

The mission of the Griswold Community School District, in partnership with our families and communities, is to provide leadership for positive change to ensure the best learning opportunities for everyone in a safe and caring environment.

DISTRICT GOALS:

- All K-12 students will achieve at high levels in reading comprehension, prepared for success beyond high school.
- All K-12 students will achieve at high levels in mathematics, prepared for success beyond high school.
- All K-12 students will achieve at high levels in science, prepared for success beyond high school.
- All K-12 students will use technology, in a project based learning format, which is integrated into the curriculum as a tool to enhance learning and meet Iowa Core/Common Core Essential Skills and Concepts.
- All students will feel safe and connected to school

GRISWOLD MIDDLE SCHOOL STUDENT INFORMATION 2017-18

SCHOOL ATMOSPHERE

Maintaining the proper school atmosphere is essential to our central purpose--the opportunity for all students to obtain the maximum educational experience. As a student you have the right to expect that everything the administration, faculty and staff do is intended to enhance that experience. In addition, each student must accept the responsibility for abiding by the basic guidelines that are known to promote the proper school atmosphere and develop good work habits.

To assist in parent communications we have an answering system after hours (778-2154) and a texting service for weather and activities. Also all professional staff has e-mail. Superintendent David Henrichs: dhenrichs@griswoldschools.org, Principal Katie Elwood: kelwood@griswoldschools.org, and guidance counselor Jennifer Bissell: jbissell@griswoldschools.org. Other teachers' e-mail addresses are similar; more information may be obtained from the office or via the school web site at www.griswoldschools.org.

TOBACCO-FREE ENVIRONMENT

School district facilities and grounds, including school vehicles, are off limits for all forms tobacco and look alikes. This requirement extends to students, employees and visitors. This policy applies at all times, including school-sponsored and nonschool-sponsored events. Persons failing to abide by this request are required to dispose of tobacco products or leave the school district premises immediately. It is the responsibility of the administration (or designee) to enforce this policy.

ATTENDANCE

Attendance Philosophy

Students are expected to be in class and to make attendance a top priority. Only through attendance and class participation do students achieve the benefits of the education program. Participating in class discussion, developing an appreciation for the views and abilities of other students, and forming the habit of regular attendance are legitimate class objectives. Learning lost due to an absence can never be replaced. Regular attendance and being well prepared for class helps students in school as well as prepares students for adulthood and the workforce. Unexcused absences will not be tolerated. Students must be in school from 8:15am to 3:25pm to be counted as present for a full day. See board policy 501.9.

Compulsory Attendance

Students who are not sixteen years of age prior to September 15th are required to attend school on a regular basis. **Students must attend a minimum of eighty-two days per semester, and a minimum of one hundred sixty-four days per year in order to be considered in regular attendance.** If a student must be absent in excess of the number of days outlined above, the parent/guardian has the responsibility of contacting the school to discuss these absences. Violations of the compulsory attendance law may be reported to the County attorney.

School Absence

Absence is defined as missing all or any major portion (more than 20 minutes) of one or more class periods. Students who are absent will have the right to make up work missed within a time frame established by school policy. All absences will be recorded by class hours. Every effort should be made to schedule regular doctor visits after school, in order to be within the attendance guidelines.

Excused Absences*

Personal illness or injury, which make the student unable to attend school.

Personal medical or dental appointments with notification from professional.

Death in family

Mandated court appearance with documentation

Special circumstances upon prior approval by the administration

Suspensions

Trips approved at least 2 days in advance (advanced make-up slip must be completed and returned before leaving)

IN ANY CASE:

-Students who are absent 5 days per semester will receive unexcused absences unless absence is accompanied by a professional note i.e. Doctor, Dentist, Therapist, etc...

-Parents will be notified when students are absent for 15 days in a semester (excused or unexcused). The student and parents will meet with the attendance team (guidance counselor and administration) to discuss an attendance contract and making up missing work.

Parent's Responsibility in Cases of Absence

For an absence to be considered not truant, parent permission and documentation may be required. In case of a student absence the following will be expected:

- Parent notifies the school on the day of absence prior to 10am.
- Parent/student brings documentation of all doctors visits and appropriate appointments within 2 days of absence
- Parent will need documentation for students who are absent due to prolonged illness for 3 or more consecutive school days.

Unexcused absences

Absences NOT mentioned above are interpreted under this policy as "unexcused absences". In addition, if a student is more than 20 minutes late to a class, without an authorized pass, that student will be given an unexcused absence. Any student who accumulates more than 10 unexcused absences in any class in a given semester will be denied credit in that class. *However, the student will be given the opportunity to meet the minimum attendance requirement by attending Saturday School or time after school. ISS will not be offered to make up time. They may also be given the opportunity to attend alternative placement. Make up work or additional academic requirements, which must be fulfilled by the student, will be determined by the teacher(s) of the class or classes missed. (*In accordance with Iowa's Department of Education attendance policy guidelines.)

Family will be notified in the following manner:

- 1st – 3rd unexcused absence – Family will be called
- 4th unexcused absence – A letter will be sent home and a referral.
- 5th / 6th unexcused absence- detention
- 7th -9th unexcused absence – Contact parent and Saturday School.
- 10th -A conference with student and the family will be scheduled to develop an attendance contract. Failure to meet the attendance contract may result in failure of classes and possible change in placement.

Examples of Unexcused Absences:

1. "Got in late, needed to sleep..."
2. "Had to type (finish, rewrite...) my homework..."
3. "My boss called me in to work..."
4. "Car wouldn't start..." (TAKE BUS)
5. "I missed the bus."
6. Haircuts, hunting, concerts, shopping, or other business that could be done after school hours.
7. Trips not approved in advance, including make-up slips not turned into office.

*Ultimately, excused and unexcused absences will be determined by the building administrators.

School Sponsored or Approved Activities

A student representing the school will not be counted as absent. Examples include, but are not limited to, field trips, music, athletics, art or academic events, or other approved events or school-sponsored activities.

Attendance Requirements for Extra-Curricular Participation

Students who wish to participate in after-school activities (e.g. sports, practices, music, clubs, etc.) must attend school the full day of the activity or have proper documentation from necessary appointments.

Tardies

The passing time for students is 3 minutes between bells. The second bell is the tardy bell. Students are expected to be in the classroom before the tardy bell. Oversleeping or missing the bus are not considered an excused tardy. Students are expected to be on time arriving at school and for each class period. Students arriving to class after the tardy bell without a pass or permission from the teacher will be reported tardy to the office. The 2nd – 5th unexcused tardy to that class in a nine-week period will result in a behavior referral and subject to discipline. The 6th unexcused tardy and any subsequent unexcused tardies will result in a Saturday School.

Skipping/Truancy

If the Griswold CSD administration becomes aware of a student skipping a class or school, they will be subject to disciplinary action.

- 1st Violation (1 to 4 periods) = 1 Detention per period missed
- 1st Violation (more than 4 periods) = 1 Day In-School Suspension
- 2nd Violation = 2 Day In-School Suspension
- 3rd Violation and all subsequent violations= 3 Days In-School Suspension and Attendance Meeting

DISRUPTIVE TOYS

Any articles brought by the students that are disruptive to the learning environment, including but not limited to hacky sacks, fidget spinners, laser pointers, yo-yos, slime, and the like will be confiscated.

ACADEMIC DISHONESTY

Students who are caught cheating on an assignment or assessment will be dealt with according to the individual teacher's policy.

STUDENT CONDUCT

1. All students are expected to comply with conduct that is decent, polite, honorable, and honest.
2. Weapons and other dangerous objects and look-a-likes will be confiscated from students and others who bring them onto school district property. Possession or confiscation will be reported to law enforcement officials and students are subject to disciplinary action including suspension or expulsion. The use or possession of firearms on school grounds shall be grounds for expulsion for not less than 12 months. (See Board Policy 502.6)
3. The cost of repair or replacement for property damaged or destroyed willfully or through careless action will be assessed to anyone responsible. This includes excessive wear and tear on textbooks.
4. Vehicles ridden or driven to school are to be properly parked in designated areas and must remain there until dismissal or unless permission has been obtained (from the principal, guidance counselor, or principal's secretary only) to leave school. Students may NOT be in the parking lot during the school day without express permission from the principal or the principal's secretary. If the above guidelines are violated, students may be warned verbally and/or lose parking privileges for a period of time to be determined by the principal.
5. Appropriateness is the criterion for dress and grooming for school. Wearing apparel may not feature representations of alcoholic beverages, tobacco, other controlled substances, sexual innuendoes, and/or relate to violence. NO head coverings such as hats, bandanas, etc. Shirts and **outfits that expose the midriff** are not allowed in the building. Clothing with spaghetti straps, halter tops, asymmetrical tank top, strapless tops, and all similar apparel is to not be worn in the building. Shorts and skirts will be long enough to reach the tip of the thumb of the students extended arm. Jeans must be worn above the hips and underwear must not show. Clothing with large holes, rips, or slashes will not be allowed. No under clothing is to be shown at any time. White sleeveless undershirts are considered underwear. T-shirts that are modified by ripping the inseam out are only to be worn if there is another shirt underneath. No exposure of the rib cage is allowed. Chains may be worn as jewelry only; they may not be used to attach wallets, etc. Slippers are not appropriate footwear for school. Students who wear such clothing will have it confiscated and be given alternative clothing to wear. On the first offense, the student may pick

up the shirt or any other item in question at the end of the day. On any subsequent offense, the shirt or any other items confiscated will not be given back until the end of the school year, and only to a parent. **Dress code is in effect at all school activities home and/or away.**

6. Students may not bring any outside food or beverages into the school in the morning. Sack lunches should be placed in the student's locker for the day. All beverages and food purchased must stay in the commons and cafeteria area. **No food will be allowed into classrooms.** If a staff member finds any student with open pop or food beyond the cafeteria/commons area, he/she is permitted to confiscate and dispose of items. Continued violations may result in detention. Please see that all garbage is put in the trash or the privilege will be taken away. A clean school is a reflection of who we are. Let's keep the school clean and represent ourselves with pride and class.

7. The use or possession of alcoholic beverages, tobacco, look a likes including e cigarettes or other controlled substances by students on school grounds will result in at least one day of out-of-school suspension.

8. Harassment of students by other students will not be tolerated in the school district. This policy is in effect while students are on school grounds, school district property, or on property within the jurisdiction of the school district; while on school-owned and/or school-operated buses, vehicles or chartered buses; while attending or engaged in school activities; and while away from school grounds if the misconduct directly affects the good order, efficient management and welfare of the school district.

Harassment prohibited by the district includes, but not limited to, harassment and/or bullying on the basis of race, sex, creed, color, national origin, religion, marital status, or disability. Students whose behavior is found to be in violation of this policy will be subject to the investigation procedure which may result in discipline, up to and including, suspension and expulsion. (See Board Policy 104)

FEE WAIVERS

Students from low-income families may be eligible to have some required fees waived. Please see the Superintendent or Principal for details and the form, which must be filed yearly.

BREACH OF DISCIPLINE

1. Use or possession of tobacco, tobacco product or any tobacco look a like.
 2. Use or possession of beer or liquor.
 3. Use or possession of any controlled substance unless properly prescribed by a licensed physician.
 4. Misuse of non-controlled substances, such as by ingesting an inordinate amount or ingesting it by means not prescribed.
 5. Attendance at school, or participation in a school-sponsored activity, in an intoxicated state or under the influence of a controlled substance.
 6. Distribution of, transmittal of, or sale of any tobacco product, beer, liquor, or controlled substance.
 7. Possession of stolen goods or property.
 8. Criminal or illegal behavior.
 9. Disorderly conduct including, but not limited to: temper tantrums, fighting, rowdy behavior, using abusive language or gestures, disruption of activities, obstructing school premises, or any other behavior intended to interfere with the rights of others.
 10. Refusal to conform to policies, rules, regulations, directives, or requests of those in authority when such person is acting within the scope of his or her authority.
 11. Physical attacks on or threats of physical attack to other persons.
 12. Possession or use of dangerous weapons or objects, including, but not limited to, lighters, matches, etc.
 13. Damaging, altering, defacing or destroying, or threatening to damage, alter, deface or destroy any building, fixture, equipment or item, including marking on walls, fixtures, or furniture.
 14. Intimidation or harassment of others.
 15. Use of obscene, lewd, or profane language.
 16. Initiating, circulating, or participating in circulating a report of warning of fire or other catastrophe knowing such report or warning to be false.
 17. Placing or threatening to place a bomb, firecracker, or other incendiary or explosive device in any place where it may endanger persons or property.
 18. Trespassing on school property: entering upon or into school property without permission or remaining on school property after being told to leave.
 19. Truancy: absence from school or classes without a valid excuse.
 20. Malicious use of the telephone: annoying, threatening or harassing a person over the telephone.
 21. Any other conduct that interferes with the orderly and efficient operation of the school.
 22. Public displays of affection, including, but not limited to, handholding and kissing.
- Any violation of the above will be considered an automatic offense subject to discipline. Any circumstance that may occur that is not covered by this policy will be reviewed by the administration and handled appropriately.

DETENTION

If a student behaves improperly, there is a system of detention (staying after/before school) available to teachers and administration. When a student earns a consequence the teacher will notify the principal. Students who are to serve detention will serve it with the staff member who issued the detention. Students should report to the assigned room at the assigned time. A student failing to serve a detention will have the detention time doubled. If a student continues to fail to serve the detention, he/she could be subject to other consequences.

A detention will be 30 minutes and served within two days of being notified.

PROCEDURE FOR CLASS REMOVAL DUE TO DISCIPLINE PROBLEMS

If a student is sent to the principal's office for discipline reasons from a class, a discipline report is filled out and filed in the principal's office. The third removal or behavior problem from any one class during a semester will result in removal of the student from that class for the remainder of the semester and no credit will be given. Severe problems in a class may result in IMMEDIATE removal from class with no credit given.

REFERRAL / DISCIPLINE SYSTEM

Students who are referred by a staff member are to serve a 30 minute detention within 2 days of the issuance of the detention. A third referral in a given quarter will result in a 4 hour detention to be served on Tuesday/Thursday or Saturday. Receiving a fifth referral or detention in a quarter, the student and parent(s)/guardian(s) will be required to meet with the Student Assistance Team (2 of the student's teachers, guidance counselor, and administrator). An agreement between the student, parent(s)/guardian(s), and school will be created to get the Tuesday/Thursday or Saturday morning detention(s) made up and a solutions to correct the behavior that is limiting educational success for that student and other students in our school. Any referral thereafter will result in ISS and students receiving a seventh referral, the student and parent(s)/guardian(s) must go in front of the Griswold CSD School Board to look at other possible solutions which may include long-term suspension, expulsion, or some other alternative. Other consequences may be issued by the administration to deal with different situations that may occur.

TUESDAY/THURSDAY OR SATURDAY DETENTION

Upon receiving a third detention in a quarter, a student will be required to serve a Tuesday/Thursday or Saturday morning detention. A student may choose to serve this time on Tuesday/Thursday or Saturday morning, and it must be served at the next available date. Tuesday/Thursday detention will last from 3:35 p.m. until 5:35 p.m. and Saturday morning detention will last from 8 a.m. until 12 noon. Students and parents will be responsible for transportation. Failure to serve a Tuesday/Thursday or Saturday morning detention will result in the student owing the missed Tuesday/Thursday or Saturday morning detention plus another Tuesday/Thursday or Saturday morning detention

IN-SCHOOL SUSPENSION (ISS)

Should a student have a more serious behavior problem, he/she may be assigned to ISS.

ISS Rules:

- 1) student reports no later than 8:20 a.m. with books and study materials
- 2) student talks only when addressed by the supervisor
- 3) student eats lunch in the office
- 4) student is to work on assigned material and will receive credit for work accomplished
- 5) dismissal time each day is 3:30 p.m.
- 6) failure to follow rules may result in extension of ISS or out of school suspension.
- 7) students may not have cell phones in ISS and laptops are only allowed if necessary for coursework
- 8) students may **not** participate or attend after-school or evening activities.

OUT-OF-SCHOOL SUSPENSION/EXPULSION

The Code of Iowa gives the local board of education the power to expel any student from school for violation of the rules and regulations of the board. When the presence of the student is detrimental to the best interests of the school, the Board may confer upon the principal or superintendent the power to temporarily dismiss the student. This is a suspension.

The student is ineligible to participate in or attend any scheduled school-sponsored activity while suspended either in or out of school.

Should a third out-of-school suspension occur, it becomes the duty of the principal to recommend the possible expulsion of the student. This recommendation is made to the superintendent and then to the board of education. If board action becomes necessary, a hearing date is set, at which time the parents, student, and any legal counsel may appear to hear the reason for such a recommendation and to express themselves. The principal may bypass this procedure if any offense is serious enough to jeopardize the learning process of other students.

DUE PROCESS

Each student who is involved in some form of disciplinary action is entitled to due process, which would include the following items:

1. The student is entitled to know what he/she has done wrong or if any rules have been violated.
2. The student is entitled to present his/her version of the circumstances involved.
3. The student is entitled to know the disposition of the case.
4. The right to appeal to the Superintendent and subsequently the board of Education is available with the understanding that these groups may sustain or change any or all of a decision prior to that appeal.
5. The student is not allowed to participate in a public performance during the appeal process.

PUBLIC CONDUCT: Board Policy 903.4

Extracurricular activities are an important part of the school program. Extracurricular activities offer students the opportunity to participate in a variety of activities not offered during the regular school day. Extracurricular activities are provided for the enjoyment and opportunity for involvement they afford students.

Spectators are permitted to attend extracurricular activities only as guests of the school district, and, accordingly as a condition of such permission, they must comply with the school district's rules and policies. Spectators will not be allowed to interfere with the enjoyment of the students participating, other spectators or with the performance of employees and officials supervising the extracurricular activity. Spectators, like the student participants, are expected to display mature behavior and sportsmanship. The failure of spectators to do so is not only disruptive but also embarrassing to the students, the school district and the entire community.

To protect the rights of students to participate without fear of interference, and to permit the sponsors and officials of extracurricular activities to perform their duties without interference, the following provisions are in effect:

- A. Abusive, verbal or physical conduct of spectators directed at participants, officials or sponsors of extracurricular activities will not be tolerated.
- B. Verbal or physical conduct of spectators that interferes with the performance of students, officials or sponsors of extracurricular activities will not be tolerated.
- C. The use of vulgar or obscene language directed at students, officials or sponsors participating in an extracurricular activity will not be tolerated.

If a spectator at an extracurricular activity becomes physically or verbally abusive, uses vulgar or obscene language or in any way impedes the performance of an activity, the spectator may be removed from the event by the individual in charge of the event and the superintendent may recommend the exclusion of the spectator at future extracurricular activities.

Upon recommendation of the superintendent, the board shall cause a notice of exclusion from extracurricular activities to be sent to the spectator involved. The notice shall advise the spectator of the district's right to exclude the individual from school district activities and events and the duration of the exclusion. If the spectator disobeys the district's order, law enforcement authorities will be contacted and asked to remove the spectator. If a spectator has been notified of exclusion and thereafter attends an extracurricular activity, the spectator shall be advised that his/her attendance will result in prosecution.

ASSEMBLIES

For student assemblies held during school hours, teachers will dismiss their students and escort them to the gym (middle school students will sit in the section farthest to the west). Students are expected to display appropriate behavior at all assemblies; treat guests with courtesy and respect. Booing and whistling is never appropriate at student assemblies. Remember that we have a tradition of greeting visitors and guests with polite, generous hospitality.

DANCE GUIDELINES

All students who enter the door before closing time are to remain inside at the dance. If a student leaves the building, he/she will not be permitted to return.

TELEPHONE USE

Use of the telephone by students is limited to before and after school. Long distance calls must be either collect or credit card calls. During school hours, emergency phone calls may be made in the office with secretary, staff, or principal permission.

PICTURES/ VIDEOS/ PUBLICATIONS

From time to time, our students are featured in newspaper articles, district bulletins, school web page, etc., celebrating special events in our schools. Photographs or likenesses may be released without written consent unless parents or guardians object in writing. Objections to release of information or photographs should be sent within two weeks of the student's enrollment in school to the building. Information on the district's student publications code is contained in Board Policy 504.3

TECHNOLOGY

Use of cell phones and personal devices are not be used during the school day (7:55-3:25) and are only to be used with the consent of the building principal and teacher approval. Students using technology devices or cell phones without permission will have them confiscated. On the first offense, the student may pick up their phone at the end of the day. On any subsequent offense, the phone will only be allowed to be picked up by a parent. Habitual offenders will be subject to further disciplinary action.

Please see the district Acceptable Use Policy regarding guidelines for school-issued laptops and chromebooks.

CHROMEBOOK USAGE

- Do not open Chromebook until instructed to do so.
- No gaming, chatting, or skype
- Music is allowed with classroom teacher permission only
- School email accounts are for school use only
- YouTube, Pinterest and other applications are for class use only with permission from teacher.
- 3 Acceptable locations ONLY 1.) in your possession 2.) in the charging cart 3.) Hallway locker on designated shelf.
- You can and will be monitored anytime by the faculty

Consequences for not following the Computer Usage agreement:

- 1st infraction – warning from the teacher or Hano
- 2nd infraction – loss of computer for a day
- 3rd infraction – loss of computer for a week
- 4th infraction – loss of computer for one month and parent contact
- 5th and subsequent infractions – loss of computer for administrator determined amount of time and meeting with parents.
- For any of the above infractions, students will not have access to their computers unless they have a pass from their classroom teacher to use the computer for academic purposes.

The school issued laptop is not for your entertainment at school, it is the property of the school and the intended use is for educational purposes only. You need to understand there will be consequences for not adhering to the acceptable use policy that you were given and you signed.

This includes, but not limited to:

- YouTube for educational use ONLY.
- Pinterest for educational use ONLY.
- No Netflix or other streaming video/movie sites.
- You will be randomly monitored throughout the day.
- You are responsible for any damage to the laptop

PE EXCUSES

If it is necessary for a student to miss PE for a minor medical problem, a parent's note will suffice for 1 day of PE. More than one day will require a doctor's note, which must list the nature of the medical problem, as well as the activities the student MAY participate in. The school nurse may follow up with the student's doctor for more information. Students that are not able to participate in PE will not participate in extracurricular sports during that time.

LIBRARY PROCEDURES

Normally, the library is open from 8:00-3:30, under the supervision of the teacher librarian or other staff. Students may go to the library to study; to use the computers, reference materials, magazines, or newspapers; or to check out materials.

Students may check out 4 books at a time. Books are checked out for three weeks, with one week grace period before fines begin. Fines for overdue books are \$0.05 per day. Students may lose check out privileges if fines are not paid in a timely manner. Magazines and reference materials may not be checked out of the library. Special permission may be given for use in the classroom.

Damage to books shall be paid for by the borrower and lost materials are paid for at the rate of replacement costs. Materials taken from the library without following the proper check-out procedures will result in disciplinary action. The library catalog is web-based and can be accessed from the Griswold Community Schools Homepage (griswoldschools.org).

STUDENT LOCKERS

Each student is assigned a locker for temporary use during the school year as a convenience for storage of school materials and needed extra clothing. **Students will keep all bags and coats in their school issued locker throughout the day. No backpacks will be carried to classes.** Lockers and school desks remain the property of the school, and as such are unprotected areas subject to search. Keeping money or valuable personal items in student lockers is not a wise practice and is discouraged. The school will not be responsible for any items stolen from lockers. Writing in, or on, lockers is not permitted and damage to lockers will be punished by a fine. Student lockers will be inspected periodically for the purpose of locating school materials and removing any inappropriate items. Locker inspections without prior notice may be conducted periodically throughout the school year. At least 2 people will be present for any locker search, one of which MAY BE the student. Drug-sniffing dogs may be brought in periodically to search lockers and school grounds including parking lots.

MEDICATIONS

Students must bring all medications (both prescription and over-the-counter) to the office for safe-keeping. This reduces both the school's and the parents' liability. No medications can be dispensed by the school (prescription or otherwise) without a signed administration form filled out by the parent. All medications must be brought to school in the original bottle with the appropriate pharmacy label on it. (Pharmacists will give an extra bottle for schools if requested.) We are required to follow this procedure to be in compliance with Iowa law.

STANDARDIZE TESTING

40 percentile –Students who fall in this non-proficient range may be required to participate in one of the following: Reading interventions, designated supervised study area, or remedial courses. This will be at the discretion of the building principal and guidance counselor. Parents will participate in the decision making process.

SCHOOL LUNCH

All students are expected to remain at school during their lunchtime whether or not they eat the school lunch. Starting in 2008-2009 when a student's or staff's breakfast/lunch account is a **NEGATIVE \$6.00** or more they will be given a peanut butter sandwich and carton of milk for \$.50 (per meal) until money is deposited in the account. Students or staff who have a NEGATIVE balance will not be allowed to purchase extras or ala-carte items. Students who finish lunch early are expected to remain in the supervised areas and use the south restrooms near the nurse's office. At no time may they be in the parking lot. All students are expected to take their turns helping clean tables, whether or not they eat hot lunch. No food is to be delivered or brought in during the lunch hour other than the sack lunch brought with a student at the beginning of the day.

Students are expected to exhibit positive behavior in the cafeteria during breakfast and lunch. Inappropriate behavior such as yelling, using inappropriate language, pushing, throwing food, damaging trays, damaging silverware, etc. is not acceptable, and is subject to disciplinary action.

DAILY ANNOUNCEMENTS/BULLETINS

Announcements are prepared daily and delivered to each staff member during first period. Teachers will read the announcements to their student groups each day during 2nd period and then post them. A copy of the day's announcements will also be posted in the window of the principal's office and on the web site. Any announcements to be included must be cleared through a teacher/sponsor and then approved in the office. If you wish an announcement to be included on a particular day it must be ready before 8:00 a.m. of that day.

STUDENT RECORDS AND DIRECTORY INFORMATION

Student records will be sent immediately upon request of an educational institution that has enrolled a student. Parents and eligible students shall have access to the student's records during the regular business hours of the school. Please see the principal, or Board Policy 506.1 for further information.

The following information may be released to the public in regard to any individual student of the school district as needed. (*Any student over the age of 18, parent, or guardian not wanting this information released to the public must make objection in writing by September 15 to the principal.*)

The objection needs to be renewed annually.) The school district has designated the following information as directory information: student's name, address and telephone number; date and place of birth; major field of study; participation in officially recognized activities and sports; weight and height of members of athletic teams; dates of attendance; degrees and awards received; and the most recent previous educational institution attended by the student, and other similar information.

GRADING/TESTING POLICIES

Unified Grading scale for MS/HS
The scale will be as follows:

A+	98-100		
A	93-97	C	73-76
A-	90-92	C-	70-72
B+	87-89	D+	67-69
B	83-86	D	63-66
B-	80-82	D-	60-62
C+	77-79	F	00-59

Students will receive a letter grade that is computed to determine the cumulative grade point average, class rank, and designation for the quarterly and semester honor rolls (the only exceptions are middle school exploratory classes, which may be marked on a pass/fail system). All classes that meet daily are weighted with one credit per semester. Middle school band and chorus all are weighted with one-half credit.

BUS TRANSPORTATION

Students eligible to ride on the school buses are under the jurisdiction of the bus driver. Please conduct yourself in a manner that will not endanger the lives of others. Misbehavior on the buses may result in detention time at school and could lead to a suspension of your riding privilege. Video cameras have been placed on buses to assist in monitoring students. Videos will be used as evidence when necessary.

Activity buses will be operated for students in grades 6-8 needing transportation home following after school activities. STUDENTS ON DETENTION WILL NOT BE ALLOWED TO RIDE THE ACTIVITY BUS.

BUILDING HOURS (for students)

Students arriving early must report to the lunchroom, unless special arrangements have been made and they are under the supervision of a staff member. Also, students will be required to leave the building at 3:30 p.m. unless they are engaged in a regularly scheduled after-school activity and supervised by a staff member. Students arriving late must sign in promptly and secure a pass to class or study hall. Those leaving early must have parent/guardian permission and have school approval to sign out at the designated time and leave the building immediately.

Building guests must check in with the MS/HS office upon arrival.

EDUCATIONAL EQUITY POLICY

It is the policy of the Griswold Community School District not to discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability, religion, creed, age (for employment), marital status (for programs), sexual orientation, gender identity and socioeconomic status (for programs) in its educational programs and its employment practices. There is a grievance procedure for processing complaints of discrimination. If you have questions or a grievance related to this policy please contact Secondary Principal, Griswold Community Schools, Box 280, Griswold, Iowa 51535, [712-778-2154](tel:712-778-2154)

INVESTIGATIONS OF ABUSE

Allegations of abuse of students by school personnel may be filed with the Level I investigator, Guidance Counselor, Griswold Community School System, 20 Madison St., Griswold, Iowa 51535. Phone no. 712-778-2154. The Level II investigator is the Cass County Sheriff's Office, 712-243-2206.

EDUCATIONAL OPTIONS

There is an intervention process for students experiencing learning or behavioral difficulties. Please see the principal or guidance counselor for assistance. Assistance may be requested by either students or parents.

MIDDLE SCHOOL

Academics - Students may choose to participate in activities that offer competition such as: spelling bee, math contests, and Knowledge Master Open. Various oratorical, essay, and art-related activities are usually available, often in cooperation with local civic organizations.

Music - Music instruction (vocal and instrumental) occurs as part of the regular curriculum, but is optional. Concerts, programs, and other performances usually occur outside the regular school day, and sometimes on weekends, but are considered a required part of participation.

Athletics - Team sports for inter-scholastic competition are formed and directed by state-endorsed coaches. Fall - volleyball and football. Winter - basketball (boys and girls) and wrestling. Spring - track (boys and girls). Practices are held during 8th period of the regular school day. There may be some extended practices scheduled that last until 4:00. The activity bus schedule will be adjusted to accommodate middle school students on those occasions.

TIGER TIME

Students who are at a 65% and lower in their coursework will have a designated intervention time for academic assistance. This will take place in the media center during Tiger Time.

REWARD DAY

There will be one reward day after the first semester designed to encourage attendance and build a strong academic focus for our students. Reward day activities are planned by staff and approved by principal. Some rewards have been, YMCA, Skating, Movies, etc. To attend the Reward Day for the semester the students must meet the following criteria:

- No more than 6 absences (excused or unexcused)
- No more than 3 detention
- No D's or F's
- No Library Fines

STUDENT ACTIVITIES POLICIES

The purpose of the Griswold Junior/Senior High school activities program is to provide a broad range of experiences and/or competition for students. Although involvement is encouraged, participation is voluntary. No student is obligated to take part in any interscholastic activity. Participation in co-curricular activities and organizations is considered by the school to be a privilege. Because the student represents the school and community, and in order to maintain the continued integrity of its programs, certain rules and regulations have been established concerning eligibility for involvement. These rules and regulations cover academic eligibility, school attendance, and citizenship.

I. Academic Requirements

Middle School students must be passing all **core** classes at each grade checkpoint to be eligible for activities. These checkpoints will be weekly. Checkpoints are determined by the administration and are not negotiable. They will be pre-determined and may change due to snow days or other cancellations. Students who are failing any core subject at any checkpoint will be considered academically ineligible. Students who are on academic ineligibility will be required to attend Tiger Time intervention. Once the student is passing at the Monday grade checkpoint, they will be released from Tiger Time Intervention and will become eligible to participate in activities. Middle school students who fail 4th quarter will be ineligible from activities for a period of 2 weeks. This would include activities such as FFA/Band/FCCLA/Music and sports. Middle school students who fail any core subject for the semester:

- will be deemed ineligible for 30 calendar days beginning at the start of second semester for 1st semester failures
- will be deemed ineligible for 4 weeks at the completion of second semester for 2nd semester failures.

II. Attendance:

Griswold students involved in the activities program are to be in school all day on the day of an activity unless prior arrangements have been made with the principal to be absent. Although no specific penalty is included in the attendance policy, students are also expected to be in school all day following an activity. (Coaches and sponsors are encouraged to establish participation rules regarding prompt attendance at school on days following events.) Failure to comply with the attendance policy will cause students to be withheld from the activity, practice, rehearsal, or meeting. Tardiness, truant behavior or misconduct that results in detention, may cause a student to miss practice or a rehearsal. Students arriving late must sign in promptly and secure a pass to class or study hall. Those leaving early must have a parent or guardian give permission to the office and have school approval to sign out at the designated time and leave the building immediately

III. Suspension:

During the period of time that a student is on suspension, either in school or out-of-school, that student shall be excluded from participating in and attending all Griswold Community School District activities.

IV. Transportation:

All student participants are to ride in school-designated vehicles to and from any school-sponsored event. Any exceptions must be approved in advance by the student's parent/guardian with the coach, sponsor, or director of the activity group. Almost no exceptions will be allowed for students riding TO an activity.

Approvals for exceptions must be made by telephone and note, with face to face communications before the student is released when returning from an activity trip. Students may be released only to their parent/guardians or another district parent, if approved in advance.

V. Good Conduct, Drug/Alcohol, Tobacco:

A. Students who participate in any of the co-curricular activity programs of the Griswold Community School District are expected to conduct themselves in a manner that takes into account the rights and welfare of others, respect for authority, and regard for public and private property. This Good Conduct Code applies for students (involved in co-curricular activities) whether on or off school property, and is in effect year-round.

B. Violations of the conduct rule are:

1. involvement in illegal activity;
 - a. arrested or cited in the criminal or juvenile court system, excluding minor traffic offenses
2. disorderly or abusive behavior that obstructs the operation of the school or interferes with the rights of other persons, including hazing or initiation;
3. use or possession of tobacco in any form;
4. use or possession of alcoholic beverages or any other controlled, dangerous drug not prescribed by the student's physician; ("use" includes having the odor of alcohol or tobacco on one's breath);
5. any obviously offensive conduct, while representing the school, which brings discredit to the school.

C. The principal or athletic director will declare a student ineligible for participation if the violation (1) is admitted to a school official or law officer, (2) is observed and reported by a school official, or if (3) the student is charged and found guilty by law, or (4) there is a preponderance of evidence. When the administration believes it is more likely than not the student violated the Good Conduct Rule, the student is subject to loss of eligibility.

A declaration of ineligibility by the principal or athletic director means the student shall be ineligible for public performance in any activity event until the administration reinstates the students. Appeals under this policy may be made to the superintendent. Appeals of the superintendent's decision to uphold the principal's declaration of ineligibility may be made to the board of education. The student will remain ineligible during the appeal process.

D. First Offense: Student will be ineligible for a period of nine (9) calendar weeks from the day school authorities become aware of the offense.

Second Offense: Student will be ineligible for a period of six (6) calendar months from the day school authorities become aware of the offense.

Third and all Subsequent Offenses: Student will be ineligible for a period of one year from the day school authorities become aware of the offense.

E. If a student commits a subsequent offense while serving an ineligibility, the times will be served consecutively; that is, the new penalty will be added to the end of the current one(s).

For a student who has been declared ineligible and has gone two (2) years without action under this policy and subsequently comes for disciplinary action under the policy, such action may be considered as a first offense.

F. A student may have 1st and 2nd violations reduced by 1/3 (3 weeks for 1st violation, 2 months for 2nd violation) by reporting his or her own offense to an administrator before the school administration seeks out the offender, and in any case, within 2 school days of the commission of the offense.

Students whose 1st and 2nd violations of the conduct policy are both for substance abuse may have the 2nd penalty reduced by one month by enrolling into a counselling or self-help program that is directly correlated to the offense. These programs must be pre-approved by administration and are at student cost.

G. Students new to district: Any student who transfers to the district, either by moving in or under open enrollment, and who is currently ineligible in the former school, will be ineligible to participate at Griswold until the time at which he/she would have been reinstated at the former school

H. Any circumstance that may occur that is not covered by this policy will be reviewed by the administration and handled appropriately.

Students who are either: 1. On the weekly grade check's ineligibility list, or 2. On the good conduct ineligibility list, are not allowed to leave school early for activities or competitions, nor miss academic time to go to watch state competitions. If the activity is academic in nature, students will be allowed to attend the event. This will be determined by the administration.