

# CLAYMONT MIDDLE SCHOOL

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# Claymont Middle School Handbook

## 2024-2025



### EQUAL EDUCATION OPPORTUNITY

*The Claymont Board of Education declares it to be policy of this District to provide an equal opportunity for all students to achieve their maximum potential throughout the classroom and extracurricular programs offered in this District regardless of race, color, creed, handicap, religion, sex, ancestry, national origin, place of residence, or social or economic background.*

### Notification of Rights Under FERPA

The Superintendent annually shall provide notice to students and parents to ensure they are adequately informed regarding their rights to:

- A. inspect and review the student's education records;
- B. request amendments if the parent or adult student believes the record is inaccurate, misleading, or otherwise in violation of the student's rights;
- C. consent to disclosures of personally identifiable information contained in the student's education records, except to those disclosures allowed by the law;
- D. challenge District noncompliance with a parent's request to amend the records through a hearing;
- E. file a complaint with the Department of Education; and
- F. obtain a copy of the District's policy and administrative guidelines on student record

## LICE POLICY

Claymont City Schools has a no-nit policy. Students found with head lice (live or nits) will be sent home. The student must be checked by the nurse, with a parent and siblings (if within the district) present, before returning to school. The nurse will clear the student lice free/nit free. One day's absence for lice removal is excused. Any additional absences are unexcused. If a pattern of recurring lice-related absences develop, the matter will be brought to the attention of the administration.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

Daily announcements about general activities, clubs and assemblies will be broadcast to all classrooms in the morning and at the end of the school day, **Important information is passed along in this manner and the undivided attention of students and teachers is essential.** All announcements must be approved by the Principal and signed by the teacher requesting the announcement.

## ATHLETIC PARTICIPATION

As a member of the Ohio High School Athletic Association, Claymont Middle School encourages the participation of young men and women in a number of interscholastic sporting activities. The following is the philosophy of the OHSAA regarding interscholastic athletics at the 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade level:

The purpose of seventh and eighth grade education-based athletics is to provide rich and wholesome activities for as many students as possible. As a result, students will develop to the greatest degree talents and skills such as leadership, teamwork and discipline, which will enable them to become responsible citizens in our society while demonstrating good sporting conduct.

We believe in interscholastic athletics as an integral part of the total school program reflecting the needs of the school, the community and the student.

We believe the potential values to the students and coaches to be very essential. Competition under prescribed regulations and policies provides adolescents with the opportunity to develop ideas and habits of health, fair play, initiative, achievement, emotional control, good sporting conduct, social adaptability and good citizenship. Athletics foster team and school spirit and a sense of community.

We believe each coach should make every effort to provide an opportunity for participation for all students involved in a sport. The students shall be taught the fundamental skills necessary for further growth and improvement in their respective sports. These skills are to be taught by an educated/trained coach. We believe that high quality skill development for students at the seventh and eighth grade level is of utmost importance.

## ATHLETIC ELIGIBILITY

The Claymont City School District is a member of The Ohio High School Athletic Association and will follow OHSAA guidelines pertaining to student eligibility and transfer requirements for all athletes and cheerleaders who participate in interscholastic athletics. The standards are established by the Ohio High School Athletic Association and may be changed by them at any time. The Ohio High School Athletic Association provides minimum requirements, however, will allow school districts to set more stringent guidelines. The OHSAA constantly reviews and revises policies and procedures regarding student eligibility and transfer requirements.

Please refer to those policies by visiting [www.ohsaa.org](http://www.ohsaa.org) to find the most up to date information.

Before an athlete may practice or participate in any athletic program, he or she must have a doctor's physical, a signed copy of the Athletic Regulations against smoking, drinking, drugs, and tobacco usage, and an insurance coverage form filed with the Athletic Director. The physicals are good for one (1) year only. This rule will be strictly followed.

Any student absent from school for more than half a day because of illness or unexcused absence shall not participate in a practice or game on the day of that absence.

In addition to the rules established by the Ohio High School Athletic Association, Claymont Middle School requires that in order to be eligible for athletics, a student:

1. **Students must maintain at least a 1.50 grade point average prior to the beginning of each competitive season and maintain it throughout.**
2. **Two 'F's' make the student-athlete automatically ineligible.**
3. **Must be passing FIVE credits each grading period.**

**\*\*THE FOLLOWING CONDUCT AGREEMENT WILL BE IN EFFECT FOR ALL ATHLETES YEAR-ROUND THROUGHOUT THEIR ATHLETIC CAREER (Middle School and High School)**

#### **OUT OF SCHOOL SUSPENSION**

**If a student athlete is placed on out of school suspension, he/she will be athletically suspended for one sanctioned, regular season event. If an event does not take place over the duration of the school suspension, the said athlete will serve his/her athletic suspension during the next sanctioned, regular season event.**

#### **CAFETERIA**

Students should assemble in the lunch line in an orderly manner at the time specified. The school cafeteria is maintained as a vital part of the health program of the school. To encourage good nutrition, a well-balanced breakfast and lunch is offered. Lunch prices will be set by the board of education prior to the start of each school year. There is a charge for extras such as chips, fruit snacks, cookies, etc. The cafeteria workers, custodians, and your fellow students will appreciate your cooperation in:

- A. Depositing all lunch litter in waste containers,
- B. Leaving the table and floor around your eating area in a clean condition for others,
- C. Maintaining a reasonable level (as defined by the supervisors) of talking,
- D. Energy drinks are not permitted during school hours.
- E. Food and drinks may not be taken out of the cafeteria.

#### **CLOSED LUNCH POLICY**

Claymont Middle School has a closed lunch policy. **No one is permitted to leave the building for lunch unless signed out by a person listed on the emergency medical form.** Students are to remain in the cafeteria during the lunch period, except as excused by the teacher(s) on duty. Lunch is a closed period and any student leaving school during this time, without prior written permission, will be subject to disciplinary action.

Food may not be brought into the building unless it is approved by the principal and/or teacher in charge of an activity. No food or other items are to be taken from the cafeteria.

### **BUILDING SECURITY**

In order to provide a safe environment for students, all doors to the building will be locked at the beginning of the school day every day and will remain locked until school is dismissed. Anyone entering the building after the tardy bell at the beginning of the school day will need to use the main entrance. NO STUDENT IS TO OPEN ANY EXTERIOR DOOR AND/OR ALLOW ANY PERSON TO ENTER THE BUILDING AT ANY TIME.

Claymont Middle School is equipped with a video surveillance system that will be referred to in investigation of inappropriate school activity.

### **CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

The calendar in the principal's office contains dates and times of the year's events. This is to be considered the official calendar. If you want a date reserved for a school function, please make sure that you speak with the school principal so that the date can be placed on the calendar.

NO EVENT MAY BE HELD UNLESS IT IS PLACED ON THE OFFICIAL SCHOOL CALENDAR AND PROPER ARRANGEMENTS HAVE BEEN MADE AT LEAST TWO (2) WEEKS PRIOR TO THE EVENT.

### **CUTTING/SKIPPING CLASS**

CUTTING may be defined as an unacceptable absence from school or class(es) and /or assigned location as a result of a deliberate and willful action on the part of the student.

Students found to be cutting an assigned location (that is, class, lunch, academic assist, etc.) are subject to disciplinary action on the part of the school. This disciplinary action may include, but will not be limited to, notification of parents, assignment of detention, and, in repeated cases, suspension or Friday School.

### **ELECTRONIC DEVICES**

**\*\* for this policy, "Cell Phone" refers to any Electronic Communication Device or ECD**

Due to the significant disruption to the educational experience that cell phones cause, we are implementing a new policy. This will take a joint effort of the school and the parents/guardians. It is our hope that with these changes we will see an increase in student engagement in class and less disruptions during the day caused by social media, texting and other forms of digital media. See this [Teacher Cell Phone Experiment](#) for a good reason to not allow cell phones in class.

The following rules will be put in place:

1. No cell phones are to be utilized during class time except in the case that the TEACHER requests the students use them. (if there is a medical reason to use a cell phone, the school must be given notice by the parent/guardian)

2. No earbuds, air pods or headphones will be allowed in class or hallways for ANY reason except in the case that the TEACHER requests the students use them. These can be confiscated in the same way that a cell phone can. (only wired headphones/wired earbuds are acceptable in class- No airpods)
3. The use of cell phones should be restricted to educational purposes only and must comply with state and federal laws, as well as the Student Code of Conduct.
4. **All cell phones are to be locked in lockers before the start of 1st period or left at home. No exceptions.**
5. Phone calls, taking pictures, and recording videos are **prohibited** at all times during the school day.

Other things to know in regard to cell phones:

1. If a teacher requests that a student turns over their cell phone, the student must comply. If a student refuses to comply, they will be sent to the office for disciplinary action.
2. Your phone will not be searched by school officials and can be powered off when turned into the office.
3. Should any offense involve illegal activity, the matter will be referred to the police and the phone will not be released until all discipline has been served.
4. If it is discovered through an indirect investigation that a student did not comply with the cell phone policy, the student may be disciplined accordingly.
5. Possession of a cell phone is a privilege, which may be forfeited by a student who fails to abide by the terms of this policy, or who misuses this privilege.
6. Violation of this policy may result in disciplinary action, which could include detention, suspension, Friday School or confiscation of the cell phone.
7. The cell phone is the responsibility of the student. The Board is not responsible for preventing theft, loss, damage, or vandalism to cell phones brought onto school property.
8. Parents who need to get in touch with their child during the day should call the school. Students are permitted to use the office phone to contact parents during the day.

Violations of the Cell Phone policy will be dealt with in the following way:

1st Offense- Cell phone goes to the office for the remainder of the day.

2nd Offense- Cell phone goes to the office, detention is given.

3rd Offense- Cell phone goes to the office, 2 lunch detentions are assigned.

4th Offense- Cell phone goes to the office, a half day of ISS or a Saturday School will be assigned, and a guardian must pick the cell phone up at the school.

**Offenses start over at the semester.**

## **Directory Information**

Each year the District will provide public notice to students and their parents of its intent to make available, upon request, certain information knSome of the issues that have arisen over the last year that make these changes necessary include:

- Students taking videos and pictures of other students in class or bathrooms and posting them on social media sites. Often these are making fun of the other students.
- Students taking videos and pictures of themselves and posting them on social media, often that are disparaging or threatening in nature to other students.
- Students listening to music or audio recordings of a test review during a test.
- Students answering phone calls during class.
- Students being distracted during class and not paying attention.
- Students making threats to other students that are posted on social media.
- Students making disparaging remarks about teachers.
- Videos and messages leading to physical altercations between students.
- Police involvement in student interactions online.
- Student bullying outside of school that spills over into school, causing problems.
- Students using cell phones to meet in the bathroom to fight or vape.

None of these actions are in the spirit of what we are trying to accomplish, educate students to become productive members of society.

## **EMERGENCY DRILLS**

We conduct various emergency drills for the purpose of planning for an emergency situation, should one ever arise. Routes and procedures are posted in each classroom and should be reviewed. Follow the directions of your teacher QUIETLY and QUICKLY.

## **NOTIFICATION OF SAFETY DRILLS**

Prior to the opening day of each school year, the administrator shall inform each student enrolled in the school and the student's parent or legal guardian of the parental notification procedures included in the plan. Any student and their parent or legal guardian enrolled in the school after the annual notification shall be notified upon enrollment.

Rapid Dismissal (Fire) Drills: All classrooms have either sprinklers or smoke detectors, 6, drills will be conducted during the school year. Students and staff will be alerted of the drill through the fire alarm.

Tornado Drills: One per month April - July for months when school is in session. Alarms will sound to alert the students and staff of the drill.

Safety Drills: 3 functional • May not be combined with Rapid Dismissal or Tornado Drills • Must involve students • Must be coordinated with law enforcement • 1 of the 3 must own as “directory information.” Directory information is: student’s name; Address; telephone number; date and place of birth; photograph; major field of study; participation in officially recognized activities and sports; height and weight, if a member of an athletic team; dates of attendance at the District; grade level; date of graduation; degrees, honors and awards received; most previous educational agency or institution attended by the student; e-mail address or any other information which would not generally be considered harmful or an invasion of privacy, if disclosed.

Directory information does not include a student’s Social Security number or the student’s identification number, user identification, or other unique personal identifier, unless the identifier cannot be used to gain access to education records except when used in conjunction with authenticating information.

Parents and adult students may refuse to allow the District to disclose any or all of such “directory information” upon written notification to the District within twenty (20) days after receipt of the District’s notice. The District will not release directory information that alone or in combination can be used as personally identifiable information to identify a student.

The District shall release the names, phone numbers and addresses of students in grades nine through twelve (9-12) to a recruiting officer for any branch of the United States Armed Forces or an institution of higher education that requests such information. Such data shall not be released if the adult student or student’s parent submits a written request not to release such information. The notice to parents or eligible students shall inform the parent or eligible student that they have a right to prohibit all or a portion of the information to be released. The recruiting officer is to sign a form indicating that “any information received by the recruiting officer shall be used solely for the purpose of informing students about military service and shall not be released to any person other than individuals within the recruiting services of the Armed Forces.” The Superintendent is authorized to charge mailing fees for providing this information to a recruiting officer. Notwithstanding the provisions set out above, no person shall release or permit access to the names or other personally identifiable information concerning any students attending a public school to any person or group for use in a profit making plan or activity.



### **FAMILY VACATIONS AND TRIPS**

While we do not encourage student absence from school for family vacations, we may excuse the absence if prior approval is obtained. Students and parents should be aware that any reduction in grades resulting from the time missed is solely the responsibility of the family. The student is responsible for acquiring the assignments ahead of time and completing all work on time.

A student may be excused, upon written request of parents/guardians prior to the date of departure, in order to accompany parents, guardians, or immediate family members on a vacation or trip. THIS WRITTEN REQUEST MUST BE PRESENTED TO THE OFFICE AT LEAST **THREE (3) SCHOOL DAYS** BEFORE LEAVING, UNLESS EMERGENCY CIRCUMSTANCES ARISE. For purposes of this policy, immediate family is defined as mother, father, grandmother, grandfather, or legal guardian. The student will be held accountable for any work missed.

### **FUNDRAISERS**

Any school group or organization, which plans to conduct a fundraising activity, must have that activity approved by the advisor and principal **before** the activity may be held.

### **GRADE CARDS**

Grade cards will be issued approximately one (1) week following the end of each nine-weeks grading period. Any student wishing to discuss a grade with a teacher must make an appointment at the teacher's convenience.

Grade cards may be held for the following reasons:

1. Money owed for bills or fines
2. Overdue library books
3. Failure to return athletic equipment and/or uniform
4. Money owed for activity sales projects
5. Failure to pay school fees by the end of the first 9-weeks.

### **GRADING SCALE**

The following will be used to determine letter grades and quality points for cumulative average for all courses that receive letter grades:

A	90 - 100	4.00
B	80 - 89	3.00
C	70 - 79	2.00
D	60 - 69	1.00
F	00 - 59	0.00
NC		0.00

The grade "NC" will be given when a student has exceeded the number of days absent which is permissible by the attendance policy or when the minimum course requirements have not been met.

### **HONOR ROLL**

Students are selected for the Honor Roll based on their grade point average of 3.2-3.9 for the nine-weeks grading period.

### **PRINCIPAL'S LIST**

The Principal's List is the highest of the academic honor rolls. To be eligible for the Principal's List a student must have a nine-week grade point average of 4.00.

## **RESTROOM PASSES**

Each student receives a restroom pass each nine weeks that must be signed by their teacher before leaving the classroom.

## **HONESTY**

Claymont City Schools has adopted a policy against cheating and plagiarism. Teachers can frequently see the difference between a student's usual work and work that is not his/her own. Protecting honest students from unfair competition requires that teachers take care in looking for and acting against dishonest practices.

Using artificial intelligence ("AI") software in any manner not explicitly permitted or authorized by a classroom teacher, including but not limited to completing an academic assignment with the assistance of AI software when not permitted, or misrepresenting a portion or whole academic assignment as your own without proper acknowledgment of the use of AI software.

### **Cheating includes, but is not limited to:**

1. Obtaining or keeping partial or whole copies of tests or quizzes, except as allowed by the teacher.
2. Using notes, textbooks, or other information during tests and/or quizzes, except as allowed by the teacher.
3. Obtaining or exchanging information during tests.
4. Copying homework assignments.
5. Additional actions as set by teachers.

### **Plagiarism includes, but is not limited to:**

1. Copying words, sentences, and/or paragraphs directly from the work of another without proper credit.
2. Copying illustrations, figures, photographs, drawings, models, or other visual or non-visual materials of another without proper credit.
3. Presenting work prepared by someone else in final or draft form as one's own.

Whenever a student is guilty of cheating, the teacher shall collect the student's paper, mark a zero (0) for the work, and notify the parent immediately as to the action taken. In this notification, the parent shall be informed that a second offense will bring disciplinary action.

## **ILLNESS AT SCHOOL**

If a student becomes ill during the day, he/she should obtain permission to go to the office. No student will be permitted to leave school to go home unless a parent or guardian or someone else listed on the Emergency Medical Authorization form is notified and gives permission for the student to leave school.

## **INCOMPLETE GRADES**

In some cases, due to excused absences, it may be impossible to have all work finished by the end of the nine-weeks grading period. The teacher may then record an incomplete ("I") for a grade. The "I" indicates that all work has not been completed. If a student receives an incomplete, he must see his teacher about any assignments missed. An incomplete must be made up within two (2) weeks after the end of the grading period. If incomplete work is not turned in by this deadline, all work not finished will be assigned a value of "0" and averaged in with the remaining grades to determine the nine-week grade.

- A. ambulance to the hospital, as the Epi-Pen provides only temporary treatment until medical help can be obtained.

### OFFICE

The school office exists for service and for the conducting of official school business. Should you have a problem, please notify the secretary, and If the teacher determines that the nature of the incomplete work is such that failure to satisfactorily complete this work results in the minimum course requirements not being met, a final grade of "NC" will be assigned in the course and no credit will be awarded.

### LOCKERS

Lockers are assigned at the beginning of the school year. They remain the property of the Board of Education and are subject to inspection or search by authorized school personnel at any time. It is the student's responsibility to ensure that his locker is kept locked and in order at all times. Damage to a locker must be paid for by the student.

If your lock or locker does not operate properly, please notify the GUIDANCE COUNSELOR immediately. THE SCHOOL IS NOT RESPONSIBLE FOR LOST OR STOLEN ITEMS.

1. Students must bring their own locks to school. There is a limited amount of lock that can be assigned from the guidance office if a student needs one. The combination and/or a key to the lock must be given to their homeroom teacher.
2. The locker is to be used by one person ONLY. **Sharing lockers is not permitted.**
3. Report any malfunctions to the custodian. A student is not permitted to alter any part of a locker or permit it to be altered.
4. Keep the locker neat, orderly, and clean. Decorations MUST be in good taste and easily removable.
5. Any personally owned locks or items left in lockers after the conclusion of the school year will be removed and discarded.
6. If a student fails to turn in a school issued lock at the end of the year, a \$5.00 fee will be assessed.

***\*\*The lockers are property of the Claymont City School District. We reserve the right to search the contents at any time.***

### LRC (Library)

1. The SIRSI library catalog for locating library materials is online. While at school, click on the "cat" & ISearch icons to pull up the catalog. The librarian has information regarding home access.
2. Books and magazines circulate for 2 weeks, with renewal privileges. Students will not be permitted to check new books out until all late materials are returned.
3. Failure to adhere to LRC policies may result in an office referral, detention, or long-term removal from the library.
4. If a student checks out a book and does not return it, he/she is responsible to cover the replacement cost of the book(s) or magazine.
5. No students are permitted in the library without adult supervision.
6. **Spare Chromebooks can only be checked out if a student has written permission from a teacher, paraprofessional, or principal.**

## MEDICAL FORMS

Each student is REQUIRED to have his parent/guardian complete the online “Emergency Medical Form” for school use. These forms are extremely important as they give the school direction and authorization, if necessary, to provide for emergency treatment for the student in case of an accident or sudden illness. **Only persons listed on this form may be contacted or authorized to release the student from school. Please notify the school, in writing, should any change take place during the course of the school year.** All forms are available under the parent tab on the district website.

## MEDICATION AT SCHOOL

In those unique circumstances where a student must take prescribed or over the counter medication during the school day, the following procedures will be observed:

B. Parents should cooperatively determine with their physician’s counsel whether the medication schedule can be adjusted to avoid administering medication during school hours.

C. Appropriate request and release forms must be filed with the respective building principal or school nurse **before** the student will be allowed to begin taking any medication during school hours. This includes both prescription and non-prescription medications.

D. This release form shall be written and signed by the parent(s) and physician and shall include:

7. Authorization for school personnel to administer the prescribed medication;

8. Agreement/satisfactory arrangement to deliver medication to/from school;

9. Agreement to notify the school in writing if the medication, dosage, schedule, or procedure is changed or eliminated. A new request form must be submitted each school year.

E. All medication to be administered during school hours must be registered with the respective principal’s office.

F. Medication that is brought to the office will be secured.

G. For each prescribed medication, and over the counter medication (aspirin, cough syrup, etc.) the container shall have pharmacist’s label with the following information:

- Student’s Name
- Physician’s Name
- Date
- Pharmacy Name and Telephone
- Name of medication
- Prescribed dosage
- Frequency and special handling and storage directions

H. It is the parent’s/guardian’s responsibility to provide the school with the adequate supply of medication. Long-term daily medication may be brought by the parent on a monthly basis.

I. Any unused medication unclaimed by the parent will be destroyed by school personnel, when a prescription is no longer to be administered, or at the end of a school year.

J. The parents/guardians have sole responsibility to instruct their child to present himself/herself for taking the medication at the scheduled time, and the child has the responsibility for presenting himself/herself to take the prescribed medication. Efforts will be made by school personnel to communicate a student’s medication needs to all.

K. Students are permitted to carry and use an epinephrine auto injector (epi-pen) to treat anaphylaxis (severe allergic reactions). The right to carry and

use an epi-pen extends to any activity, event or program sponsored by the student's school or activity, event or program in which the school participates.

L. Student possession of an epi-pen is permitted only if the student has written approval from the prescriber of the medication and, if a minor, from his/her parent. Written approval must be on file with the principal, and, if one is assigned, the school nurse. In addition, the principal or school nurse must receive a backup dose of the medication from the parent or student.

If it is necessary to administer the Epi-Pen to a student who has a life-threatening reaction from a bee sting, the procedure will be to then transport the student by she will gladly assist you. The telephone in the office is for official business. EXCEPT IN CASES OF ILLNESS OR EMERGENCY AND WITH PERMISSION OF THE OFFICE SECRETARY, THE OFFICE TELEPHONE IS NOT FOR STUDENT USE.

### **SCHOOL FEES AND MATERIALS**

Most textbooks are furnished by the Claymont Board of Education. They are not to be marked in, torn, or damaged in any way. If a book is damaged or lost, the student to whom the book was issued is charged a fine to cover the cost of replacement. All fees must be paid by the end of the nine weeks or report cards will be for a student to receive a diploma at graduation. All fees must be paid by the end of the year.

#### **Lost books:**

- a. If the book is less than one (1) year old; the student shall pay a replacement cost as reflected in the current publisher's catalog.
- b. If the book is between one (1) and two (2) years old, the student shall pay fifty percent (50%) of the current catalog cost.
  - If two (2) or three (3) years old – 40%
  - If three (3) or four (4) years old – 30%
  - If more than four (4) years old – 20%

### **SCHOOL INSURANCE**

An accident insurance policy is available to students desiring coverage. The cost of the policy will be announced or given to the student. The policy offers insurance protection to pupils on their way to and from school, and while participating in most school-organized activities. This policy takes care of expenses not covered by other valid and collectible insurance covering the injury. Twenty-four hour insurance is also available.

Students participating in interscholastic sports are required by Board Policy to have an adequate insurance plan or waiver form on file in the athletic office. Participants in football will be under a different coverage of this policy.

### **STUDENTS ARE NOT TO LEAVE THE SCHOOL BUILDING AT ANY TIME DURING SCHOOL HOURS EXCEPT BY SPECIAL PERMISSION OF THE PRINCIPAL.**

Except in the case of scheduled activities supervised by members of the staff, or their authorized representatives, no student is to remain in the building more than fifteen (15) minutes after the conclusion of the school day.

## **STUDENT FIELD TRIPS**

Field trips taken by a class must be approved in advance by the school administration. In order for a student to participate in a field trip or other activity requiring early release, excluding participating in scheduled sports activities, a student must have turned in a permission slip and emergency medical form, signed by the parent/guardian and have an acceptable attendance record. Teachers always reserve the right to deny a student's participation on a field trip.

## **ACADEMIC ASSIST PERIOD**

- Students should report to Academic Assist prepared to work.
- This is a structured class time to address academic needs.

## **TELEPHONE CALLS**

Students will not be called from class to answer the telephone, except in urgent cases. Messages will be taken and delivered to students.

All telephone calls should be confined to school business, except in an emergency. Students should plan so that they will seldom need to use the telephone. However, if an urgent need arises, office permission may be granted to use the office telephone. **Students are not permitted to text message or make calls from their cell phones before coming to the office first.**

## **VISITORS**

The Board of Education and school administration encourage visits to our school by parents, adult residents of the community, and others on official school business. Visitors must make arrangements with the principal in advance of the visit, if possible.

ALL VISITORS MUST buzz in at the front entrance of the school, and those who are permitted to visit must sign in at the main office.

The following will normally be approved:

1. Parents,
2. People on official business,
3. Former students who wish to visit teachers during their conference or lunch periods.
4. Others as determined by the principal.

## **SCHOOL TRANSPORTATION SAFETY RULES**

The same regulations regarding care of property in the classroom or on the school grounds apply to those pupils who ride the school bus. Bus students are not permitted to ride any bus other than their assigned route unless special permission is obtained from the principal or transportation supervisor.

The bus driver is in full charge of the bus at all times and shall be responsible for order. The driver may assign each pupil a seat.

The following regulations are in effect for transported students:

1. Pupils shall arrive at the bus stop before the bus is scheduled to arrive.
2. Pupils must wait in a location clear of traffic and away from the bus stops.
3. Behavior at school bus stops must not threaten life, limb, or property of any individual.
4. Pupils must go directly to an available or assigned seat.
5. Pupils must remain seated keeping aisles and exits clear.
6. Pupils must observe classroom conduct and obey the driver promptly and respectfully.
7. Pupils must not use profane language.

8. Pupils must refrain from eating and drinking on the bus, except as required for medical reasons.
9. Pupils must not possess or use tobacco on the bus.
10. Pupils must not have alcohol or drugs in their possession on the bus, except for prescription medication being brought for administration at school.
11. Pupils must not throw or pass objects on, from, or into the bus.
12. Pupils may leave or board the bus ONLY at locations to which they have been assigned unless they have parental and administrative authorization to do otherwise.
13. Pupils must not put their head or arms out of the bus windows.
14. Pupils must not deface, damage, or destroy bus property.
15. Any student riding a school bus who refuses to identify themselves to the bus driver may lose their bus transportation privileges for one (1) calendar year. Also, students who threaten the bus driver or swear at them will receive the same punishment.

Students choosing to violate the school transportation safety rules may have their bus-riding privileges revoked for a period of time. (Further consequences may also occur at the building that could result in detention, suspension, etc.) Continued violation of transportation safety rules may result in a student's bus-riding privileges being revoked for the remainder of the school year. **If a student has been denied the privilege of riding a school bus, this includes all school buses in the Claymont City School District**

**\*Student pick ups and drop offs are permitted on Uhrich Street ONLY. It is a safety hazard for students, bus drivers, and parents to be picked up on Main Street.**

## STUDENT CONDUCT CODE

Effective discipline is an important and necessary prerequisite for effective learning. Rules and regulations are intended to create a positive educational environment, which holds students accountable for their behavior and teaches them that there are consequences to their decisions.

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### **STUDENT GUIDELINES FOR REASONABLE CONDUCT AND RESPONSIBILITY**

The Board of Education and School Administration recognize the rights of students as individuals. It is also recognized that these rights must be balanced with the interests of an orderly and effective educational process in a school environment conducive to the healthy growth and development of all students. Teachers must be able to teach, supervise, and conduct their educational program. Students should not lose their right to a good education because of the disruptive actions of another student. In general, we all must consider the rights of others and assume the responsibilities that our rights place upon us.

#### Expected Behaviors

Students are expected to:

1. Be courteous and respectful to adults and fellow students
2. Be on time for school and class
3. Be attentive in class
4. Work cooperatively with others regardless of the other's ability, gender, race, or ethnic background
5. Complete assigned tasks on time as directed
6. Help maintain a school environment that is safe, friendly, and productive.

7. Act at all times in a manner that reflects pride in self, family, and in the school.

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For the educational mission of the district to be accomplished, the following student Conduct Code for Claymont High School is established.

The items in this Code apply to misconduct by a student that occurs on property owned or controlled by the District and off of property owned or controlled by the District but that is connected to activities or incidents that have occurred on property owned or controlled by the District and misconduct by a student that, regardless of where it occurs, is directed at a District official or employee or the property of such official or employee and all students when properly under the authority of school personnel during a school activity, function, or event whether on property owned, rented, or maintained by the Board of Education or property owned, rented, or maintained by another party. Additionally, the provisions of this Code shall apply to students if the prohibited act(s) takes place while on properties immediately adjacent to school property, within the line of sight of school property, on school transportation, or if the act affects the operation of the schools.

This Code shall also be inclusive of the right to exercise authority and for personal and property protection of administrators, teachers, librarians, or clerks, substitute teachers, teacher aides, monitors, authorized volunteers, tutors, secretaries, cooks, custodians, bus drivers, visitors, or other authorized school personnel. Violation by a student of any one or more of the following rules of conduct may result in disciplinary action(s), which may include detention, parental contact, referral to legal authorities, emergency removal, disciplinary removal, suspension, expulsion, or permanent exclusion. A student may be suspended pending the outcome of expulsion proceedings.

- A. ASSAULT, ASSAULT, AND BATTERY or threat thereof to any school personnel, other student, or visitor.
- B. FALSE ALARMS - including fire and/or bomb threats.
- C. Use, possession, concealment, transmitting, or being under the influence of ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES, or LOW ALCOHOL BEER, that being a brewed or fermented malt product containing either no alcohol or not more than 0.5% of alcohol by volume.
- D. Use, possession, concealment, buying, selling, transmitting, or being under the influence of any substance containing betel nut or any NARCOTIC DRUG OR OTHER CONTROLLED SUBSTANCE, including, but not limited to marijuana, hemp, and hemp products, as defined in R.C. 928.01, as well as any counterfeit or "look-alike" controlled substance or any prescription drug or medication which is not in its original container and prescribed for the student.
- E. DISRUPTION OF SCHOOL by use of violence, force, coercion, threat, harassment, noise, or disorderly conduct. This shall include the use of the same to incite others toward acts of disruption.



- F. ARSON OR ATTEMPTED ARSON, AND RELATED OFFENSES.
- G. POSSESSION, USE, OR THREATENED USE OF FIREWORKS, EXPLOSIVES, OR OTHER SUCH INSTRUMENTS capable of inflicting bodily injury or disrupting the operation of the schools.
- H. POSSESSION, USE, OR THREATENED USE OF WEAPONS, or any object which might be considered a dangerous weapon or instrument of violence, including counterfeit or look-alike weapons.
- I. REPEATED OFFENSES OR FLAGRANT VIOLATIONS of any school rules or accepted standards of school behavior.
- J. VIOLATION OF FEDERAL OR STATE STATUTES on school premises or involving school activities.
- K. VIOLATION OF TERMS OF SUSPENSION EXPULSION, OR OTHER FORMS OF DISCIPLINE.
- L. DAMAGE, DESTRUCTION, DEFACEMENT, OR VANDALISM of school property or private property on school premises; (including buses) or at any school.
- M. TOBACCO/NICOTINE. A student shall not possess, use, transmit, or conceal any tobacco product, any alternative nicotine product or device, including electronic, vapor, or other substitute forms of cigarettes, or any tobacco or nicotine cessation product on school premises, during school activities, or events off school grounds.
- N. USE OF PROFANE, INDECENT, OR OBSCENE LANGUAGE written or verbal; directed toward school personnel or students. This shall include the use of obscene gestures, pictures, or signs.
- O. INSUBORDINATION AND/OR DISOBEDIENCE in refusing to comply with directions of school personnel.
- P. TRUANCY from school; including study hall, class, or any other assigned activity for class, or any other assigned activity for part or all of a day, without school authorization.
- Q. REPEATED TARDINESS to class or school.
- R. Being under the influence of ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES OR MIND ALTERING SUBSTANCES while on school property; (including buses) or at any school-sponsored activities.
- S. THEFT of school property or equipment, of personal property of any school personnel, or another student or visitor, including property at school-sponsored activities.
- T. FIGHTING among two or more students on school property; (including buses) or at any school-sponsored activity. This shall include inciting and/or encouraging others to fight.
- U. The act of EXTORTION from any person on school property; (including buses) or at any school-sponsored activity.
- V. GAMBLING for money or valuables on school property (including buses) or at any school-sponsored activity.
- W. THE ACT OF FALSELY REPORTING INCIDENTS, making accusations, or giving testimony to school personnel.
- X. FALSIFYING in writing the name of another person, times, dates, grades, addresses, or other data on school forms or correspondence directed to the school.
- Y. CHEATING.
- Z. PLAGIARISM.

- AA. TRESPASSING OR LOITERING.
- BB. HAZING AND INTIMIDATION, subjecting other students to pranks or humiliation causing mental or physical harm.
- CC. POSSESSION OF A FIREARM: Firearm has the same meaning as provided pursuant to the “Gun-Free Schools Act of 1994.” At the time this policy was adopted, the above-referenced statute defined a firearm as any weapon (including a starter’s gun) that will or is designed to or may readily be converted to expel a projectile by the action of an explosive; including the frame or receiver of any such weapon; and any firearm muffler or silencer; or any destructive device. A firearm does not include an antique firearm; a rifle that the owner intends to use solely for sporting and recreational or cultural purposes; any device that is neither designed nor redesigned for use as a weapon; any device, although originally designed as a weapon, redesigned as a signaling, pyrotechnic, line throwing, safety or like device, surplus ordnance, sold, loaned or given by the Secretary of the Army or Class C common fireworks. If the definition of a firearm as provided by the “Gun Free Schools Act of 1994” changes, then the definition outlined in this policy shall automatically change to conform to it.
- DD. POSSESSION OF A KNIFE: Knife, for the purposes of this policy, is defined as a cutting instrument consisting of a sharp blade or edge.
- EE. Leaving school property or assigned area prior to specified dismissal time without official permission.
- FF. Open displays of affection between members of the same or opposite sex.
- GG. Unauthorized throwing of any object including, but not limited to, snowballs.
- HH. Commission of an immoral act.
- II. Failure to pay tuition or other approved charges.
- JJ. Violation of state student mandates, including, but not limited to, required immunization.
- KK. Loitering, littering, or causing a disturbance on public or private property adjacent to, across from, or in close proximity to a school site, while either coming to and from school or school activities, or during the school day, or during school activities.
- LL. Violation of school policies pertaining to dress and appearance.
- MM. Misuse of school property.
- NN. Violation of school building or classroom rules or directives from staff, regarding use of cell phone or other personal communication devices.
- OO. The Superintendent may prohibit a student from attending and/or participating in the District’s graduation ceremonies as part of a student’s suspension, expulsion, or removal from school.
- PP. Those acts or violations listed in the permanent exclusion portion of the Board policy on student disciplinary procedures.

- QQ. Violation of policies governing internet usage.
- RR. Driving in an unsafe manner.
- SS. Collusion, complicity, or aiding and abetting anyone in the commission of conduct prohibited by Board policy, or state or federal law.
- TT. Any attempts to engage in conduct prohibited by this policy.
- UU. Any other form of behavior that is detrimental to a proper school and/or school activity atmosphere as prescribed by the Administration and as outlined in the student/parent handbook for the building in which the student is enrolled.
- VV. Gang membership and/or gang activity. For purposes of this policy, a gang is an organization, association, or group of three (3) or more people, using a common name or one or more common identifying signs, symbols, or colors, whose members individually or collectively engage in criminal activity.
- WW. Violation of any Executive Orders or laws, or policies, rules, regulations or directives concerning social distancing, hand washing, wearing of masks, or other health and safety protocols generated by the District in response to infectious diseases.
- XX. Bullying, as defined in Board Policy 9.29. Such conduct is marked by the intent to ridicule, humiliate, or intimidate the victim.

#### **STUDENT RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES**

1. The rights and limits of students respecting freedom of speech, press, and assembly shall be in accord with the First Amendment of the United States Constitution.
2. Students shall have the right of representation and due process procedures in matters of suspension, removal, and expulsion.
3. In light of these orderly procedures for dealing with student concerns, no student shall disrupt any school-related activity.
4. Every member of the school community, including students, parents, and the school staff, has the responsibility to promote regular attendance at school, orderly conduct and behavior, freedom from fear of insult or injury, and maximum opportunities for learning on the part of each student.
5. The privileges and rights for all students shall be guaranteed without regard to race, religion, sex, creed, or national origin.

#### **STUDENT GUIDELINES FOR REASONABLE CONDUCT AND RESPONSIBILITY**

The Board of Education and School Administration recognize the rights of students as individuals. It is also recognized that these rights must be balanced with the interests of an orderly and effective educational process in a school environment conducive to the healthy growth and development of all students. Teachers must be able to teach, supervise, and conduct their educational program. Students should not lose their right to a good education because of the disruptive actions of another student. In general, we all must consider the rights of others and assume the responsibilities that our rights place upon us.

In order that this may be accomplished, the following student conduct code for Claymont Jr. High School is established.

## **DEFINITION OF TERMS**

**DETENTION:** The holding of a student in a specified limited area during lunch or before or after school.

**HEARING:** When a student is sent to the office for disciplinary action, the student will be given an informal hearing by the administration. The hearing process and any forms which a student is requested to complete are designed to assure his/her of due process to which they are entitled by law. If prior to or during the hearing, the hearing officer decides that the student may be subject to suspension or expulsion because of the nature of the infraction, he will advise the student at that time.

**EMERGENCY REMOVAL:** Removal of a student whose presence poses a continuing danger to persons or property or an on-going threat of disruption to the academic process.

**IN-SCHOOL STUDY:** The placement of a student in a place isolated from the rest (ISS) of the students. Assignments will be required to be completed during this time. Following the ISS days, a student may return to regular classes, provided that all assignments have been completed.

**OUT-OF-SCHOOL SUSPENSION:** The removal of school attendance and all school activity (OSS) privileges for a period of one (1) to ten (10) days. A student suspended from school may not participate or practice in any school event for the duration of that suspension.

**EXPULSION:** The removal of school attendance and all school activity privileges for a specified period of time in excess of ten (10) days. A student expelled from school may not participate in any school event for the duration of that expulsion.

**PERMANENT EXCLUSION:** The student is banned forever from attending a public school in the State of Ohio.

## **Regulations for Saturday School**

The rules governing Saturday School will be consistent with the rules in the middle school handbook. In addition, students will be expected to observe the following:

1. It is the responsibility of the parent/student to arrange transportation for student drop-off (if needed) and pick-up.
2. Students are expected to be in the assigned room prior to the start of Saturday School.
3. Students must bring work/Chromebooks. Only school work and appropriate material are permitted.
4. If it is determined by the monitor that the student is disruptive or has failed to follow Saturday School guidelines, the student will be dismissed and further disciplinary action will occur at the administrator's discretion.
5. Students are not permitted to talk, sleep, or pass notes
6. Cell phones are to be powered off
7. Students are not permitted to eat or drink

8. If a student is absent on the day that their Saturday School was assigned, they will be expected to make the day up. How and when the day is made up will be determined by administration.

### **CONSEQUENCES FOR SEVERE BEHAVIOR**

1. Recommend expulsion to the Superintendent.
2. Remove students from an activity or school organization or remove student privileges.
3. Require restitution (in cases of stealing or property damage)
4. Notify police and/or court authorities.
5. Move to cite a student in court.
6. Refer students to Children's Services.

The severity of disciplinary measures taken is dependent on the severity of the offense committed. However, the progression from least severe to most severe is as follows.

Detention  
In-School Study (ISS)  
Saturday School  
Out-of-School Suspension (OSS)  
Recommendation for Expulsion

## Claymont Middle School Disciplinary Code – Level I

### Description

### Examples

### Disciplinary Options/Responses

Misbehavior on the part of the student which impedes orderly classroom procedures or interferes with the orderly operation of the school.

### PROCEDURES

There is immediate and consistent intervention by the teacher who is supervising the student or observes the misbehavior.

The teacher maintains an anecdotal record of the offenses and disciplinary action.

The teacher may wish to discuss misbehavior with the parent, administrator, and/or support personnel.

The teacher is notified of the administrator's actions

Parents are notified of the student's misbehavior

A proper and accurate record of the offenses and disciplinary action is maintained by the administrator.

- Disruption of educational environment
  - Detrimental Behavior
  - Violation of electronic device policy
  - Cheating or lying
  - Eating in unauthorized areas
  - Horseplay or scuffling
  - Inappropriate wearing apparel (hats, shorts, thin strapped tops, etc.)
  - Loud, boisterous noise
  - Minor defacing of school property (Writing on desks, walls, books, etc.)
  - Public display of emotion or affection
  - Tardiness to class or study hall
  - Throwing objects (pencils, erasers, snowballs, etc.)
  - Sleeping in class/study hall
  - Violation of classroom procedures established by the teacher
  - Harassment of fellow students
  - Use of inappropriate language / gestures
- Verbal reprimand
  - Personal talk
  - Special seating within the classroom
  - Withdrawal of privileges
  - Teacher detention
  - Saturday School
  - Special assignment
  - Telephone call to parent(s)
  - Written letter or email communication with parent(s)
  - Restorative Practices
  - Parental conference
  - School Counselor referral
  - Device restriction

**NOTE: LEVEL I EXAMPLES AND DISCIPLINARY OPTIONS/RESPONSES ARE NOT LIMITED TO THOSE PROVIDED IN THE STUDENT HANDBOOK**

## Claymont Middle School Disciplinary Code – Level II

Description	Examples	Disciplinary Options/Responses
<p>Often result from the <u>continuation</u> of Level 1 misbehavior(s) and require the intervention of personnel because the use of level 1 disciplinary responses/options has failed to correct the situation.</p> <p>Also included in this level are misbehavior(s) which tend to disrupt the orderly climate and conduct of the school.</p> <p>They are serious enough to require corrective action on the part of administrative personnel.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Continuation of Level 1 misbehavior(s)</li> <li>- Disruption of educational environment</li> <li>- Detrimental Behavior</li> <li>- Violation of electronic device policy</li> <li>- Acting in an insubordinate manner</li> <li>- Bus disturbance</li> <li>- Cafeteria disturbance</li> <li>- Cutting class/study hall</li> <li>- Gambling</li> <li>- Dress that causes disruption to the educational process</li> <li>- Failure to complete assigned detentions</li> <li>- Falsification of records, excuses, passes, schedules, etc.</li> <li>- Leaving school without permission</li> <li>- Loitering in unauthorized areas</li> <li>- Misbehavior at school-sponsored activities</li> <li>- Possession of obscene materials</li> <li>- Flagrant disrespect to school personnel/students in word or gesture</li> <li>- Truancy</li> <li>- Possession and/or use of tobacco products</li> <li>- Dissemination of unauthorized materials that violate school rules, e.g.-printed materials, buttons, etc.</li> <li>- Internet/Technology violations</li> <li>- Tardiness to school</li> <li>- Blatant use of inappropriate language</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Warning</li> <li>- Office Detention</li> <li>- Withdraw of privilege</li> <li>- Parental conference</li> <li>- Restorative Practices</li> <li>- Referral to School Counselor</li> <li>- Referral to an outside agency</li> <li>- Confiscation of objectionable items</li> <li>- District attendance policy</li> <li>- Saturday School</li> <li>- In-school-study of one to three days</li> <li>- Out-of-school suspension of one to ten days</li> <li>- Emergency Removal</li> <li>- Device restriction</li> </ul>
<p><b><u>PROCEDURES</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Referral to administrator</li> <li>-Administrator meets with student and/or teacher to determine the most appropriate responses</li> <li>-The teacher is notified of the administrator's actions</li> <li>-Parents are notified of the student's misbehavior</li> <li>-A proper and accurate record of the offenses and disciplinary action is maintained by the administrator.</li> </ul>		
		<p><b><u>NOTE: LEVEL II EXAMPLES AND DISCIPLINARY OPTIONS / RESPONSES ARE NOT LIMITED TO THOSE PROVIDED IN THE STUDENT HANDBOOK.</u></b></p> <p><b><u>NOTE: REPEATED OFFENSES OF A PARTICULAR INFRACTION MAY RESULT IN MORE SEVERE THOSE PROVIDED IN THE STUDENT HANDBOOK.</u></b></p>

## Claymont Middle School Disciplinary Code – Level III

Description	Examples	Disciplinary Options/Responses
<p>These infractions sometimes result from the <u>continuation</u> of Level II misbehaviors.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Continuation of unmodified Level II behaviors</li> <li>- Disruption of educational environment</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Temporary removal from class</li> <li>- In-school-study of one to five days</li> </ul>
<p>These acts are more serious because their consequences have a lasting and detrimental effect on an individual or may pose a threat to the health and safety of others in the school.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Violation of electronic device policy</li> <li>- Attempting to break into secured areas or actually doing so</li> <li>- Assault and/or battery of another student</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Saturday School</li> <li>- Out-of-school suspension of one to ten days</li> <li>- Parental conference</li> </ul>
<p>While some acts may be considered criminal acts, most can be handled by responses available to school personnel.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Dissemination or display of unauthorized inflammatory/inappropriate materials that are in violation of school policy</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Withdrawal of privileges</li> <li>- Restitution of property and damages</li> <li>- Alternatives to Suspension</li> </ul>
<p><b><u>PROCEDURES</u></b></p> <p>The administrator initiates disciplinary action by investigating the infraction, and if necessary, conferring with the teacher about the consequences.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Fighting (regardless of who started the fight)</li> <li>- Indecent exposure</li> <li>- Sexting from any electronic device during the school day</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Contact law enforcement officials</li> <li>- Referral to School Counselor</li> <li>- Referral to outside agencies</li> </ul>
<p>The administrator meets with the student and confers with the parent about the student's misconduct and appropriate disciplinary responses.</p> <p>The administrator maintains an accurate record of the offenses and disciplinary actions.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Threatening Harm: verbal or physical threat to student(s) and/or school personnel</li> <li>- Theft, possession, or sale of another's property or possessions</li> <li>- Unauthorized Fire</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Assignment to an alternative educational setting</li> <li>- Device restriction</li> </ul>
<p>If appropriate the principal or assistant principal contacts law enforcement officials.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- F word used in open forum/ toward staff</li> <li>- profanity used in a disruptive manner</li> </ul>	<p><b><u>NOTE: LEVEL III EXAMPLES AND DISCIPLINARY OPTIONS /RESPONSES ARE NOT LIMITED TO THOSE PROVIDED IN THE STUDENT HANDBOOK.</u></b></p> <p><b><u>NOTE: REPORTED OFFENSES OF A PARTICULAR INFRACTION MAY RESULT IN A MORE SEVERE DISCIPLINARY RESPONSE.</u></b></p>



## Claymont Middle School Disciplinary Code – Level IV

Description	Examples	Disciplinary Options/Responses
Disciplinary action under Level IV could result from <u>continuation</u> of lower level offenses.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Continuation of Level III misbehaviors</li> <li>- Disruption of educational environment</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Maximum ten days out-of-school suspension with an informal due process hearing</li> </ul>
Also included: acts resulting in <u>violence to person(s) or property</u> , which pose a direct <u>threat to the safety and welfare</u> of others in school.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Detrimental Behavior</li> <li>- Violation of cell phone policy</li> <li>- Assault and/or battery on school personnel</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Referral to appropriate law enforcement agencies</li> <li>- Referral for psychological services</li> </ul>
These acts are criminal in nature, are so serious that they always require administrative action resulting in the immediate removal from the school.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Arson</li> <li>- Bomb threat</li> <li>- Engaging in conduct prohibited by the criminal code or ordinances of the State or community while on school grounds or at school activities</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Referral for alcohol/drug rehabilitation</li> <li>- Restitution for damages or property</li> <li>- Emergency Removal</li> </ul>
The intervention of law enforcement authorities and/or action by the Superintendent may also be required.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Engaging in conduct so disruptive as to interfere with the orderly operation of school, or which creates a clear and present danger to the health and welfare of the school or community</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Expulsion</li> </ul>
<b><u>PROCEDURES</u></b>		
The administrator verifies the offense, and if necessary, confers with the teacher involved before meeting with the student.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Harassment of school personnel</li> </ul>	
The student is immediately removed from school on an emergency basis and parents are notified.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Possession/use/furnishing/selling controlled substances (alcohol or drugs)</li> <li>- Possession/use/transfer of dangerous weapons or explosives</li> <li>- Setting off incendiary devices (firecrackers, smoke bombs, etc)</li> </ul>	
Informal due process for suspension takes place during the time of the emergency removal.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Unwarranted pulling of a fire alarm</li> </ul>	
In the event of expulsion, the student receives a due process hearing before the Superintendent.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Major vandalism on school property or personal property of school personnel</li> <li>- Sexual and other forms of harassment</li> </ul>	
-	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Any disciplinary infractions listed in levels I-IV can also result in the withdrawal of privileges from school-sponsored activities.</b></p>	
		<p><b>NOTE: LEVEL IV EXAMPLES AND DISCIPLINARY RESPONSES ARE NOT LIMITED TO THOSE PROVIDED IN THE STUDENT HANDBOOK</b></p>

## **CONTROLLED SUBSTANCE AND SUBSTANCE ABUSE**

No student shall use, exhibit the signs of being under the influence, sell, attempt to sell, possess, give, package, or deliver any prohibited substance while on the way to school, on school property or while involved in a school activity or function. **THE ODOR OF A PROHIBITED SUBSTANCE IS SUFFICIENT TO CONSTITUTE POSSESSION.**

For purposes of this policy, a prohibited substance is defined as:

1. All alcoholic beverages.
2. All dangerous controlled substances are designated and prohibited by the Ohio statute.
3. All chemicals that release toxic vapors (i.e. glue, gasoline, cleaning fluids, white out, etc.)
4. Any prescription or patent drug except those for which permission to use in school has been granted pursuant to Board policy.
5. Any drug that bears, or whose container or label bears a trademark, trade name, or other identifying mark used without authorization of the owner or rights to such trademark, trade name or identifying mark.
6. Any unmarked or unlabeled substance that is represented to be a controlled substance.
7. Any substance other than a controlled substance that a reasonable person would believe to be a controlled substance because of its similarity in shape, size, color, markings, labeling, packaging, distribution, or the price for which it is sold or offered for sale.
8. Any substance that is represented to be a controlled substance but is not a controlled substance or is a different controlled substance.
9. The use or possession of inhalants or of drug paraphernalia.
10. Rub/snuff/chewing tobacco, cigarettes, e-cigarettes/vapes (this includes vitamin vapes), nicotine gum, nicotine pouches.

## **DANGEROUS WEAPONS**

The Board of Education will not tolerate the possession of weapons or other devices designed to inflict bodily harm by anyone while on district property or at a school-related event.

This prohibition shall also encompass such actions as look-alike items, false fire alarms, bomb threats, or intentional calls to falsely cause a dangerous condition.

*ANY STUDENT WHO BRINGS A FIREARM ONTO SCHOOL PROPERTY SHALL BE EXPELLED FOR AT LEAST ONE (1) YEAR (365 DAYS) UNLESS THE SUPERINTENDENT REDUCES THE PUNISHMENT FOR REASONS JUSTIFIED BY THE PARTICULAR CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE INCIDENT.*

## **HARASSMENT ISSUES**

The Board of Education recognizes that a student has a right to learn in an environment untainted by sexual or other forms of harassment or discrimination. Offensive conduct which has the purpose or effect of unreasonably interfering with learning performance or creating an intimidating, hostile, discriminatory, or offensive learning environment disrupts the educational process and impedes the legitimate pedagogical concerns of the District.

The harassment by a student of a staff member or fellow student of this District is forbidden. Any student who is found to have harassed a staff member or student will be subject to discipline in accordance with law and the Code of Conduct.

## **Definition of Harassment**

Harassment is “intentional written, verbal, or physical acts” exhibited by one student toward another, more than one time, if it both causes mental or physical harm and is “sufficiently severe, persistent, or pervasive that it creates an intimidating, threatening or abusive educational environment.”

Conduct constituting harassment may take different forms, including, but not limited to the following.

### **Sexual Harassment**

- A. Verbal: The making of written or oral sexual innuendos, suggestive comments, and jokes of a sexual nature, sexual propositions, or threats to a fellow student, staff member, or other person associated with the District
- B. Non-Verbal: Causing the placement of sexually suggestive objects, pictures, or graphic commentaries in the school environment or the making of sexually suggestive or insulting gestures, sounds, leering, whistling, and the like to a fellow student, staff member, or other person associated with the District.
- C. Physical Contact: Threatening or causing unwanted touching, contact, or attempts at same, including patting, pinching, pushing the body, or coerced sexual intercourse, with a fellow student, staff member, or other person associated with the District.

### **Gender/Ethnic/Religious/Disability/Height/Weight Harassment**

- A. Verbal: Written or oral innuendoes, comments, jokes, insults, threats, or disparaging remarks concerning a person's gender, national origin, religious beliefs, etc. toward a fellow student, staff member, or other person associated with the District. It also includes conducting a “campaign of silence” toward a fellow student, staff member, or other person associated with the District by refusing to have any form of social interaction with the person.
- B. Non-Verbal: Placing objects, pictures, or graphic commentaries in the school environment or making insulting or threatening gestures toward a fellow student, staff member, or other person associated with the District.
- C. Physical: Any intimidating or disparaging action such as hitting, hissing, or spitting on a fellow student, staff member or other person associated with the district.

Any student who believes that he/she is the victim of any of the above actions or has observed such actions taken by another student, staff member, or other person associated with the District should make contact with a guidance counselor, assistant principal or building principal with whom the student would most likely be comfortable in discussing a matter of this kind.

Each report received by the principal shall be investigated in a timely and confidential manner.

## **SCHOOL DRESS AND GROOMING**

The appearance of any young person is the responsibility of that individual's parent/ guardian. A student's appearance is a source of pride not only to the individual, but to the family and school as well. It is recognized that a student's mode of dress reflects personal style and individual preference; however, inappropriate dress and appearance may distract or become a detriment to the educational process, and therefore, will not be tolerated.

Dress will be judged in regards to its potential disruption in the learning process, health, and well-being of the student, safety and moral content. If the student's appearance is considered by the principal, assistant principal, or the guidance counselor to be inappropriate he/she will be asked to alter it. **The interpretation and judgment relative to the student dress and grooming code rests solely with school officials and is final.** The following dress items are NOT permitted to be worn in school and/or at school related events:

1. Clothing that is deemed too revealing
2. Clothing that depicts:
  - a. Violent acts
  - b. Alcohol/alcohol usage
  - c. Tobacco/tobacco usage
  - d. Vulgar, obscene, or implied sexual content or sexual preference
  - e. Drugs/drug usage
  - f. Discrimination, prejudice, bigotry, hatred, cults, and/or gang affiliation
3. Hats, hoods, bandannas, sunglasses are not permitted to be worn during the school day.
4. All dresses, shorts, and skirts must be at least mid-thigh in length.
5. Volleyball spandex shorts/athletic spandex shorts are not permitted to be worn during the school day.
6. Book bags are not permitted to be carried in the hallways or taken to class- only cinch sack/drawstring bags.
7. Headphones/Airpods are only allowed to be worn in class for assignments/classroom activities.

\*All jewelry will be taken into consideration by administration in regards to safety of the student (for example: ear gages, nose rings, etc)

### **CHRONIC ABSENTEEISM**

As defined by House Bill 410: any student missing at least 10% of school days for any reason.

### **ATTENDANCE PROCEDURES**

Regular school attendance is extremely important to the student's educational experience. The laws of the State of Ohio place the responsibility for school attendance on the parents/guardians. Parents/guardians are required to have their child attend school regularly. Failure to do so may result in disciplinary action. Poor attendance often results in poor schoolwork and poor attitude towards education. Daily classroom participation is crucial to the student's education and good grades. There will be times, however, when it is necessary for students to be absent from school. All student absences are classified as either Excused or Unexcused.

### **EXCUSED ABSENCE**

Excused absences are those authorized and permitted by the school. Make-up work, including tests, for excused absences will be arranged between the student and the teacher. *The student must take the initiative in the make-up procedure.* Except

for extended illness, students will have one (1) day for each consecutive day's absence to complete the make-up work.

#### THE FOLLOWING ARE CLASSIFIED AS **EXCUSED ABSENCES**:

1. **PERSONAL ILLNESS** – The school may require the certificate of a doctor if they deem it advisable.
2. **ILLNESS IN THE FAMILY.**
3. **QUARANTINE OF THE HOME** – The absence of a student from school under this condition is limited to the length of the quarantine as fixed by the proper health officials.
4. **DEATH OF A RELATIVE** – The absence arising from this reasonable cause is limited to a period of three (3) days unless a reasonable cause may be shown by the applicant student for a longer absence.
5. **HOME WORK DUE TO ABSENCE OF PARENTS OR GUARDIANS** – Any absence arising because of this condition shall not extend for a period longer than that for which the parents or guardians were absent from the home due to hardship. Extended absence will result in social workers being called into the home.
6. **OBSERVANCE OF RELIGIOUS HOLIDAYS.**
7. **ABSENCE DURING PART OF THE SCHOOL DAY FOR HEALTH REASONS** – Because of the importance attached to good health, students who have appointments for health reasons shall be excused for that purpose, provided (A) the student has a statement to that effect from his/her parents or guardians, (B) the student brings to the attendance officer a signed statement from the doctor or dentist to the effect that he/she reported promptly for such service, and (C) the student reports back to school immediately after his/her appointment if school is still in session.
8. **ABSENCE DURING PART OF THE SCHOOL DAY FOR LEGAL REASONS** – a student may be excused from school if his/her presence is required in a court of law. Parental documentation or documentation from the court is required.
9. **OTHERS AS DETERMINED BY AND WITH PRIOR APPROVAL OF A PRINCIPAL.**

#### **UNEXCUSED/UNAUTHORIZED ABSENCES**

When a student is absent and the excuse does not fall within the framework of adopted school board policy, the Ohio Revised Code and the State Board of Education Regulation, the absence is unexcused.

**Unexcused absences also carry the following penalties:**

**Eight (8) unexcused absences during the school year will result in a Saturday School or half day of ISS.**

#### **TARDY(Morning tardy policy)**

Students at Claymont Middle School must report to their homerooms by 7:40 AM or they will be marked tardy. Students arriving after 7:55 AM are considered a "partial excused" or "partial unexcused" absence. If a student provides an excuse from the list of reasonable excuses, it is considered "partial excused". Students who receive 8 tardies to 1st period/homeroom per semester will be issued a ½ day of In School Study or Friday School

#### **TARDY TO CLASS**

Students are expected to be in class and ready to begin at the start time of each class period. Students should not be in the halls, restroom, or anywhere except

in their assigned location. **Once a student accumulates 4 tardies to class in a semester, he/she will receive a ½ day of In School Study or Friday School.**

### **Excessive Absences**

House Bill 410 states when a student of compulsory school age is absent from school with combined non medical excused absences and unexcused absences in excess of 38 or more hours in one school month, or 65 or more hours in a school year, that student is considered “excessively absent” from school. The district or school shall notify the child’s parent or guardian of the child’s absences, in writing.

### **HABITUAL TRUANCY**

House Bill 410 states any student who is absent from school without an acceptable excuse for five or more consecutive days(30 hours), seven or more days(42 hours) in one school month, or twelve or more school days(72 hours) in a school year.

**A student who meets this definition of habitually truant, will be assigned to an attendance intervention team and Job and Family Services will be notified.** The team will consist of at least two staff members and the child’s parent/guardian. The team will develop a plan to get the student to school consistently/keep the student in school. If progress is not made after 60 calendar days, the district may file a complaint with the juvenile court.

### **EXCESSIVE ABSENCE/LOSS OF ACADEMIC CREDIT**

Any student who accumulates **fourteen days** of absence in a school year may receive no credit for that class. The fourteen days shall be calculated from missing one class or from all classes. Any absences due to school activities shall not count in the fourteen day total. Any student who receives no credit has the right to an appeal hearing with the Principal.

### **PROCEDURE FOR EXCUSE OF ABSENCE/TARDY**

If a student must be absent, the parent/guardian is asked to call the school at (740) 922-5241 on the day of the absence. A student can also present a written excuse for the absence. The excuse must contain the following:

1. **The date of the absence**
2. **The specific reason for the absence from the list of excusable reasons**
3. **Signature of parent or guardian.**

This excuse must be presented to the office before school on the day the student returns. Upon the beginning of school on the **2nd** day of his/her return, without an excuse being presented to the office, the absence will be **UNEXCUSED**, unless the absence or absences are approved by the principal beyond the 2nd day.

### **Technology Violations**

Chromebooks are used throughout the school day. Students must remember that they are for school purposes ONLY. If a student does not use their Chromebooks appropriately, the following disciplinary actions will occur:

1st Offense: Documented warning

2nd Offense: A lunch detention will be assigned

3rd Offense: Two lunch detentions will be assigned

4th Offense: Saturday School or a half day of ISS will be assigned

**(Offenses accumulate per semester)**



**Claymont City Schools Technology, Computer Network and Internet User Acceptable Use Policy (AUP) can be found on our schools website at the following link:**

**[Claymont City Schools Acceptable Use Policy](#)**

**Claymont City Schools Drug & Alcohol Testing Policy**

**[Claymont City Schools Drug & Alcohol Testing Policy for Eligible Students](#)**

# C.A.R.E.

The Mustang Way  
Claymont Middle School



	Classroom	Hallway/ Lockers	Restrooms	Cafeteria	Bus	Assemblies & Sporting Events
<b>C</b> <b>Cooperation</b>	-Follow rules & expectations -Work together to keep the classroom	-Keep to the right -Report issues	-Report vandalism -Respect privacy -Go directly to the bathroom	-Stay in a single file line while waiting -Wait quietly	-Report problems immediately & accurately -Stay seated at	-Stay seated in your assigned area -Accept the outcome of the event -Be positive



<p><b>Habit #6, #4</b></p>	<p>clean and organized</p>		<p>and return to class promptly -No Cell Phones</p>		<p>all times -No eating or drinking on the bus</p>	<p>towards all spectators, visiting athletes, coaches, officials, and speakers</p>
<p><b>A</b> <b>Accountability</b>  <b>Habit #3, #7</b></p>	<p>-Complete assignments -Accept consequences -Be on time</p>	<p>-Monitor time and take direct route to class -Only use your assigned locker -Keep a lock on your locker</p>	<p>-Do the right thing in every situation -Be Honest</p>	<p>-Clean up the area you were sitting before leaving</p>	<p>-Accept consequences -Follow driver's instructions and bus rules -Keep aisles clear of your belongings</p>	<p>-Pick up trash and belongings -Follow the rules &amp; expectations</p>
<p><b>R</b> <b>Respect</b>  <b>Habit #5</b></p>	<p>-Listen while others are talking -Use manners -Use technology appropriately</p>	<p>-Stay quiet -Use appropriate language -Allow personal space</p>	<p>-Keep area clean -Put paper towels in the trash -Flush toilet</p>	<p>-Inside voices -Keep your own place in line -Use manners</p>	<p>-Quiet voices -Be kind to your bus driver and students on the bus -Use appropriate language</p>	<p>-Clap and cheer respectfully -Be humble -Show Mustang pride -Model good sportsmanship</p>
<p><b>E</b> <b>Effort</b>  <b>Habit #1, #2</b></p>	<p>-Ask for help when needed -Always do your best -Keep trying even when things are challenging</p>	<p>-Keep the hallway and your locker clean</p>	<p>-Leave the restroom better than you found it</p>	<p>-Go to your locker before entering the cafeteria -Keep track of personal belongings</p>	<p>-Keep your space clean</p>	<p>-Do your best if you are a participant -Be involved</p>