schools. Those persons in violation of this policy are subject to criminal trespass charges being filed with the city attorney.

■**Unlawful Assembly:** Unlawful assembly is when three or more persons assemble in a violent and tumultuous manner to do unlawful acts to the disturbance of others.

■**Malicious Use Of The Telephone:** Chapter 708.7, Code of Iowa, makes it unlawful for any person to telephone another and use any obscene, lewd, or profane language, or threaten to inflict injury of physical harm to the person or property of any person.

■**Chronic Disruption or Violation of School Rules:** Behavior that disrupts the educational process of others that recurs on a regular basis over a period of time cannot be tolerated. DEPENDING UPON THE FREQUENCY AND SEVERITY, failure to refrain from engaging in disruptive behavior may result in suspension either in or out of school for up to 10 school days. In some cases, a recommendation may be made to the Superintendent of Schools to call a meeting of the School Board to consider an expulsion from school.

■**Dissemination of Inappropriate Media:** Electronic devices have proliferated our society bringing with them the ability to communicate information quickly to large numbers of individuals. Disseminating media that is illegal or created with the intent to cause another individual anxiety, pain or embarrassment will be construed as harassment. Sharing nude photos, even if shared willingly, will result in disciplinary action as well as possible legal consequences.

■**Reckless Driving:** Students are to drive carefully and prudently in the school lot on streets in the vicinity of the school. Squealing of tires, fishtailing, racing engines, speeding, etc. will not be tolerated.

■**Tampering With Motor Vehicles:** Students are prohibited from damaging, entering, or in any way disturbing parked vehicles.

■**Other:** Acts of behavior not mentioned above which conflict with the educational program or are harmful to the welfare of others is not acceptable.

Student Harassment, Bullying and Hazing

Harassment, Bullying and Hazing Prohibited. The District is committed to providing all students a safe and civil educational environment in which all are treated with dignity and respect. The District is also committed to promoting understanding and appreciation of the cultural diversity of our society. The District shall educate students about our cultural diversity and shall promote tolerance of individual differences. The District prohibits acts of intolerance, harassment, bullying or hazing, including because of the individual's real or perceived age, race, color, creed, gender, religion, marital status, ethnic background, national origin, sexual orientation, or gender identity, physical attributes, socioeconomic status or familial status, physical or mental ability or disability, ancestry, political party preference or political belief. Acts of intolerance, harassment, bullying or hazing may be treated as grounds for discipline. Discipline may include suspension or expulsion of a student or termination of a staff member's contract.

Harassment, Bullying, Hazing. Any behavior that has the purpose or effect of causing injury, intimidation, fear, or unreasonable discomfort, or that creates an intimidating, offensive, or hostile learning environment shall be prohibited. Examples of prohibited behavior may include, but are not limited to the following.

- Verbal or nonverbal, physical or written harassment or abuse
- Unwelcome touching
- Inappropriate or demeaning remarks, jokes, stories, activities, signs or posters
- Implied or explicit threats concerning grades, awards, property or opportunities
- Unreasonable interference with a student's educational opportunities
- Requiring, explicitly or implicitly, that a student submit to harassment, bullying, or hazing, as a term or condition of the student's participation in any educational program or activity
- Submission to or rejection of such conduct is used as a basis for decisions affecting the student's education or participation in an activity

Keeping Students After School

Parents will be given a twenty-four hour written or telephone notice each time before keeping their child after school beyond the normal dismissal time. The students may be detained on the same day if the parents have been notified by phone and their approval has been given.

Sexual Harassment

General. It is the policy of the Burlington Community School District to maintain a learning environment that is free from sexual harassment. All employees, visitors, and students must avoid any action or conduct which could be perceived as sexual harassment. It shall be a violation of this policy for any person to harass a student through conduct or communications of a sexual nature.

Definition. Sexual harassment shall consist of unwelcome sexual advances, requests for sexual acts or favors, and other verbal or physical conduct of a sexual nature when:

1. Submission to such conduct is made either explicitly or implicitly a term or condition of the student's educational opportunities or benefits.
2. Submission to or rejection of such conduct by a student is used as the basis for educational decisions affecting that student.
3. Such conduct has the purpose or effect of substantially interfering with a student's education by creating an intimidating, hostile, or offensive educational environment.

Sexual harassment may include, but is not limited to the following:

- Verbal or nonverbal, physical or written harassment or abuse;
- Requests or pressure for sexual activity;
- Unwelcome touching;
- Other verbal or physical conduct of a sexual nature, such as inappropriate jokes, signs and posters of a sexual nature;
- Repeated remarks to or about a person with sexual or demeaning implications.

(Note: any sexual overtures made by a staff member to a student, whether welcomed or unwelcome, shall be grounds for discipline, including discharge of the staff member)

Complaint Procedures. Any student (or the student's parents or guardian) alleging a violation of this policy may file a complaint using the Student Complaint Procedures. The complainant may bypass any step of the complaint procedure where the person to whom the complaint is to be lodged is the alleged perpetrator. The complainant may file the initial complaint with the compliance officer. Policy 507.9 shall govern the investigation of alleged cases of physical or sexual abuse, including sexual harassment, of students by staff members.

Bullying complaints may be filed on-line at the district website: www.BCSDS.org. The complainant may be required to complete a written complaint form (Policy 500.3 or See Code No 500.1R1-Exhibit A) and turn over copies of evidence of discrimination, harassment, bullying, or hazing including, but not limited to, letters, emails, tapes, signs, and pictures. The investigator shall promptly commence an investigation and proceed to completion. Both the complainant and the alleged perpetrator will be given an opportunity to give a statement. A written investigative report shall be completed, and a summary of the report, including a finding that the complaint was founded, unfounded or inconclusive will be forwarded to the complainant and to the alleged perpetrator.

These procedures do not in any way deny the right of the complainant to file formal complaints or charges under the legal procedures, provided by federal or state law. Inquiries or complaints may also be directed to federal and state agencies, including the Iowa Civil Rights Commission and the Office of Civil Rights of the United States Department of Education.

Compliance Officer. The Curriculum Director (319-753-6791) shall be designated as the District's compliance officer to insure that students are treated in accordance with this policy. In the event the compliance officer is the alleged perpetrator, the Human Resources Director (319-753-6791) shall be the alternative compliance officer.

Confidentiality. The right to confidentiality, both of the complainant and of the alleged perpetrator, will be respected consistent with the District's legal obligations and with the necessity to investigate allegations and take corrective actions. Confidential documentation of allegations or investigations will not be filed in the complainant's student file.

No Retaliation. No person shall retaliate against a student or other person because the student or other person has filed a harassment, bullying or hazing complaint, assisted or participated in an investigation, or has opposed language or conduct that violates this policy, as long as the participation or action was done in good faith. Persons who knowingly file false complaints or give false statements shall be subject to discipline up to and including suspension or expulsion or termination of employment.

Corrective Actions. The District will take action to halt any improper harassment, bullying or hazing and will take other appropriate corrective actions, including disciplinary measures which may include discharge, suspension or expulsion of a perpetrator, to remedy all violations of this policy.

Notification. Notice of this policy shall be communicated to staff, students, and parents of the District and shall be published in such manner as the compliance officer shall determine.

Training. The District shall educate staff and students about harassment, bullying and hazing, effective methods of prevention, and what to do in the event of such actions. The District shall participate in assessments of the effectiveness of this policy and education programs.

Gangs

The Board believes that the presence of gangs and group activities have the potential to cause a substantial disruption of or material interferences with school and school activities.

A “gang” as defined in this paragraph and under Iowa Code 723A means any ongoing organization, association, or group of three or more persons, whether formal or informal, having as one of its primary activities the commission of one or more criminal acts, which has an identifiable name or identifying sign or symbol, and whose members individually or collectively engage in or have engaged in a pattern of criminal gang activity. The “pattern of gang activity” means the commission, attempt to commit, conspiring to commit, or solicitation of two or more criminal acts, provided the criminal acts were committed on separate dates or by two or more persons who are members of, or belong to, the same criminal street gang. By this plan the board acts to prohibit the existence of gangs and gang activities as follows:

No student on or about school property or at any school activity:

1. shall wear, possess, use, distribute, display or sell any clothing, jewelry, emblem, badge, symbol, sign or other thing which is evidence of membership in or affiliation with any gang;
2. shall commit any act or omission or use any speech, either verbal or nonverbal (gestures, handshakes, etc.) showing membership or affiliation with a gang;
3. shall use any speech or commit any act or omission in furtherance of the interests of any gang or gang activity, including, but not limited to:
 - a. soliciting others for membership in any gangs,
 - b. requesting any person to pay for “protection” or otherwise intimidating or threatening any person,
 - c. committing any illegal act or violation of school policies,
 - d. inciting another student to act with physical violence upon other persons.

Students in violation of this plan may be suspended from school and/or recommended for expulsion. Due process in all cases will be followed according to this plan. This discipline plan and specific processes used to carry out discipline shall be distributed to all parents and students at the beginning of the school year.

Internet & Computer-Related Technologies

Use of the internet, web pages, email and other forms of computer-related technologies for the purpose of harassing, threatening, stalking, or slandering classmates or staff will be grounds for disciplinary action. This covers acts performed both on and off of campus and may also involve legal authorities. Students may not access our student information system; alter web server content, or any other forms of intrusion into unauthorized areas of the school’s networks or servers. State and federal laws also cover these kinds of abuse.

Tampering with school computers or changing computer settings without permission is not allowed. Students are urged to report any known abuse to allow corrections to be quickly made.

Personal Items at School

Generally students are not to bring their personal toys and items to school unless requested to do so by the teacher for special events, show and tell, plays, or parties. We provide games for indoor recess and

equipment for the playground activities. Unauthorized personal items brought to school will be confiscated. Lost or stolen items are not the responsibility of the school district.

Due Process

To ensure that the students receive fair treatment consistent with the fundamental requirements of due process, student suspensions or recommendations for expulsions must be made in accordance with the following:

A student may be suspended for up to ten days by an administrator for a commission of serious or repeated infractions of school rules, or when the presence of the student will cause substantial interference with the maintenance of the educational environment of the normal operation of the school. The administrator shall conduct an informal investigation of the charges against the student, giving the student:

1. Oral or written notice of the allegations against the student.
2. The basis in fact for the charges.
3. The opportunity to respond to those charges.
4. The right to appeal.

Appeal Provision

Any student or parent who believes that the actions of a teacher or other school official were unfair or unreasonable under the circumstances or in violation of these rules or board policy may request an informal hearing before the teacher or official's supervisor. The following order of appeal must be followed:

- 1) From a teacher's actions – Following an attempt to resolve the situation with the teacher, contact the principal.
- 2) From a principal's decision, contact the superintendent or his/her designee.
- 3) From the superintendent's decision, contact the school board secretary for procedures to appeal to the board of directors of the BCSD.

If a student/parent appeals the decision of the administrators, and if the student's presence, in the opinion of the administrator, will not be detrimental and disruptive to the educational process, then he/she will remain in his/her present status pending outcome of the appeal. However, if the student's presence is determined by the administrator to be detrimental or disruptive, the student will be suspended pending the outcome of the appeal. These students will be out-of-school during the appeal process.

NOTE: Special Service students are expected to follow the school rules and their behavior plans; however, consequences may be altered according to each individual educational plan.

Search and Seizure (Board Policy)

School district property is held in public trust by the board. School district authorities may, without a search warrant, search students or protected student areas based on a reasonable and articulable suspicion that a school district policy, rule, regulation or law has been violated. The search shall be in a manner reasonable in scope to maintain order and discipline in the schools, promote the educational environment, and protect the safety and welfare of students, employees and visitors to the school district facilities. The furnishing of a locker, desk or other facility or space owned by the school and provided as a courtesy to a student, even if the student provides the lock for it, shall not create a protected student area and shall not give rise to an expectation of privacy with respect to the locker, desk, or other facility.

School authorities may seize any illegal, unauthorized or contraband materials discovered in the search. Items of contraband may include, but are not limited to, nonprescription controlled substances, marijuana, cocaine, amphetamines, barbiturates, apparatus used for controlled substances, alcoholic beverages,

tobacco, weapons, explosives, poisons and stolen property. Such items are not to be possessed by a student while they are on school district property or on property within the jurisdiction of the school district; while on school owned and/or operated school or chartered buses; while attending or engaged in school activities; and while away from school grounds if misconduct will directly affect the good order, efficient management and welfare of the school district. Possession of such items will be grounds for disciplinary action including suspension or expulsion and may be reported to local law enforcement officials. The board believes that illegal, unauthorized or contraband materials may cause material and substantial disruption to the school environment or presents a threat to the health and safety of students, employees, or visitors on the school district premises or property within the jurisdiction of the school district.

Written Notice of Search

Students, parents and guardians are hereby notified that school officials may conduct periodic searches of school lockers, desks, parking lots and other school facilities or spaces without prior notice. The search procedure may include the use of drug sniffing dogs.

Security cameras may be mounted inside and outside of the buildings for the purpose of monitoring access and/or hall traffic.

Video Surveillance

The Board authorizes the use of video cameras on 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. As deemed appropriate by the Superintendent, video cameras may be used in any location where there is no legitimate expectation of privacy. Video cameras will not be used in locker rooms or restrooms. Cameras may or may not be monitored on a continuous basis.

The district will annually notify students through its handbooks and/or newsletter that video camera surveillance may occur on district property. Students who violate board policies, administrative regulations, building rules or law shall be subject to appropriate disciplinary action and to referral to law enforcement agencies.

Tampering with the video cameras is prohibited and will be subject to discipline under district policy and the Good Conduct Rule and reimbursement for necessary repairs or replacement.

Video recordings may become a part of a student's educational record and may be used as evidence in an internal disciplinary proceeding or by law enforcement agencies. The district shall comply with all applicable state and federal laws related to record maintenance and retention for any video recording that becomes a part of an educational record.

Unsafe School Choice Option - Notification

Any student who becomes a victim of violence, and a criminal charge has been filed, shall, to the extent feasible, be permitted to transfer to another school within the school district. For purposes of this rule, a victim of violence is a student who is physically injured, sexually assaulted or threatened with physical injury as a result of the commission of a crime (as defined by Iowa law) against the student while the student is in the school building or on the grounds of the attendance center.

STUDENT ACTIVITIES

School Parties (Treats)

Treats are to be limited to birthdays and special holidays. Prepackaged, individually wrapped, store purchased treats are preferred. Please check with the teacher before sending any treats to school. Any other party must receive prior approval from the building principal.

Fund-raising

Teachers and students shall not be used in any manner for the promotion or sale of services or products offered by agencies or organizations that operate for profit unless these activities receive approval from the building principal and are in compliance with current board policy.

Part of the profit gained will be allocated to a school club, organization, or group which has received prior approval for the project from either the school's administration if the sale occurs within the schools, or from the superintendent if the sale occurs within the community.

School Pictures

An opportunity for individual pupil pictures is provided each year. You will receive information concerning the date and cost about one month before pictures are taken. Pictures must be prepaid.

Special Olympics

The Burlington District participates in Special Olympics. This voluntary activity allows students with disabilities additional opportunity to participate in athletic competition. A student must be at least eight years old and have approval of their parent(s) and physician to participate. Students are expected to conduct themselves as representatives of the school district and abide by the same guidelines as other district athletes.

STUDENT HEALTH & SAFETY

Students are susceptible to childhood diseases. Parents should be alert to communicable disease symptoms and keep children home when symptoms are present. Chickenpox and other communicable diseases should be reported to the school and the Des Moines County Public Health Center (753-8290). A student with a fever of 100 degrees or greater should not be in school. Students should be fever-free for 24 hours without medication before returning to school to reduce the likelihood of exposing classmates to illness. When a student becomes ill at school, the parents will be notified and the student will be excluded from school. In the event that parents cannot be reached, the emergency contacts, provided by the parents, will be used.

Immunizations

Iowa state law requires that each child enrolling in school must furnish evidence that he/she has been immunized for the specific diseases mentioned below. By law, exemptions are allowed only for authorized medical and religious reasons.

Elementary / Secondary School Requirements in Iowa

4 Years of Age and Older:

- Diphtheria / Tetanus / Pertussis 5 doses → with 1 dose received on or after 4 years of age if born on or after September 15, 2003; or 4 doses, with 1 dose received on or after 4 years of age if born after September 15, 2000, but before September 15, 2003; or 3 doses, with 1 dose received on or after 4 years of age if born on or before September 15, 2000. Adolescents at 13 years of age are required to have a Tdap booster upon entering 7th grade.
- Polio 4 doses → with 1 dose received on or after 4 years of age if born after September 15, 2003; or 3 doses, with 1 dose received on or after 4 years of age if born on or before September 15, 2003.
- Measles /Rubella 2 doses → the first dose shall have been received on or after 12 months of age; the second dose shall have been received on or after 28 days after the first dose.
- Hepatitis B 3 doses → if born on or after July 1, 1994.
- Varicella 2 doses → on or after 12 months of age if born on or after September 15, 1997; or 1 dose received on or after 12 months of age if born on or after September 15, 1997, but before September 15, 2003, unless the applicant has a reliable history of natural disease.

Immunizations are available from some doctor's offices or at the Des Moines County Health Department.

For children entering preschool, contact your health care provider or school nurse for current immunization requirements.

7th Grade:

- Meningococcal (A, C, W, Y) vaccine 1 dose → before the first day of school.
- TDAP 1 dose → before the first day of school.

12th Grade:

- Meningococcal (A,C,W,Y) vaccine 2 doses → if born after September 15, 1999 or 1 dose if received when the student was 16 years of age or older.

The meningococcal (A,C,W,Y) vaccine prevents meningitis, a bacteria that infects the brain, blood and spinal cord.

Dental Screening and Lead Screening

- Iowa state law requires that each student enrolling in kindergarten must provide an Iowa Certificate of Dental Screening.
- Students entering kindergarten are required to have completed a lead screening, but do not need to provide documentation to the school.
- Students entering 9th grade must provide an Iowa Certificate of Dental Screening.

Tuberculosis

Burlington Community School District requests that all new students enrolling in the district, who have lived outside the U.S., show documentation of receiving a tuberculosis test within the last year. If a

student has not had a tuberculosis test within the last year, one should be administered, with documentation of the test results submitted to the school district.

Exclusion for Communicable Diseases (Board Policy)

Under state regulations, the school nurse (or school officials, through the principal or superintendent as appropriate), and parents are encouraged to report cases of communicable diseases occurring among students attending the schools. Physicians are required to report such cases.

A student known to have a communicable disease that poses a reasonable chance of infecting others in the normal school environment may be excluded from school. An excluded student may return to school with permission of the physician or must have clearance of the school or county nurse. Physical assessments of students in the school may be made from time to time by authorized personnel.

Emergency Care

The safety of your child is of vital concern to the school. Efforts to establish safety awareness among pupils is dealt with by the staff throughout the year. However, accidents do take place at school. Most accidents are minor and can be handled by administering first aid. Occasionally, accidents requiring a doctor's attention occur. In cases of this kind or when the school is in doubt concerning the need, parents/guardians (or use of an emergency number) will be contacted. If parents/guardians cannot be reached, the school will seek medical help.

Safety/Getting To/From School

Please talk with your child about getting to/from school safely. Whether your child walks or takes a bus, point out the safe route they should take. Point out where and how to cross the streets. Discuss the potential dangers that dawdling, talking with strangers or accepting rides from strangers could cause. When possible, students should cross streets that have a school patrol or an adult crossing guard.

Screenings

Height, weight, vision and hearing screens are provided as needed for specified grades preschool through 8th grade.

Administering Medications (Board Policy)

Prescription Medications

Prescription medication will be administered only with written authorization that is signed and dated by the parent/guardian and prescriber for the current school year. The medication must be in the original container which is labeled by the pharmacy with the name of the child, name of the medication, the time of the day when it is to be given, the dosage, route, and the duration. Medications must be kept in the clinic. Students may carry prescription inhalers with them, with signed permission by the parent/guardian and prescriber. A back-up inhaler must be provided to be stored in the clinic.

Over-the-Counter Medications

Over the counter medication also must be kept in the clinic. Non-prescription medication will be administered only with written authorization that is signed and dated by the parent/guardian for the current school year. The medication must be in the original container which is labeled by the manufacturer with the name of the medication and includes the dosing recommendations. Students are not to store medicine (other than inhalers) on their person or in their lockers. Parents are asked to provide the students' over the counter medication to the school.

School Patrol (Elementary)

It is important that students cross at the times the school guards are on duty. In order to increase the effectiveness of our patrol, please explain to your child the need to cooperate with the patrol. Please do not ask your child to cross between corners to get into an auto. Ask them to cross with the patrol as instructed.

Bicycle/Skateboard/Roller Blades/Mopeds

It is a general school district expectation that a child below fourth grade does not ride a bicycle to school. Forms must be completed for students to ride bicycles to school. These forms are available in the school office. The student must be prepared to demonstrate knowledge of safe riding practices before permission to use a bicycle at school is given by the building principal. The school is unable to assume responsibility for loss, theft, or damage, and it is recommended that each student provide a lock for the bicycle. All bicycles should be pushed while on school grounds. **Skateboards, roller blades are not allowed on school grounds. Students who are of legal age to ride mopeds to school and have the moped legally registered may ride them to school. They must follow all of the traffic rules, park in a legal parking spot, and register the moped with the school district in order to maintain this privilege.**

Traffic Safety

To ensure the safety of all children, please travel slowly during specified times. Please observe the No Parking signs. Do not block streets, drives, No Parking signs or alleyways.

Emergency Procedures

A fire drill is announced by a series of short, intermittent sirens. At the sound of the alarm, all pupils and teachers immediately stop the activity in which they may be engaged and proceed quickly and in an orderly manner to indicated exits. Your teacher will advise you as to the approved exit for your room. The first pupil out each door should hold the door open while the rest of the group leaves the room. Then close the door. No books or extra clothing are to be carried from the building. Pupils will gather in an orderly group on the outside away from the building. Students will remain outside until the recall bell is sounded. A fire drill is a serious matter. Conduct yourself accordingly. An emergency drill (tornado, other) is announced by the sounding of a continuous siren. At the sound of the alarm, all students and teachers proceed quickly to designated areas. Procedures for fire and emergency drills are posted near the door of each room. Earthquake procedures will be explained by individual instructors within the guidelines established for each building.

Emergency Operations Plan

The Burlington Community School District works closely with local emergency services to develop and maintain an Emergency Operations Plan. These plans include procedures for fire safety, severe weather conditions, medical emergencies, threat assessment and response, and other incidents that may occur. Staff and students participate in regular training and drills for common procedures. Students, staff, and parents are encouraged to report dangerous or threatening circumstances immediately to school officials or emergency service agencies.

Child Abuse - Mandatory Reporting (Board Policy)

The Code of Iowa requires certified school employees, including teachers and school nurses to file a report with the Department of Human Services when the person “reasonably believes a child has suffered from abuse”. The requirement to report is mandatory. Legal Reference: Chapter 232, Iowa Code.

Emergency School Closings

Should weather, fog, or road conditions warrant delaying school starting, canceling school, or dismissing school early, announcements will be made over the local radio/TV stations, via the internet and posted on the district BCSD Burlington Community School Facebook page. When school will be starting late or will be canceled for the day, the announcement will be made on that day.

Emergency Dismissal

Please discuss a plan of action with your child(ren) in case school is dismissed suddenly. Please have this plan filed with the school. This plan will be followed unless otherwise notified. The telephone lines will be busy. Children are not to stay at school, but in the past, some children did not know what to do or where to go. Please identify a home where your child may go in case of an emergency -- if you are not home or aware school is to be dismissed. Discuss this plan thoroughly with your child.

Crisis Intervention in a School Setting

In order to respond effectively to traumatic events, such as sudden death of students or staff, schools have appointed a building Emergency Response Team. The Team receives in-service orientation and staff development to address appropriate response to difficult situations. If parents know of a specific event that may need this Team's assistance, please contact the building principal.

EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS

Iowa Academic Standards and Accreditation

The Educational Program of the Burlington Community School District is designed to meet the requirements set forth by the State of Iowa as defined by the Iowa Academic Standards and 281 - Iowa Administrative Code Chapter 12.

The Iowa Academic Standards can be found at <https://educateiowa.gov/iowa-academic-standards>

More information about Chapter 12 Accreditation Requirements can be found at <https://educateiowa.gov/pk-12/accreditation-and-program-approval/school-improvement>

Instructional Materials

The term "instructional materials" shall include printed materials, audio-visual materials, and computer-based materials, and shall include materials used in the classroom and available in the media centers. The selection of instructional materials shall be delegated to the instructional staff, under the supervision of the administrative staff. (Board Policy 604.1)

Parents and other members of the school district community may view the instructional and library materials used by the students. All instructional materials, including teacher's manuals, films, tapes or other supplementary material which will be used in connection with any survey, analysis, or evaluation as part of any federally funded programs must be available for inspection by parents. Instructional and library materials may be viewed on school district premises with a scheduled appointment. (Board Policy 604.6)

Additional information regarding the review of, or objection to instructional materials can be found on the District website or by contacting the Director of Curriculum at 319-753-6791.

Media Centers

Students have access to media centers. Media center schedules are available at each building. The card catalog is listed on the District website.

Educational Field Trips

The board recognizes that properly planned, well-conducted and carefully supervised field trips may be of value to the curriculum and learning experiences of students. Advance consent of the student's parent or guardian is required for any field trip involving the use of public or private transportation. Permission forms for these trips are signed at registration by the parent and remain on file. This requirement may be waived for secondary students for trips in the community.

Special Services

The school district, in its educational program, has a process to assist students experiencing behavior and learning difficulties. The building assistance team is responsible for this process. Representatives from the area education agency may also assist the school district in this process. Parents wanting access to this process should contact the building principal. The following special services are available to qualifying students:

School Nursing	Special Education Programs
Instrumental Music	Title I Intervention
Speech Therapy	Psychological
Social Work	Counseling
Homebound Teaching	ELL (English Language Learner)
ELP/Extended Learning (District's Talented and Gifted Program)	

Great Prairie AEA

Great Prairie AEA staff will be available to partner with Burlington School District staff members to provide the best education possible for your child. The Great Prairie AEA staff includes, but is not limited to: audiologists, consultants, teachers for hearing impaired and visually impaired, occupational therapists, physical therapists, school psychologists, school social workers, and speech-language pathologists. Your child's teacher may contact AEA staff for consultation, observation or interaction with your child. If you do not want the above services, please notify the school in writing. If you have any questions and/or concerns about these services, please call the Regional Director at the AEA at 319-753-6561.

Student Council

The student council provides for student activities, serves as a training experience for student leaders, give students a share in the management of the school, develops high ideals of personal conduct, acts as a clearinghouse for student activities, seeks to interest students in school district affairs and helps solve problems that may arise. Members of the council are student representatives who have direct access to the administration.

Homework

The Board of Directors recognizes that the assignment of school work to students may require the work to be completed outside of school time. Homework shall be an opportunity for students to practice skills

and activities, prepare for class activities, to organize and discuss ideas, to review materials, to become acquainted with resources, and to make up incomplete assignments.

Free and Appropriate Education

In addition to classroom teachers, this school has several individuals who are available to help you and your child. We have a guidance counselor, principal, nurse, school psychologist, school social workers, speech pathologist, occupational therapist, itinerant teachers of the visual and hearing impaired, special education and Title I teachers, and a special education consultant. All of these people are employed to assist you, your child, and your child's classroom teacher. Your child's classroom teacher may contact any of these professionals if concerns arise about your child's educational progress or they may observe your child in the classroom or visit with him/her if the need arises. On occasion, these professionals may participate in discussions about your child and provide recommendations to improve his/her success in school.

Retention Policy

Students will be promoted to the next grade level at the end of each school year based on the student's achievement, age, maturity, emotional stability, and social adjustment. The retention of a student will be determined based upon the judgment of the licensed employee and the principal. When it becomes evident a student in grades kindergarten through eighth may be retained in a grade level for an additional year, the parents will be informed. It shall be within the sole discretion of the Superintendent to retain students in their current grade level.

Accessibility to Programs and Services

The district complies with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 regarding physical accessibility to district programs and services. Should a student or adult need specific accommodations to address accessibility needs, they are encouraged to contact the building principals or Section 504 Coordinator:

Cory Johnson, Curriculum Director
Administration Building
1429 West Avenue
Burlington, IA 52601
(319) 753-6791

Specific accommodations occur continually and are addressed on a case-by-case basis. The district reviews its district programs and services and addresses Section 504 physical accessibility issues within its approved district plan.

Section 504

Parent/Student Rights in Identification, Evaluation and Placement (Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973)

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

You have the right to:

1. Have your child receive accommodations, special education, and related services if she/he is found to be eligible under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (PL 101-476) or Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act;
2. Have your child take part in and receive benefits from public education programs without discrimination because of his/her disability;
3. Have the school district advise you of your rights under federal law;
4. Receive notice with respect to identification, evaluation, or placement of your child;
5. Have your child receive a free appropriate public education. This includes the right to be educated with non-handicapped students to the maximum extent appropriate. It also includes the right to have the school district make reasonable accommodations to allow your child an equal opportunity to participate in school and school-related activities;
6. Have your child educated in facilities and receive services comparable to those provided non-disabled students;
7. Have evaluation, education, and placement decisions made based upon a variety of information sources and by persons who know the student, evaluation data, and placement options;
8. Have transportation provided to and from an alternative placement setting at no greater cost to you than would be incurred if the student were placed in a program operated by the district;
9. Have your child be given an equal opportunity to participate in nonacademic and extracurricular activities offered by the district;
10. Examine all relevant records relating to decisions regarding your child's identification, evaluation, educational program and placement;
11. Obtain copies of educational records at a reasonable cost unless the fee would effectively deny you access to the records;
12. A response from the school district to reasonable requests for explanations and interpretations of your child's records;
13. Request amendment of your child's educational records if there is reasonable cause to believe that they are inaccurate, misleading, or otherwise in violation of the privacy rights of your child. If the school district refuses this request for amendment, it shall notify you within a reasonable time, and advise you of the right to a hearing. Religious-Based Exclusion from School Programs (Board Policy)

The Board recognizes the existence of various religious beliefs and acknowledges the American tradition of separation of church and state. Parents who wish to have their children excluded from a school program or unit of study must inform the principal in writing, stating that the objection is based upon religious beliefs, stating specifically which activities or studies violate their religious beliefs and why, and the parents must propose an alternate activity. The Superintendent shall have discretion to make a determination that an alternate activity is appropriate and that the student should be excused. The factors to be considered include, but are not necessarily limited to, staff and space availability to supervise students, numbers of students to be excluded, appropriateness of the alternate activities, whether allowing the exclusion places the District in the position of supporting a particular religion and whether the program or activity is required for promotion to the next grade level or for graduation. Exclusion from physical education, health and human growth and development instruction shall be granted in accordance with law.

YOUTH NET

McKinney Vento Homeless or Displaced Students and Families

Under the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA), identified homeless or unaccompanied students can receive assistance to enroll in school and fully participate in their school of origin.

Full Participation Includes:

- Participation in extracurriculars,
- Transportation to school,
- Attendance at school functions/field trips/meals,
- Provision of school supplies.

If a student or family requests to enroll in BCSD schools and meets one of the federal definitions below of a homeless or unaccompanied youth, BCSD is required by law to enroll that student and assist in getting all needed paperwork. BCSD responsibility is to assist that student, or family, to participate fully in their school. For additional support, or to request due process due to a denial of school enrollment per the below definitions, please contact BCSD Homeless Liaison, Jennifer Lehman, at (319) 753-2707 ext 2058.

The definition of the Homeless or Unaccompanied Youth is as follows: Children or youth who **lack a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence**, including children and youth:–

- Sharing the housing of other persons due to loss of housing, economic hardship, or a similar reason
- Living in motels, hotels, trailer parks, or camping grounds due to the lack of alternative adequate accommodations
- Living in emergency or transitional shelters, or are abandoned in hospitals
- Living in a public or private place not designed for or ordinarily used as a regular sleeping accommodation for human beings
- Living in cars, parks, public spaces, abandoned buildings, substandard housing, bus or train stations, or similar settings
- Migratory children living in the above circumstances
- The term *unaccompanied youth* includes a homeless child or youth not in the physical custody of a parent or guardian [42 U.S.C. § 11434a(6)]

PIECES Afterschool Program

The P.I.E.C.E.S. after school program at BCSD is a free program to all students Kindergarten through 8th grade. P.I.E.C.E.S. provides our students time for homework, snack, physical activity, and an hour of hands on enrichment in the subjects of reading, math, social studies, science, STEM, art, music, and character development. P.I.E.C.E.S. engages the families of BCSD as well as community partnerships to offer a broad array of activities and opportunities for our students to engage in during the important afterschool hours. The P.I.E.C.E.S. program is partially funded through a Iowa Department of Education 21st Century Community Learning Center grant.

Enroll your student online at bclds.org or contact Cassie Gerst at the Administration Building at (319) 753-6791 ext 1413.

YouthNet: a collaborative between BCSD and Des Moines County Human Service Agencies

BCSD's YouthNet collaborative is a source of support for the BCSD staff, families, and students. YouthNet's collaborative works together to offer resources for families, brings service organizations into our schools to support our students, and participates in outreach activities that connect BCSD with Des Moines County serving agencies. The YouthNet collaborative works closely with community agencies to ensure that our students can participate fully in school while supporting their needs and the needs of their families. To become involved in the YouthNet collaborative or for additional information please contact Cassie Gerst at the Administration building at (319) 753-6791 ext 1413.

Club M Youth Mentoring Program

Club M is the peer and community youth mentoring program for BCSD. The peer mentoring program takes place at Burlington High School on Wednesdays for one hour of activities and positive relationship building. Burlington High School students who would like to volunteer to be a one-on-one mentor to a Burlington elementary student sign up in the Burlington High School office or visit our website under Mentor at www.ClubM.Club. The community youth mentoring option for Club M is offered to our older students in grades 5 - 12. Club M receives referrals from school staff or parents that an older student at BCSD would benefit from a one-on-one mentoring relationship with a community-based adult. The adult volunteer mentors are background screened, trained, and then matched with a 7th - 12th grade student from BCSD. The match then meets weekly for a twelve month period and is supervised by a BCSD Club M Match Coordinator. For further information on our Club M program please visit www.ClubM.Club or reach out to Cassie Gerst at the Administration building at (319) 753-6791 ext 1413.

AUXILIARY SERVICES

Transportation

Dear Parents:

During the year, your child may have the privilege of riding to school on a school bus or use the school bus for field trip activities. Riding the bus helps teach your child about safety, responsibility, courtesy, and being a member of a safety team.

We would like you, as parents, to become a member of this safety team. If your child rides the bus each day to and from school, we urge you to see that your child is at the bus stop on time, and that he/she takes the safest route to and from the bus stop. We also urge that all safety rules be reviewed with children a number of times during the school year. Regardless if your child rides daily or on an occasional field trip activity, this privilege may be revoked due to unacceptable conduct; therefore, we need your support for safety. With your support, your child can have the best and safest school transportation program possible.

If questions arise regarding school bus eligibility, or programs and regulations, please contact the Transportation Office, 753-1444.

Sincerely,
Supervisor of Transportation

Bus Passes:

1. No bus passes will be issued to walkers wanting to ride home with a bus student.
2. No bus passes will be issued to bus students wanting to ride home on a different bus with another bus student.
3. Bus passes will be issued to a bus student who needs to get off at a stop other than his/her regular stop on his/her bus route with prior approval with the transportation office at least 2 hours prior to bus route.

Bus Rules:

1. Stay seated in your seat.
2. Keep hands and feet to yourself.
3. Keep aisle clear.
4. Use inside voice and appropriate language.
5. Not eating or drinking on the bus.

Food Service

The district operates a school food service program. This program complies with the National School Lunch and Breakfast Program. Free or reduced price lunches and/or breakfasts are provided to students who meet current eligibility standards set by the National School Lunch and Breakfast Program. For additional information, contact your individual building.

SCHOOL-HOME-COMMUNITY RELATIONS & COMMUNICATIONS

Visitors/Volunteers to the Schools

The board welcomes the interest of parents and other members of the school district community and invites them to visit the school buildings and sites. Visitors, which include persons other than employees or students, must notify the principal of their presence in the facility upon arrival. Persons who wish to visit a classroom while school is in session are asked to notify the principal and obtain approval from the principal prior to the visit so appropriate arrangements can be made and so class disruption can be minimized. All volunteers must have on file, a current Volunteer Self-Disclosure Form (available at the school office), completed each school year.

The Burlington Community School District uses the Raptor Visitor Management System. Any visitor entering the school building will be required to present a state-issued photo ID. The Raptor Visitor Management System will scan the ID, register the visitor, and print a name tag. The name tag must be worn for the duration of the visit.

Parent Conferences

Parent conferences are generally held twice a year for elementary schools and three times per year for secondary schools. Individual conferences may be scheduled at parent and/or teacher request as needed during the year. Parent contacts are encouraged, including phone calls, notes and class visits.

Parent Concerns/Complaints (Portion of Board Policy)

The Board recognizes that situations may arise in the operation of the District which are of concern to parents or to the public. The Board strongly believes that all concerns should be resolved at the lowest possible level of decision-making by the individuals involved. Concerns are best dealt with in open communication by the individuals involved. Therefore, the purpose of these complaint procedures is to

resolve, at the lowest possible level, and as expeditiously as possible, complaints of any person regarding any District matter.

Pursuant to Iowa Code 279.66, the Iowa Department of Education provides information about the general steps that may be taken by parents, guardians, and community members when they have concerns about public school districts or their governing boards. This information can be access on the following website.

<https://educateiowa.gov/pk-12/parent-guardian-and-community-concerns>

Complaints Regarding Employees.

Complaints arising regarding the performance or behavior of an employee shall be referred to the employee's immediate supervisor. The Board shall not actively investigate such complaints regarding employees. Such complaints shall be handled as confidentially as reasonably practical. The immediate supervisor may require that the complaint be in writing. Appeals shall be taken to the Superintendent or his/her designee as set forth above.

If the matter is not resolved, the complainant may appeal to the Board setting forth in writing the specifics of the complaint. However, in appeals to the Board regarding complaints about employees, other than complaints about administrators, the Board shall review only the actions of the Superintendent or his/her designee to assure that the Superintendent provided a fair procedure for the resolution of the complaint. In addition, prior to the meeting at which a complaint is heard about any employee, including complaints about administrators, the Board Secretary, Superintendent, or Curriculum Director shall ascertain whether the matter may be legally discussed in closed session and shall ascertain from the employee whether the employee wishes to have the matter discussed by the Board in closed session. The employee may respond to the complaint at the meeting at which the complaint is heard by the Board, or if the employee needs additional time to adequately respond, the Board may schedule a second meeting for the employee to respond. The employee has the right to have a representative present at any Board meeting at which a complaint regarding his/her performance is considered.

Interference.

Investigations and processing of complaints shall be conducted so as to result in no interference with or interruption of school activities.

A citizen's complaint form is available to parents at the building level and may be requested from the building principal.

Interrogations of Students by Outside Agencies (Board Policy)

Generally, students may not be interviewed during the school day by persons other than parents and school district officials and employees. Requests from law enforcement officers and from persons other than parents, school district officials, and employees to interview students shall be made through the principal's office. Upon receiving a request, it shall be the responsibility of the principal to determine whether the request will be granted. Generally, prior to granting a request, the principal shall attempt to contact the parents to inform them of the request and to ask them to be present. If a child abuse investigator wishes to interview a student, the principal will defer to the investigator's judgment as to whether the student should be interviewed independently from the student's parents, whether the school is the most appropriate setting for the interview, and who will be present during the interview. Students will not be taken from school without the consent of the principal and without proper warrant.

Open Enrollment (Board Policy)

Since its inception during the 1990-1991 school year, the District has implemented provisions of the Open Enrollment law both as a sending and as a receiving district. Parents or guardians who are residents of the Burlington Community School District and who desire to enroll their children in another public school district in Iowa shall file an Open Enrollment application with the Burlington District and with the desired receiving district. Such applications shall be subject to the Open Enrollment law and acceptance by the receiving district as well.

Parents or guardians residing in other Iowa school districts who desire to enroll their children in the Burlington Community School District shall file an Open Enrollment application with both their resident districts and with the Burlington District. Such applications shall be subject to the Open Enrollment law, class size limitations and availability of appropriate programs. While the District will make an effort to honor parents' requests, it reserves the right to determine the school of attendance of such students. The superintendent has the authority and responsibility to administer this policy and supplementary administrative regulations and procedures and shall report to the Board as appropriate.

Open Enrollment Notification

The Burlington Community School District shall participate in open enrollment, both as a receiving district and as a sending district, pursuant to the Open Enrollment Act and the rules of the Iowa Department of Education.

Transferring In. Parents and guardians of nonresident students who wish to enroll their children in the Burlington Community School District must file an application on the form provided by the Department of Education and available in the superintendent's office with both the student's resident district and with the Burlington District.

Transferring Out. Parents and guardians of students who are residents of the Burlington Community School District who wish to enroll their children in another district in the State of Iowa under the Open Enrollment Act must file an application on the form provided by the Iowa Department of Education and available in the Superintendent's office with the Burlington District and the receiving district.

Transportation. Parents are responsible for transporting children open enrolled to another district. This applies to all students, including those with an IEP. As a general rule, if the need for transportation as a related service is stated in the IEP, the parent is responsible for this obligation under open enrollment. If a child open enrolls to a district that is contiguous (borders) to the home district, and the parent's income meets economic eligibility requirements, the family may receive a stipend for transportation or be provided transportation by the district. Parents and guardians who meet the economic eligibility criteria established by the Iowa Department of Education may receive transportation or financial assistance with transportation. Otherwise, the parents or guardians are responsible without reimbursement to provide transportation for open enrolled students to a bus stop on a regular route in the receiving district.

Eligibility. Students who open enroll in any of the grades 9 through 12 shall not be eligible to participate in varsity contests and competitions during the first ninety (90) school days of transfer. There are certain legal exceptions to this ineligibility period.

If you have further questions, contact the Office of the Superintendent at (319) 753-6791.

MISCELLANEOUS

Marking Clothing

All items of clothing (coats, boots, sweaters, jackets, caps, etc.) should be clearly marked with the child's name. This should be done for students of every grade.

Sending Money to School

It has proven safer and more satisfactory to put any money sent to school in a sealed envelope with your child's name and the teacher's name on the outside.

Class Rosters

Each year various organizations including PTA, PTO, Scouting Programs, and individual parents request copies of classroom rosters. Rosters include the child's name, parent's name, address and phone number (if not unlisted). If you do not want your child's name on the roster, please notify the school office by September 15th.

Book Rental and Registration Fees

Students whose families meet the income guideline for free and reduced priced lunch, the Family Investment Program (FIP), Supplemental Security Income (SSI), transportation assistance under open enrollment, or who are in foster care are eligible to have their student fees waived or partially waived. Students whose families are experiencing a temporary financial difficulty may be eligible for a temporary waiver of student fees. Parents or students who believe they may qualify for temporary financial hardship should contact the building principal for a waiver form. This waiver does not carry over from year to year and must be completed annually.

Recess

Students will not be sent outdoors for recess if the temperature, including wind chill, is 15 degree or below. Students are encouraged to wear clothing that is appropriate for the weather.

NOTIFICATION RIGHTS UNDER FERPA FOR ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY SCHOOLS

The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) affords parents and students over 18 years of age ("eligible students") certain rights with respect to the student's education records. These rights are:

1. The right to inspect and review the student's education records within 45 days of the day the school receives a request for access.
Parents or eligible students should submit to the school principal (or appropriate school official) a written request that identifies the record(s) they wish to inspect. The school official will make arrangements for access and notify the parent or eligible student of the time and place where the records may be inspected.

2. The right to request the amendment of the student's education records that the parent or eligible student believes are inaccurate, misleading, or otherwise in violation of the student's privacy right under FERPA.
Parents or eligible student who wish to ask the School to amend a record should write the School principal (or appropriate school official), clearly identify the part of the record they want changed, and specify why it should be changed. If the School decides not to amend the record as requested by the parent or eligible student, the School will notify the parent or eligible student of the decisions and advise them of their right to a hearing regarding the request for amendment. Additional information regarding the hearing procedures will be provided to the parent or eligible student when notified of the right to a hearing.

3. The right to consent to disclosures of personally identifiable information contained in the student's education records, except to the extent that FERPA authorizes disclosure without consent.
One exception, which permits disclosure without consent, is disclosure to school officials with legitimate educational interests. A school official is a person employed by the school as an administrator, supervisor, instructor, or support staff member (including health or medical staff and law enforcement unit personnel); a person serving on the School Board; a person or company with whom the School has contracted as its agent to provide a service instead of using its own employees or official (such as an attorney, auditor, medical consultant, or therapist); or a parent or student serving on an official committee, such as a disciplinary or grievance committee, or assisting another school official in performing his or her tasks. Infinite Campus is a company that we have contracted with for student information software. A school official has a legitimate educational interest if the official needs to review an education record in order to fulfill his or her professional responsibility.
Upon request, the district discloses education records without consent to officials of another school district in which a student seeks or intends to enroll.

4. The right to file a complaint with the US Department of Education concerning alleged failures by the School District to comply with the requirements of FERPA. The name and address of the Office that administers FERPA are:

Family Policy Compliance Office
US Department of Education
400 Maryland Ave, SW
Washington, DC 20202-5920

PROTECTION OF PUPIL RIGHTS AMENDMENT (PPRA)

PPRA governs the administration to students of a survey, analysis, or evaluation that concerns one or more of the following eight protected areas:

1. political affiliations or beliefs of the student or the student's parent;
2. mental or psychological problems of the student or the student's family;
3. sex behavior or attitudes;
4. illegal, anti-social, self-incriminating, or demeaning behavior;
5. critical appraisals of other individuals with whom respondents have close family relationships;

6. legally recognized privileged or analogous relationships, such as those of lawyers, physicians, and ministers;
7. religious practices, affiliations, or beliefs of the student or student's parent; or
8. income (other than that required by law to determine eligibility for participation in a program or for receiving financial assistance under such program).

PPRA also concerns marketing surveys and other areas of student privacy, parental access to information, and the administration of certain physical examinations to minors.

The rights under PPRA transfer from the parents to a student who is 18 years old or an emancipated minor under state law.

STUDENT ACCEPTABLE USE AND INTERNET SAFETY POLICY **(BOARD POLICY 604.3)**

Burlington Community School District is providing students access to the district's electronic network. This network includes Internet access, computer services, videoconferencing, computer equipment and related equipment for educational purposes. The purpose of this network is to assist in preparing students for success in life and work in the 21st century by providing them with electronic access to a wide range of information and the ability to communicate with people throughout the world. This document contains the rules and procedures for students' acceptable use of the Burlington Community School District electronic network.

- The Burlington Community School District electronic network has been established for a limited educational purpose. The term "educational purpose" includes classroom activities, career development and limited high-quality self-discovery activities.
- The Burlington Community School District electronic network has not been established as a public access service or a public forum. Burlington Community School District has the right to place reasonable restrictions on material that is accessed or posted throughout the network.
- Parent/guardian permission is required for all students under the age of 18. Access is a privilege – not a right.
- It is presumed that students will honor this agreement they and their parent/guardian have signed. The district is not responsible for the actions of students who violate them beyond the clarification of standards outlined in this policy.
- The school district will monitor the online activities of students and will educate students about appropriate online behavior, including interacting on social networking sites and chat rooms. Students will also be educated on cyber bullying, including awareness and response. Employees will provide age appropriate training for students who use the Internet. The training provided will be designed to promote the school district's commitment to:
- The standards and acceptable use of Internet services as set forth in the Internet Safety Policy;
- Student safety with regard to:
 - safety on the Internet;
 - appropriate behavior while on online, on social networking Web sites, and
 - in chat rooms; and
 - cyber bullying awareness and response.

- Compliance with the E-rate requirements of the Children’s Internet Protection Act
- Students will indemnify the district for any damage that is caused by students’ inappropriate use of the network.
- Students are expected to follow the same rules, good manners and common sense guidelines that are used with other daily school activities as well as the law in the use of the Burlington Community School District electronic network.

General Unacceptable Behavior

While utilizing any portion of the Burlington Community School District electronic network, unacceptable behaviors include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Students will not post information that, if acted upon, could cause damage or danger of disruption.
- Students will not engage in personal attacks, including prejudicial or discriminatory attacks.
- Students will not harass another person. Harassment is persistently acting in a manner that distresses or annoys another person. If a student is told by a person to stop sending messages, they must stop.
- Students will not knowingly or recklessly post false or defamatory information about a person or organization.
- Students will not use criminal speech or speech in the course of committing a crime such as threats to the president, instructions on breaking into computer networks, child pornography, drug dealing, purchase of alcohol, gang activities, threats to an individual, etc.
- Students will not use speech that is inappropriate in an educational setting or violates district rules.
- Students will not abuse network resources such as sending chain letters or “spamming”.
- Students will not display, access or send offensive messages or pictures.
- Students will not use the Burlington Community School District electronic network for commercial purposes. Students will not offer, provide or purchase products or services through this network.
- Students will not use the Burlington Community School District electronic network for political lobbying. Students may use the system to communicate with elected representatives and to express their opinions on political issues.
- Students will not attempt to access non-instructional district systems, such as student information systems or business systems.
- Students will not use district equipment, network or credentials to threaten employees, or cause a disruption to the educational program.
- Students will not use the district equipment, network or credentials to send or post electronic messages that are abusive, obscene, sexually oriented, threatening, harassing, damaging to another’s reputation, or illegal.

Email (Note: The district will monitor student e-mail activity)

- Students may be provided with e-mail accounts for specific educational projects or activities.
- Students will not repost a message that was sent to them privately without the permission of the person who sent them the message.
- Students will not post private information about another person.

Telnet and FTP (Note: Telnet and FTP are typically not given to students)

- Telnet and FTP services will be available to students. However, all aspects of this policy are applicable to material accessed or downloaded.

Message Board/Usenet Groups (Note: Usenet access is not typically given to students)

- The district will provide access to selected newsgroups that relate to subjects appropriate for educational use. Messages posted locally that are in violation of this policy will be removed. The district reserves the right to immediately terminate an account of a student who misuses the messages boards or Usenet groups.

Web Sites

- Elementary and Middle School Level – Group pictures without identification of individual students are permitted. Student work may be posted with either the student first name only or other school-developed identifier (such as an alias or a number).
- High School Level – Students may be identified by their full name with parental approval. Group or individual pictures of students with student identification are permitted with parental approval.
- Material placed on student Web pages are expected to meet academic standards of proper spelling, grammar and accuracy of information.
- Material (graphic, text, sound, etc.) that is the ownership of someone other than the student may not be used on Web Sites unless proper copyright law requirements are fulfilled.
- All student Web pages should have a link back to the home page of the classroom, school or district, as appropriate.

Personal Safety

- Students will not share personal contact information about themselves or other people. Personal contact information includes address, telephone, school address or work address.
- Elementary and middle school students will not disclose their full name or any other personal contact information for any purpose.
- High school students will not disclose personal contact information, except to education institutes for educational purposes, companies or other entities for career development purposes, or without specific building administrative approval.
- Students will not agree to meet with someone they have met online.
- Students will promptly disclose to a teacher or other school employee any message received that is inappropriate or makes the student feel uncomfortable.

System Security

- Students are responsible for their individual accounts and should take all reasonable precautions to prevent others from being able to use them. Under no conditions should students provide their password to another person.
- Students must immediately notify a teacher or the system administrator if they have identified a possible security problem. Students should not go looking for security problems, because this may be construed as an illegal attempt to gain access.
- Students will not attempt to gain unauthorized access to any portion of the Burlington Community School District electronic network. This includes attempting to log in through

another person's account or access another person's folders, work or files. These actions are illegal, even if only for the purposes of "browsing".

- Students will not make deliberate attempts to disrupt the computer system or destroy data by spreading computer viruses or by any other means. These actions are illegal.
- Users will not attempt to access Web sites blocked by district policy, including the use of proxy services, software, or Web sites.
- Users will not use sniffing or remote access technology to monitor the network or other user's activity.

Software and Files

- Software is available to students to be used as an educational resource. No student may install, upload or download software without permission from the district technology department.
- A student's account may be limited or terminated if a student intentionally misuses software on any district-owned equipment.
- Files stored on the network are treated in the same manner as other school storage areas, such as lockers. Routine maintenance and monitoring of the Burlington Community School District electronic network may lead to discovery that a student has violated this policy or the law. Students should not expect that files stored on district servers are private.

Technology Hardware

- Hardware and peripherals are provided as tools for student use for educational purposes. Students are not permitted to relocate hardware (except for portable devices), install peripheral or modify settings to equipment without the consent of the district technology department.

Vandalism

- Any malicious attempt to harm or destroy data, the network, other network components connected to the network backbone, hardware or software will result in cancellation of network privileges. Disciplinary measure in compliance with the district's discipline code and policies will be enforced.

Plagiarism and Copyright Infringement

- Students will not plagiarize works found on the Internet. Plagiarism is taking the ideas or writings of others and presenting them as if they were the students'.
- District policies on copyright will govern the use of material accessed and use through the district system.
- Copyrighted material will not be placed on any system without the author's permission. Permission may be specified in the document, on the system or must be obtained directly from the author.

Videoconference

- Videoconferencing is a way that students can communicate with other students, speakers, museums, etc. from other parts of the country and the world. With videoconferencing equipment, students can see, hear, and speak with other students, speakers, museum personnel, etc. in real-time.

- Videoconference sessions may be videotaped by district personnel or by a participating school involved in the exchange in order to share the experience within the building or district.
- Students' voices, physical presence and participation in the videoconference are transmitted to participating sites during each session. Rules and procedures relative to acceptable use and behavior by students apply during all videoconference sessions.

Student Rights

- Students' right to free speech applies to communication on the Internet. The Burlington Community School District electronic network is considered a limited forum, similar to the school newspaper, and therefore the district may restrict a student's speech for valid educational reasons. The district will not restrict a student's speech on the basis of a disagreement with the opinions that are being expressed.
- An individual search will be conducted if there is reasonable suspicion that a student has violated this policy or the law. The investigation will be reasonable and related to the suspected violation.

Due Process

- The district will cooperate fully with local, state or federal officials in any investigation related to any illegal activities conducted through the district network.
- In the event there is an allegation that a student has violated the district acceptable use regulation and policy, the student will be provided with a written notice of the alleged violation and an opportunity to be heard in the manner set forth in the student disciplinary code.
- Disciplinary actions will be tailored to meet specific concerns related to the violation and to assist the student in gaining the self-discipline necessary to behave appropriately on an electronic network. Violations of the acceptable use regulations and policy may result in a loss of access as well as other disciplinary or legal action.
- If the violation also involves a violation of other provisions of other school rules, it will be handled in a manner described in the school rules. Additional restrictions may be placed on a student's use of his/her network account.

Limitation of Liability

- The district makes no guarantee that the functions or the services provided by or through the district network will be error-free or without defect. The district will not be responsible for any damage suffered, including but not limited to, loss of data or interruptions of service.
- The district is not responsible for the accuracy or quality of the information obtained through or stored on the network. The district will not be responsible for financial obligations arising through the unauthorized use of the network.

Violations of the Acceptable Use Policy

Violations of this policy may result in loss of access as well as other disciplinary or legal action. Students' violation of this policy shall be subject to the consequences as indicated within this policy as well as other appropriate discipline, which includes but is not limited to:

- Use of district network only under direct supervision
- Suspension of network privileges

- Revocation of network privileges
- Suspension of device privileges
- Suspension from school
- Expulsion from school and/or
- Legal action and prosecution by the authorities

The particular consequences for violations of this policy shall be determined by the school administrators. The superintendent or designee and the board shall determine when school expulsion and/or legal action or actions by the authorities are the appropriate course of action.

The school district will monitor the online activities of students and will educate students about appropriate online behavior, including interacting on social networking sites and chat rooms. Students will also be educated on cyber bullying, including awareness and response. Employees will provide age appropriate training for students who use the Internet. The training provided will be designed to promote the school district's commitment to:

- The standards and acceptable use of Internet services as set forth in the Internet Safety Policy;
- Student safety with regard to:
 - safety on the Internet;
 - appropriate behavior while on online, on social networking Web sites, and
 - in chat rooms; and
 - cyber bullying awareness and response.
- Compliance with the E-rate requirements of the Children's Internet Protection Act

In compliance with federal law, this policy will be maintained at least five years beyond the termination of funding under the Children's Internet Protection Act (CIPA) or E-rate.

Internet Safety (Board Policy 604.5)

Introduction

It is the policy of Burlington Community School District (hereinafter called the "BCSD") to:

- a) prevent user access over its computer network to, or transmission of, inappropriate material via Internet, electronic mail, or other forms of direct electronic communications;
- b) prevent unauthorized access and other unlawful online activity;
- c) prevent unauthorized online disclosure, use, or dissemination of personal identification information of minors; and
- d) comply with the Children's Internet Protection Act [Pub. L. No. 106-554 and 47 USC 254(h)].

Definitions

Key terms are as defined in the Children's Internet Protection Act (CIPA).*

Access to Inappropriate Material

To the extent practical, technology protection measures (or "Internet filters") shall be used to block or filter Internet, or other forms of electronic communications, access to inappropriate information. Specifically, as required by the Children's Internet Protection Act, blocking shall be applied to visual depictions of material deemed obscene or child pornography, or to any material deemed harmful to minors.

Subject to staff supervision, technology protection measures may be disabled or, in the case of minors, minimized only for bona fide research or other lawful purposes.

Inappropriate Network Usage

To the extent practical, steps shall be taken to promote the safety and security of users of the BCSD online computer network when using electronic mail, chat rooms, instant messaging, and other forms of direct electronic communications.

Specifically, as required by the Children’s Internet Protection Act, prevention of inappropriate network usage includes:

- a) unauthorized access, including so-called “hacking,” and other unlawful activities; and
- b) unauthorized disclosure, use, and dissemination of personal identification information regarding minors.

Penalties for Improper Use

Failure to adhere to network policies and rules may subject users to warnings, usage restrictions, disciplinary actions, or legal proceedings.

Education, Supervision and Monitoring

It shall be the responsibility of all employees of BCSD to supervise and monitor usage of the online computer network and access to the Internet in accordance with this policy, the Children’s Internet Protection Act, the Neighborhood Children’s Internet Protection Act, and the Protecting Children in the 21st Century Act.

Procedures for the disabling or otherwise modifying any technology protection measures shall be the responsibility of the Supervisor of Technology Services or designated representatives.

BCSD employed teachers will provide age-appropriate training for students who use Internet connected computers in BCSD classrooms. The training provided will be designed to promote the district’s commitment to:

The standards and acceptable use of Internet services as set forth in the agency’s Internet Safety Policy;

- a) Student safety with regard to:
 - a. safety on the Internet;
 - b. appropriate behavior while online, on social networking Web sites, and i chat rooms; and
 - c. cyber bullying awareness and response.
- b) Compliance with the E-rate requirements of the Children’s Internet Protection Act (“CIPA”).

Following receipt of this training, the student will acknowledge that he/she received the training, understood it, and will follow the provisions of BCSD’s acceptable use policies.

*CIPA definitions of the terms:

Technology Protection Measure

The term “technology protection measure” means a specific technology that blocks or filters Internet access to visual depictions that are:

1. Obscene, as that term is defined in section 1460 of title 18, United States Code
2. Child Pornography, as that term is defined in section 2256 of title 18, United States Code;
3. Harmful to minors.

Harmful to Minors

The term “harmful to minors” means any graphic image file, or other visual depiction that;

1. Taken as a whole and with respect to minors, appeals to a prurient interest in nudity, sex or excretion;
2. Depicts, describes, or represents, in a patently offensive way with respect to what is suitable for minors, an actual or simulated sexual act or sexual contact, actual or simulated normal or perverted sexual acts, or a lewd exhibition of the genitals; and
3. Taken as a whole, lacks serious literary, artistic, political, or scientific value as to minors.

Sexual Act; Sexual Contact

The terms “sexual act” and “sexual contact” have the meanings given such terms in section 2246 of title 18, United States.



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AHERA INFORMATION LETTER

Dear Parents and Staff:

Asbestos is an issue we have been dealing with for many years. The Asbestos Hazard Emergency Response Act of 1986 (referred to as AHERA) was enacted by Congress. AHERA was enacted to determine the extent to which schools have problems with asbestos and to develop solutions or corrective actions.

To give you some background, asbestos has been used as a building material for many years. It is a naturally occurring mineral that is mined primarily in Canada, South Africa, and the U.S.S.R. Asbestos properties made it an ideal building material for insulating, sound absorption, decorative plaster, fireproofing, and a variety of miscellaneous uses. There were over 3,000 different products made using asbestos products in 1973; however, most uses of asbestos products as building materials were banned in 1978.

We will be doing a three-year reinspection by a certified asbestos inspector as required by AHERA. The inspector has located, resampled, and rated the conditions and potential hazards of material suspected of containing asbestos. The inspection and laboratory analysis records have been turned over to a certified management planner to develop asbestos management plans. Thus, an Asbestos Management Plan has been developed for each of our facilities.

This notification letter, the education and training of our employees, and development of plans and procedures, which minimize the disturbance of the asbestos-containing materials, are designed to meet the government regulations (AHERA).

A copy of the Asbestos Management Plan is available for your inspection in our administrative offices of each building during regular office hours. Brent Krieger, Supervisor Buildings and Grounds is our Asbestos Program manager and all inquiries regarding the plan should be directed to him.

We have been implementing the Asbestos Management Plan. It is our intent to comply with Federal, State, and local regulations in this area. We plan on taking whatever steps are necessary to insure your children and our employees have a healthy, safe environment in which to learn and work.

We have had repair response action in Burlington High School.

We have also completed periodic surveillance in all buildings at approximately six-month intervals as required by AHERA.

Sincerely,

Brent Krieger, Asbestos Program Manager