

Blairsville High School

100 School Lane
Blairsville, PA 15717

724-459-5500, option 2

www.b-ssd.org

STUDENT HANDBOOK 2008-09

This handbook/planner belongs to:

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY/TOWN _____ ZIP CODE _____

PHONE _____

OUR MISSION

The mission of the Blairsville-Saltsburg School District is to prepare each student to become a responsible, productive, and competitive member of an ever-changing global society.

BLAIRSVILLE ALMA MATER

Hail, Blairsville High, Glorious Alma Mater.
You who guide the steps of youth
With your torch of faith and freedom.
Blairsville High to thee we sing.
Accept the heartfelt praise we sing.

Hail, Blairsville High, Glorious Alma Mater.
Loyal friends we met through you.
Loving memories linger ever.
Blairsville High to thee we sing.
Accept the thankful praise we sing.

SCHOOL COLORS

Black & Orange

SCHOOL MASCOT

“Roscoe”

We Are the “Blairsville Bobcats!”

REMEMBER THE THREE A’s of SUCCESS:

Academics

Attendance

Attitude

Academics: Maintain passing grades in all subjects at all times!

Attendance: Come to school every day, on time!

Attitude: Always exhibit appropriate behavior in what you think, say and do!

AAA Students *Achieve* More!

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*These and other policies may be viewed on the District website at www.b-ssd.org.

All rules, policies and guidelines contained in this handbook apply to all school-related activities; i.e., field trips, class trips and sponsored trips to foreign countries.

DIRECTORY

Blairsville-Saltsburg School District

Website: www.b-ssd.org

Administrative Office

102 School Lane
Blairsville, PA 15717
724-459-5500

SuperintendentMr. Arnold J. Nadonley
Director of Education..... Mrs. Theresa Hanley
Business Manager.....Mr. Eric Kocsis
Transportation Coordinator..... Mrs. Leigh Free

District Principals

Blairsville Elementary School Principal.....(TBA).....724-459-5500, option 4
Blairsville Middle School Principal.....Mrs. Joyce Henderson.....724-459-5500, option 3
Blairsville High School PrincipalMr. Joseph Baker, Jr.724-459-5500, option 2
Saltsburg Elementary School PrincipalMrs. Tracy Richards724-639-3556
Saltsburg Middle/Senior School Principal.....Mr. Eric Kostic724-639-3547

Blairsville High School

100 School Lane
Blairsville, PA 15717
724-459-5500

PrincipalMr. Joseph Baker, Jr.
Guidance Counselors Mrs. Karen Thomas and Mrs. Jessica Pritts
Nurse Mrs. Elizabeth O’Barto
Principal’s SecretaryMrs. Valerie Brown
Guidance SecretaryMrs. Susan Piper
Attendance Officer.....Mrs. Sandy Mazzoni
Director of Food Service..... Mr. James Brida

BLAIRSVILLE-SALTSBURG BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Ms. Beverly Caranese President
Ms. Linda Johnson Vice-President
Mr. B. Edward Smith.....Treasurer
Mr. Gary Matta Solicitor
Mrs. Leigh A. Free..... Board Secretary

Mr. Paul Bell
Ms. Linda D. Brown
Mr. Michael LaMantia

Mr. George L. Rowley
Mr. Michael Smith
Mr. Brett Treece

BLAIRSVILLE HIGH SCHOOL FACULTY

English

Mr. John Brady*
Mrs. Nancy Clawson
Ms. Andrea DelFavero
Mr. Mark Wydarney

Mathematics

Mrs. Trisha Kaylor
Mr. Philip Heinnickel
Mr. Greg Kaylor*
Mr. Andrew Miller

Physical Education/Health

Mr. Albert Dettorre
Mrs. Margaret Ostach

Business Technology

Mr. Bernard Dill

Family and Consumer Science

Mrs. Debra Moorhead

Foreign Language

Mrs. Kathleen Hanlon
Mr. Kirk Lentz
Mrs. Amanda McAnulty

Life Skills

Mrs. Rhonda Reinholtz

Nurse

Mrs. Elizabeth O'Barto

Media Center/Library

Mrs. Yolande McCloskey

Social Studies

Mr. David Dollman
Mr. Richard Lowman*
Mr. Neil Stone
Mr. Jaison Blystone

Science

Mrs. Wendy Jasper
Mr. Kevin Lopata*
Mr. Graig Marx
Mr. Robert Sagely

Music Education

Mrs. Alice Moore
Mr. Randall Thorn

Art

Mrs. Linda Chapla

Industrial Technology

Mr. Michael Funyak

Learning Support

Mrs. Cheryl Bevard
Ms. Vicky Campbell
Mr. Brandon Scardina
Mrs. Karen Smith

Emotional Support

Mr. Martin Kessler

Guidance

Mrs. Karen Thomas
Mrs. Jessica Pritts

***Indicates Department Chairperson**

BELL SCHEDULE

PERIOD 1	7:35-8:23	48 Minutes
Announcements	7:35-7:40	5 Minutes
Class Change	8:23-8:27	4 Minutes
PERIOD 2	8:27-9:09	42 Minutes
Class Change	9:09-9:13	4 Minutes
PERIOD 3	9:13-9:55	42 Minutes
Class Change	9:55-9:59	4 Minutes
PERIOD 4	9:59-10:41	42 Minutes
Class Change	10:41-10:45	4 Minutes

LUNCH A	LUNCH B
LUNCH 10:45-11:15	PERIOD 5 10:45-11:28
Class Change 11:15-11:19	Class Change 11:28-11:32
PERIOD 5 11:19-12:02	Lunch 11:32-12:02

Class Change

12:02-12:06

PERIOD 6	12:06-12:49	43 Minutes
Class Change	12:49-12:53	4 Minutes
PERIOD 7	12:53-1:36	43 Minutes
Class Change	1:36-1:40	4 Minutes
Period 8	1:40-2:23	43 Minutes
Announcements	2:23-2:26	3 Minutes

Activity Period Bell Schedule

Period 17:35-8:12
 Period 28:16-8:48
 Period 38:52-9:24
 Period 49:28-10:00
 Clubs or Advisor Mtgs.10:04-10:41

Two-hour delay schedule, alternating schedules A & B

Schedule A: Period 1 – 9:35 – 10:06, Period 3 – 10:10 – 10:41
 Schedule B: Period 2 – 9:35 – 10:06, Period 4 – 10:10 – 10:41

Blairsville-Saltsburg School District
School Calendar 2008-2009

S=6 August T=8

M	T	W	R	F
				1
4	5	6	7	8
11	12	13	14	15
18	19	20	21	22
25	26	27	28	29
Student = 5		Teacher = 8		

S=21 September T=21

M	T	W	R	F
1	2	3	4	5
8	9	10	11	12
15	16	17	18	19
22	23	24	25	26
29	30			
Student = 27		Teacher = 29		

S=23 October T=23

M	T	W	R	F
		1	2	3
6	7	8	9	10
13	14	15	16	17
20	21	22	23	24
27	28	29	30	31
Student = 50		Teacher = 52		

S=18 November T=18

M	T	W	R	F
3	4	5	6	7
10	11	12	13	14
17	18	19	20	21
24	25	26	27	28
Student = 68		Teacher = 70		

S=16 December T=16

M	T	W	R	F
1	2	3	4	5
8	9	10	11	12
15	16	17	18	19
22	23	24	25	26
29	30	31		
Student = 84		Teacher = 86		

S=19 January T=20

M	T	W	R	F
			1	2
5	6	7	8	9
12	13	14	15	16
19	20	21	22	23
26	27	28	29	30
Student = 103		Teacher = 106		

S=20 February T=20

M	T	W	R	F
2	3	4	5	6
9	10	11	12	13
16	17	18	19	20
23	24	25	26	27
Student = 123		Teacher = 126		

S=21 March T=21

M	T	W	R	F
2	3	4	5	6
9	10	11	12	13
16	17	18	19	20
23	24	25	26	27
30	31			
Student = 144		Teacher = 147		

S=18 April T=18

M	T	W	R	F
		1	2	3
6	7	8	9	10
13	14	15	16	17
20	21	22	23	24
27	28	29	30	
Student = 162		Teacher = 165		

S=18 May T=19

M	T	W	R	F
				1
4	5	6	7	8
11	12	13	14	15
18	19	20	21	22
25	26	27	28	29
Student = 180		Teacher = 184		

- Snow Make-Up Day
- Act 80 Days-No School for Students
- In-Service Day-No School for Students
- First & Last Student Day
- Holiday - No School For Students & Teachers
- Elementary Conferences
- End of Marking Periods
- Constitution Day

- 8/20/08 Act 80 Day
- 8/21/08 Inservice Day
- 8/22/08 Inservice Day (Clerical Day)
- 8/25/08 First Student Day
- 9/1/08 No School - Labor Day
- 9/29/08 Act 80 Day
- 10/10/08 Act 80 Day
- 11/11/08 Act 80 Day - Parent conferences
- 11/27/08 thru No School - Holiday
- 12/1/08 thru No School - Holiday
- 12/24/08 thru No School - Holiday
- 1/2/09 thru No School - Holiday
- 1/19/09 Inservice Day
- 1/30/09 Act 80 Day - Parent conferences
- 3/13/09 Snow Make-up Day
- 3/30/09 Act 80 Day
- 4/9/09 Snow Make-up Day
- 4/10/09 No School - Holiday
- 4/13/09 No School - Holiday
- 4/14/09 Snow Make-up Day
- 5/8/09 Snow Make-up Day
- 5/25/09 No School - Memorial Day
- 5/28/09 Inservice Day (Clerical Day)
- 5/29/09 Last Student Day/Graduation

Shortened Days:
12/23/08
5/29/08

10/24/08 }
1/12/09 } End of grading periods
3/18/09 }
5/29/09 }

Snow make-up order:
March 13, 2009
April 9, 2009
April 14, 2009
May 8, 2009

NOTE: Additional snow days will be made up at the end of the year

PSSA Testing
10/20-31/08: 12th grade retest for Math, Reading & Writing
2/9-20/09 : 5th, 8th, 11th grade Writing Assessment
3/16-27/09: 3rd, 4th, 5th, 6th, 7th, 8th, 11th grade Math & Reading Assessment
4/27-5/8/09: 4th, 8th, 11th grade Science Assessment

SECTION I: ACADEMIC PROCEDURES

Scheduling conflicts or changes are to be completed within the first two weeks of school. Withdrawal from a class after that time will result in a failing mark in that class unless indicated differently by the Superintendent and the Principal.

ACADEMIC AWARDS BANQUET

There will be an invitation-only Awards Banquet held at the end of each school year for students who have maintained a 93% or better average for **each** of the first three grading periods.

CHEATING POLICY

Our district maintains a zero tolerance position on cheating; i.e., the direct use of another student's work, the giving of answers, the use of cheat sheets or similar materials, etc. The penalty for cheating is:

First Offense:	A warning and no credit for the assignment
Second Offense:	A failing grade for the nine-week period
Third Offense:	A failing grade for the class

CLASS LOAD

Students must schedule a minimum of six credits each year and accumulate 23.2 credits to graduate.

FAILURES

No credit is given for a subject that is failed. If a student fails a required subject, it is the responsibility of the student to make arrangements for repeating the class. Such arrangements include the following:

1. Attend an approved summer school program.

Obtain the appropriate forms and signatures from the Guidance Office.

2. Private Tutoring.

This must be performed by a certified teacher and approved **in advance** by the Principal. **Tutors must be certified in that subject.**

3. Repeat the subject the following school year.

This should be discussed with the guidance department prior to scheduling classes for the following year, especially if more than one required subject was failed.

FAILURE FOR ATTENDANCE GRADING - A student accumulating any combination of seven (7) or more non-medical tardies or absences in a class or classes during a one nine-week grading period will receive an FA (Failure for Attendance) grade for that nine-week period, regardless of the actual percentage score achieved in that class. However, if in the next sequential nine-week marking period during that same school year the student accumulates a combination of less than seven (7) absences and/or tardies in the class or classes in which he/she received an FA grade, the FA grade will be erased and the student will be awarded the percentage score he/she initially achieved.

GRADING

Grades are determined by assessing the student's academic achievement based on the established curriculum and individual classroom guidelines, which includes class participation. Report cards document this ability and also determine the student's GPA (Grade or Percentage Point Average) for each nine-week period. This is calculated by adding percentage scores on the report card and then dividing that sum by the number of credits taken. This is the student's cumulative percentage score for the nine-week period, and it determines *eligibility for the Honor Roll. There are three divisions of the Honor Roll:

Distinguished Honor Roll

This honor roll consists of students with a 95% and higher.

High Honor Roll

Comprised of students with a 90 % and higher.

Honor Roll

For students who have demonstrated academic achievement of 85 % and higher.

*Students with an "I" (Incomplete) or a "D" grade in any subject are not eligible for the honor roll.

GRADING SYSTEM

GRADE	%	DESCRIPTION	NUMERIC VALUE	RANGE
A	93-100	Outstanding	4	3.5 - 4.0
B	85 - 92	Above Average	3	2.5 - 3.4
C	76 - 84	Average	2	1.5 - 2.4
D	68 - 75	Poor	1	0.5 - 1.4
E	0 - 67	Failing	0	0.0 - 0.4
I, P, F		Incomplete, Pass, Fail		Not Applicable

An “I” is issued for work not completed by a specific time. The teacher will determine the deadline to complete the work. The “I” will change to an “E” if work is not completed. **All I's must be removed prior to graduation**, and it is the **student's** responsibility to make arrangements with the classroom teacher to complete all requirements for grade changes. **Pass/Fail** grading and/or audits requires special permission from the principal and excludes students from class rank and honor roll eligibility.

TO PASS A SUBJECT, A STUDENT MUST:

1. Pass one nine-week grading period second semester.
2. Achieve a 68% cumulative average for the four (4) nine weeks.
3. Pass a competency-based final assessment.

GUIDANCE TESTING PROGRAM – HIGH SCHOOL LEVEL

GRADE(S)	TEST	PURPOSE
All students as needed	Speech and Language Screening	Assessment of any speech and language programs
9, 10 & 11	4 Sight Benchmark Assessment	Quarterly assessment for reading & math skills
10 & 11	P.S.A.T. Preliminary Scholastic Aptitude Test	Practice for SAT and National Merit Scholarships
11	PA State Assessment (PSSA) Reading & Math	Assess reading and math skills
11	PA State Assessment (PSSA) Writing	Assess writing skills
11	PA State Assessment (PSSA) Science	Assess science skills
11 & 12	ASVAB Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Test	Helps students understand their skills and abilities
11 & 12	SAT Scholastic Aptitude Test	To determine scholastic aptitude and as a requirement for college entrance

The Pennsylvania System of State Assessment (PSSA) will be administered in the spring of this year. All students must participate unless excused for religious reasons.

GRADUATION PROJECT

According to the Pennsylvania Department of Education (PDE) Chapter IV guidelines, Section 4.24 High School Graduation Requirements:

*Requirements shall include course completion and grades, **completion of a culminating project**, and results of state and local assessments of academic standards. The purpose of the culminating project is to assure that students are able to apply, analyze, synthesize and evaluate information and communicate significant knowledge and understanding.*

In order to be in compliance with this directive, the Blairsville-Saltsburg School District has defined the construction of a graduation portfolio as the method for meeting the graduation project requirement.

The Graduation Portfolio will consist of a compilation of student work accumulated during grades 9-12. (In the Middle School this will take the form of a Transition Portfolio Project that parallels the high school project on a smaller scale.) There are six dimensions of the high school experience that students will include when constructing their portfolio:

- Teamwork
- Communication
- Research Skills
- Career Exploration
- Use of Technology
- Analytical Thinking

Evidence for each dimension will consist of at least one separate and distinct entry placed in the portfolio each year (six pieces per year). The contents of the portfolio will be reviewed by the student's advisor using checklists and entry slips. An additional piece, the Showcase Piece, is a free choice selection that is recommended, but not required. This piece should highlight a special talent, skill, or interest that the student has developed.

Students must submit a completed graduation project at the end of each grade level. Failure to complete each phase of this requirement will result in the student being placed on behavior probation until the requirement is satisfied.

GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

The following academic requirements must be achieved in grades nine through twelve in order to receive a diploma from the Blairsville-Saltsburg School District. All academic, behavior, and financial obligations must be resolved five (5) days prior to the last day of school, or a senior will not be permitted to participate in the commencement ceremony or be eligible for class rank.

Subject	Number of Classes
English	4
Social Studies	4*
Mathematics	3
Science	3
Arts & Humanities	2
Health	1
Physical Education	4 classes
Electives	5

*Students attending the Indiana County Technical School may only be required three credits in Social Studies.

HEALTH CURRICULUM – Notice to Parents/Guardians of All Tenth Grade Students

Your son or daughter will be receiving instruction about Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome (AIDS) and birth control as part of the health curriculum. The AIDS instruction will include information about the nature, transmission, and prevention of the disease. The program will stress abstinence from sexual activity and avoidance of illegal drug use as the only reliable means of preventing the transmission of AIDS.

The instruction on birth control will include information about the various methods of birth control, their reliability, how they prevent pregnancy, and how to find some information about birth control. The instruction will emphasize that abstinence is the only 100% certain method of birth control.

The district will excuse any pupil from birth control and AIDS instruction when this instruction conflicts with the religious beliefs or moral principles of the pupil, parent or guardian. Written requests to be excused must be presented to the building principal.

All curriculum materials used in the instruction will be available to parents or guardians during normal school hours or at a parent conference.

HOMEWORK

Students are responsible for completing all homework assignments. Work assigned during a student's absence must be completed, and students will be granted an amount of time equal to the absence to complete work.

INDEPENDENT STUDY

Independent Study is available to all students, but requires approval from the cooperating teacher and the principal. Credit may or may not be awarded.

LATE TO CLASS – Any student who has not entered the assigned classroom before the late bell is considered late to class. Students must arrive in their homerooms by 7:35 a.m. to be considered on time. Students arriving to school after the tardy bell must sign in and obtain a pass to class from the high school office. Lateness to class throughout the schoolday is unacceptable, unless the student provides a valid, approved pass from the previous teacher, or from the high school office for rare instances. After-school detention may be assigned at the teacher or principal's discretion.

NATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY

ELIGIBILITY

- Must be junior or senior student.
- Must have a minimum cumulative percentage score of 93% at the end of the first semester.
- Must receive the recommendation of the teaching staff and the faculty council, based upon the following criteria:

LEADERSHIP - The student must display outstanding leadership ability at school, in the community, and in civic organizations.

SERVICE - The student must serve to uphold scholarship, as well as maintaining a loyal school attitude. The student should also participate in activities outside of school associations, etc.

CHARACTER - The student should display character by accepting constructive criticism, upholding morality and ethical conduct, and being a role model for his/her peers.

Maintenance of membership will periodically be examined by the Faculty Council.

WEIGHTED CLASSES

Passing any of the following subjects will increase a student's calculated percent average by 1.3 percent for that class:

AP Chemistry	AP US History
AP English	AP World History
AP Physics	AB Calculus

SECTION II: ATTENDANCE PROCEDURES

Attendance for students is mandatory as required by Pennsylvania State Public School Code of 1949 Section 1327 and Blairsville-Saltsburg School District Policy 204 #2. Penalties and legal action for violation of the compulsory attendance regulation will be enforced as cited in section 1333 of the same code.

ATTENDANCE POLICY

****UPDATED FOR THE 2008-09 SCHOOL YEAR****

FAILURE FOR ATTENDANCE GRADING - A student accumulating any combination of seven (7) or more non-medical tardies or absences in a class or classes during a one nine-week grading period will receive an FA (Failure for Attendance) grade for that nine-week period, regardless of the actual percentage score achieved in that class. However, if in the next sequential nine-week marking period during that same school year the student accumulates a combination of less than seven (7) absences and/or tardies in the class or classes in which he/she received an FA grade, the FA grade will be erased and the student will be awarded the percentage score he/she initially achieved.

TARDY:

1. Students are considered tardy if they report to school after 7:35 a.m.
2. A student can receive an excused tardy for the reasons outlined in the student handbook.
3. Commencing with the sixth (6th) tardy, a student will be placed on behavior probation until they have sustained non-tardy attendance for a period of four (4) weeks. Once the four (4) week benchmark has been successfully reached, a student will be removed from behavior probation. Any tardy thereafter will automatically restart the behavioral probation process.

ABSENCES:

1. A student is considered to have a one-half (1/2) day absence **and** an accumulation of one tardy if they arrive after 9:00 a.m. and before 11:00 a.m.
2. A student who arrives after 11:00 a.m. is considered a full day absent **and** tardy. The student must provide a valid excuse for any full day or partial absence, including doctor appointments, driver's permit and license, court dates, etc.
3. A student who arrives late or is dismissed early for medical reasons or a student who leaves early for a driver's permit will be excused if they provide a valid excuse.
4. Once a student has accumulated three (3) illegal days of absence during the student's school career, all further illegal absences will be referred to the district magistrate and Children and Youth Services.
5. A student who receives five (5) unexcused/illegal days of absence will be placed on behavior probation.
6. A student who has accumulated ten (10) non-medical absences during the school year will receive a letter stating that any further absence MAY require a doctor's excuse.
7. A student who is absent fifteen (15) days during the school year (non-medical reasons) will receive a letter stating that any further absences WILL require a doctor's excuse or the absence will be counted as illegal/unlawful.
8. A student who is absent for fifteen (15) days during the school year will be placed on behavior probation for the remainder of the school year. The principal may waive this depending on the nature of the absences.
9. A student who is absent for twenty (20) days during the school year will be required to establish a meeting with his/her parents and the building principal where a determination will be made if the student should be disciplined by the board of education.
10. An extracurricular participant must be in full attendance the day of a game, event or practice in order to participate. Any extracurricular participant who is absent the day following a game or event without a medical excuse will be excluded from participation in the next scheduled game or event unless mitigating circumstances allow the principal to waive this requirement.

The Attendance Policy will be strictly enforced. In accordance with this policy, the following is established criteria for excused and unexcused tardies and absences:

ABSENCE FROM SCHOOL

When a student is tardy or absent from school, regardless of the length of the absence, the parent or guardian shall furnish a written explanation (excuse) for the student's absence. The excuse should be presented to the attendance officer immediately upon return to school. Failure to provide an excuse will be considered an unexcused absence and may result in legal action, as described in the Pennsylvania Public School Code of 1949.

EXCUSED ABSENCES: A student's absence, up to ten days, will be recorded as excused if the absence occurred due to legitimate reasons, as determined by the principal, based upon review of the written excuse. Absences greater than ten days are excused if the absence is within the parameters outlined in the *Attendance Policy* (see previous page).

In order for an absence to be excused, the following conditions must be met:

1. The student has two (2) days after his/her return from an absence to submit the excuse signed by a parent to the attendance officer in the high school office. The student should do so upon arrival at school.
2. Medical appointments will be excused with documentation from a physician or dentist.
3. Legal excuses will be accepted if a student is required to be at a hearing at the magistrate or court; documentation must be provided.
4. A student absence for a driver's permit or driver's license will be considered excused, providing documentation from that agency is submitted with his/her excuse.

UNEXCUSED ABSENCE - These are recorded as result of:

1. the student's failure to submit a written excuse from his/her parent or guardian indicating the reason for the absence, **within two (2) days of his/her return to school;**
2. repeat absences for the same malady (illness or condition) without a doctor's excuse;
3. forged or altered excuses, which will be considered illegal and may result in prosecution;
4. an excuse written "for personal reasons";
5. any unacceptable reason for the absence, as determined by the principal.

The student will not be allowed to make up any school work missed due to an unexcused absence.

EARLY DISMISSALS – The following procedures have been implemented for your protection:

1. A written request from the parent or guardian must be submitted before first period. This request must include the reason for the dismissal and the exact time the student is to be dismissed.
2. If the student is being picked up by the parent/guardian, that person **must** come to the office and sign out the student. If the student is driving him/herself, this **must** be stated in the note.
3. Upon return to school, the student **must** submit a slip from the doctor, dentist, magistrate, driver's license center, etc. indicating the appointment date and time or **the absence will be unexcused.**

At no time are students permitted to leave the building without permission from the office.

EDUCATIONAL TRIPS - Educational trips are a legitimate excuse for being absent from school. Arrangements or appointments for such trips are usually made well in advance of the day of the trip, and permission to be excused from school must be granted by the principal **at least three (3) days prior** to the intended absence for the trip to be considered excused. Obtain the proper Educational Trip Request form from the office, complete it and return it to the office at least three (3) days prior to the date the absence is requested. Upon returning to school, complete the Trip Summary Form. Failure to comply with this policy may result in your absence being recorded as unexcused. Both forms are available in the High School office.

RELIGIOUS HOLIDAYS - A pupil may be excused from school for observance of bona fide religious holidays by particular religious groups, in accordance with Pennsylvania School Laws upon submission of a written request by the parent prior to the day of absence.

WITHDRAWAL PROCEDURE - Students may withdraw from school in accordance with School Board Policy #206 and by following the established procedure. See the guidance office for details.

SECTION III: DISCIPLINE PROCEDURES

The Board shall require each student of this District to adhere to the rules and regulations promulgated by the administration and to submit to such disciplinary measures as are appropriately assigned for infraction of those rules (Board Policy 216).

The purpose of the following code is to provide an appropriate response structure that can serve as a reference point for the school community. This is not an exhaustive list, but is an example of the kind of conduct that is punishable under the code.

LEVEL I

Minor misbehavior on the part of the student which impedes orderly classroom procedures or interferes with the orderly operation of the school. This misbehavior should be handled by the individual staff member. However, such misbehavior may be indicative of a problem that should be referred to appropriate support staff.

Level I Examples:

Classroom, hall, cafeteria, etc., disturbance
Classroom tardiness
Cheating and lying
Abusive language, including profanity
Bullying, agitating others
Failure to complete assignments or follow directions
Eating in unauthorized areas
Gambling
Inappropriate public display of affection

Level I Procedures:

1. There is immediate intervention by the staff member who is supervising the student or observes the misbehavior.
2. A proper and accurate record of the offense and disciplinary action is maintained by the staff member.
3. The staff member may wish to discuss the behavior with the parents, the administrators and/or appropriate support personnel.

Level I Disciplinary Options/Responses:

- Verbal reprimand
- Special duties/activities
- Withdrawal of privileges
- Strict supervised study
- Detention - Maximum of three (3) days teacher assigned and monitored with parental notification.
- Parental contact will also be made.
- Any action deemed necessary and appropriate by the principal.

LEVEL II

Misbehavior when the frequency or seriousness tends to disrupt the learning climate of the school. These infractions, which usually result from the continuation of Level I misbehavior, require the intervention of personnel on the administrative level because the execution of Level I disciplinary options have failed to correct the situation. Also included in this level are misbehaviors that do not represent a direct threat to the health and safety of others but whose educational consequences are serious enough to require corrective action on the part of administrative personnel.

Level II Examples:

Continuation of unmodified Level I misbehavior
Repeated tardiness to school

Level II Examples (con't.):

Tuancy or excessive absence; cutting class
Using forged notes or excuses
Lack of respect for staff, including profanity
Possession of obscene material
Failure to attend teacher assigned detention
Dressing in such a manner to cause disruption in the educational process
Possession of an incendiary device
Violation of parking permit rules
Violation of Internet/computer user policies
Harassment/intimidation; bullying

Level II Procedures:

1. Student is referred to the administrator for appropriate disciplinary action.
2. Administrator meets with the student and/or teacher and effects the most appropriate response.
3. Teacher is informed of the administrator's action.
4. Parents may be notified of the student's misconduct.
5. A proper and accurate record of the offense and disciplinary action is maintained by the administrator.

Level II Disciplinary Options/Responses:

- Principal verbal reprimand
- Schedule change; modified day or classroom
- Withdrawal from extra-curricular activities (Behavior Probation)
- Parental conference
- After-School Detention
- Suspension
- Any action deemed necessary and appropriate by the principal

LEVEL III

Acts directed against persons or property with consequences that do not seriously endanger the health or safety of others in the school. Corrective measures that the school should undertake are dependent upon the extent of the school's resources for remedying the situation in the best interest of all students.

Level III Examples:

Continuation of unmodified Level II misbehavior
Assault and/or battery (includes fighting)
Vandalism (minor)
Use/furnishing/selling/ or possession of tobacco *
Petty theft (stealing)
Threats to others
Leaving school campus without permission
Leading or participating in a walkout
Possession or use of smoke bombs or simple explosives

Level III Procedures:

1. Investigation of the infraction combined with conferring with the staff to determine the extent of the consequences.
2. Administrator meets with student and notifies parent/guardian of the misconduct and the disciplinary action.
3. A proper record of the offense and disciplinary action is maintained by the administrator.
4. There is restitution of property and damages.

Level III Disciplinary Options/Responses:

- Temporary removal from class
- Parental conference
- Withdrawal from extracurricular activities (Behavior Probation)
- Temporary or full suspension
- Criminal prosecution
- Any action deemed necessary and appropriate by the principal

* **Possession/use of tobacco:** See page 26 – School Board policy #234.

LEVEL IV

Acts which result in violence to another person, property or pose a direct threat to the safety of others in the school. These acts are clearly criminal in nature and are so serious that they always require administrative intervention of and Law Enforcement Authorities and/or action by the Board of School Directors may also be required.

Level IV Examples:

Continuation of unmodified Level III misbehavior
 Extortion
 Bomb threat
 Harassment of staff
 Possession, use or transfer of weapons or explosives
 Assault/battery (serious)
 Vandalism
 Theft, possession or sale of stolen property
 Arson
 Furnishing, selling or possession of drugs and/or alcohol
 Leading or participating in a riot

Level IV Procedures:

1. Investigation of the infraction combined with conferring with the staff to determine the extent of the consequences.
2. Administrator meets with student and notifies parent/guardian of the misconduct and the disciplinary action.
3. Notification to proper authorities.

Level IV Disciplinary Options/Responses:

- Full suspension/expulsion
- Criminal prosecution
- Any action deemed necessary and appropriate by the principal.

DISCIPLINARY OPTIONS

AFTER-SCHOOL DETENTION (ASD)

The staff member assigning ASD will contact the parent/guardian to schedule the ASD date(s). Once the day(s) are confirmed, no excuse will be accepted for not attending the ASD, and absence from the assigned ASD will result in a day of out-of-school suspension and reassignment of the ASD. After-School Detention will convene from 2:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. This session will be supervised by a member of the professional staff, and the students are to be prepared for academic work. Students not prepared will be assigned additional ASD or suspended. Parents are responsible for the student's transportation home.

OUT-OF-SCHOOL SUSPENSION (OSS)

Students are removed from the educational setting for a period from one (1) to ten (10) days. Cases of repeat offenders requiring OSS will be taken before the Board of Directors for review. Parents are notified in writing when their child is assigned OSS. If the suspension is Friday and Monday of the same weekend, the student may not attend weekend school activities. **Students are expected to make up all work missed during a suspension.**

BEHAVIOR PROBATION

A student placed on Behavior Probation is not permitted to attend, as a participant or spectator, **any** school functions or extracurricular activities, such as the prom, sporting events, concerts, assemblies, Jr./Sr. Party, musical, etc. for the duration of the probation period. **Students are not permitted to drive to or from school while on Behavior Probation.** Students will be placed on Behavior Probation following a review of the student's attendance or behavior profile. Only the principal can remove a student from Behavior Probation.

SECTION IV: GENERAL PROCEDURES

BOOK DAMAGE POLICY

Any book that is lost, damaged or destroyed beyond repair will be paid for at the office before a new book is issued. Teachers will not issue replacements until students present a receipt from the office. A check of all textbooks will be made at the close of each semester. Fines will be assessed by the teachers where there is evidence that the proper care has not been shown for the book. Charges for lost or badly damaged books will be made according to the following scale:

- 1st year of use -- Full price
- 2nd year of use --Full price
- 3rd year of use--less 20%
- 4th year of use--less 30%
- 5th year of use --less 50%

A minimum of \$10.00 will be charged for all hardcover textbooks lost or damaged. (See also the Debt Policy on page 20.)

CAFETERIA

Student lunches may be purchased in the cafeteria daily. We use an automated accounting system, which means that students can put money into their own personal accounts. Each account can be accessed only with the student's personal identification number. Each student should memorize his or her Student I.D. number, and never give that number to another student.

Students may charge a lunch once or twice if there are not sufficient funds to purchase a lunch, but at no time can the deficit exceed \$10. Please utilize the free and reduced lunch program. Applications for free and reduced lunches will be distributed the first week of school. If you wish to apply, fill out and return the application to the high school office.

Cafeteria Procedures

Cafeteria Supervisors have the authority to establish and enforce procedures for managing the cafeteria. Basic procedures include the following:

- No running will be tolerated.
- No line cutting.
- **The delivery of food to the school is not permitted.**
- **ALL** food will be consumed in the cafeteria.
- Keep the tables and eating areas clean. Report spills or accidents to cafeteria personnel immediately.
- When students have finished eating, they will throw rubbish, milk cartons, etc., in the disposal cans provided in the cafeteria, and place trays and dishes on the dishwasher counter.
- Students are to remain in the cafeteria and are excused with permission of the supervising staff member only.
- Be respectful at all times.
- Remember, eating in the cafeteria is a privilege, not a right.
- **Food and open containers are not permitted in the building, except in the cafeteria during lunch.**

CHAPTER 15 ANNUAL NOTICE TO PARENTS

In compliance with state and federal law, the Blairsville-Saltsburg School District will provide to each protected handicapped student without discrimination or cost to the student or family, those related aids, services or accommodations which are needed to provide equal opportunity to participate in and obtain the benefits of the school program and extracurricular activities to the maximum extent appropriate to the student's abilities. In order to qualify as a protected handicapped student,

the child must be of school age with a physical or mental disability which substantially limits or prohibits participation in or access to an aspect of the school program.

These services and protections for "protected handicapped students" are distinct from those applicable to all eligible or exceptional students enrolled (or seeking enrollment) in special education programs.

For further information on the evaluation procedures and provision of services to protected handicapped students, contact Mrs. Theresa Hanley, at 724-459-5500.

CO-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

Participation in co-curricular events is a privilege extended to the students by the school district. This privilege may be revoked for students who are placed on Behavior Probation. The good conduct and good sportsmanship of all participants and observers of our activities and sporting events is essential. As a member of these groups, you represent the Blairsville-Saltsburg School District and should conduct yourself in a manner that reflects the pride, quality and sportsmanship indicative of our schools. We, as schools, are governed by many outside agencies, and violation of their regulations could affect the entire school. Always do your best and remember your cooperation in maintaining our reputation of good sportsmen.

An extracurricular participant must be in full attendance the day of a game, event or practice in order to participate. Any extracurricular participant who is absent the day following a game or event without a medical excuse will be excluded from participation in the next scheduled game or event unless mitigating circumstances allow the principal to waive this requirement.

Participation Rules

All students must constantly be passing four full credits. Eligibility will be checked weekly.

An extracurricular participant must be in full attendance the day of a game, event or practice in order to participate. Any extracurricular participant who is absent the day following a game or event without a medical excuse will be excluded from participation in the next scheduled game or event unless mitigating circumstances allow the principal to waive this requirement. Students absent from school on a Friday may not participate in weekend activities. According to PIAA regulations, if a student is absent for a total of 20 or more days during a semester (10 per 9 weeks), that student is not eligible for athletics until they have been in attendance for a total of 60 school days following the 20th day of absence. Each case will be reviewed individually and a final decision made by the Principal and Athletic Director.

Students on any form of suspension cannot participate in, or attend, any after-school activities or events.

Regulations applying to student behavior during school hours will also apply to out-of-school activities (field trips, athletic events, etc.).

DANCES/PROM

In general, only students enrolled at Blairsville High School are permitted to attend BHS dances, including the prom, unless permission is granted by the advisor(s) and principal. However, an approved guest may attend the Freshmen/Sophomore Hop (FSH), Junior/Senior Party (JSP), and prom provided that: he or she is enrolled in a high school, or a recent graduate, **under the age of 21**. Middle school students may not attend. There will be no exceptions to these guidelines.

Students are expected to dress in a manner that will protect their modesty, is tasteful and appropriate.

DEBTS

Students are financially responsible for lost, stolen or damaged books and any other material that is the property of the school district. If the student fails to return or pay for the material, it will be recorded as a debt. Locks may be leased from the school for a refundable \$5 fee; and students are encouraged to lock their lockers to protect school property, as well as their personal belongings. Additional debts may include cafeteria charges, unpaid fundraising obligations, library books and fines, unreturned uniforms and/or equipment, etc.

The School Board directs that whenever a student has incurred financial debt with the District, and that debt is three weeks past the due date for collection, that student will not be permitted to participate in extracurricular activities, attend afterschool or evening events or partake in any school-sponsored experience which is beyond the normal school curriculum. Students with debt will not receive a report card until the debt is satisfied. All senior debts, including academic, behavior, and

financial obligations, must be resolved five (5) days prior to graduation or he or she will not be permitted to participate in the commencement ceremony or be eligible for class rank.

DISMISSAL

Dismissal will be conducted from the eighth period class via the public address (P.A.) system. Students may go to their lockers and then directly to their buses, or their vehicles in the case of drivers/riders.

Do not leave the campus prior to being dismissed, or one or more of the following consequences may be assigned:

- Driving/riding privilege may be revoked for the year;
- You may be placed on Behavior Probation for the year, which will prohibit your participation in all school-related activities, including dances, prom, sporting events, etc.
- One ASD may be assigned for every class that is missed.

No student may leave the building without permission from the high school office!

ELECTRONIC DEVICES

The use of cell phones, pagers, personal music equipment, electronic games, and like devices is prohibited during school hours. Sometimes due to involvement in after school extra-curricular activities, students may need to contact a parent/guardian when a school phone is not available. For this purpose, a cell phone may be used *after* school. For any other reason or purpose, cell phones are not permitted. **The school accepts no responsibility for any of these items should they become lost, stolen or damaged.**

Students who bring a cell phone are required to turn off the cell phone before entering the building and keep it in their locker until dismissal. Locked lockers are highly recommended. Any use of a cell phone is restricted until dismissal is complete at the end of the day. Students caught in personal possession of a cell phone are in violation of this procedure. Students who do not comply with these procedures will have their phones confiscated and a minimum of a two-hour ASD will be assigned. Repeat offenses will result in additional consequences.

FIRE DRILL REGULATIONS

Maximum safety in case of a fire can be realized through the efficient and orderly evacuation of the school. Fire Drills will be conducted on a monthly basis to insure that the buildings can be evacuated in such a manner. When the fire alarm sounds, follow the directions of your teacher and begin the following procedure:

The student nearest the classroom door will open the door and continue to hold the door open until all students have exited the room. The teacher will be the last to leave the room. Teachers will turn out the classroom lights and close the classroom door before leaving the building. Teacher and students will then report to the room's assigned parking slot for roll call.

- Do not attempt to remove books or wraps.
- Exit the room in an orderly fashion.
- Remain a safe distance from the building.
- When the signal is given to return, reverse this procedure.

FUND RAISING

All fundraisers must have prior approval of the principal.

HALL PASSES

Students are not permitted to be outside of a classroom without permission or a hall pass. The student should go immediately to the destination, taking the most direct route, and present the pass to the staff member in charge.

Note: Students who need to visit the nurse's office for a non-emergency must first report to his/her scheduled class and secure permission and a pass prior to going to the nurse. Do not be late for or disrupt any educational process during this procedure.

HEALTH ROOM/MEDICATIONS

When a student wishes to report to the health room, he/she should first get written permission from the classroom teacher. The student should then proceed to the health room. The nurse will determine the necessary treatment. **Students are not permitted to call parents concerning illness without first seeing the school nurse.**

Medication Policy

Prescription and non-prescription medications will be **administered** to students **by the nurse**. A written note signed by the parent/guardian indicating the exact time(s) and dosage of the medication must be presented to the nurse with the medication. All medications shall be securely stored in the school office/health room and kept in the original labeled container. This includes aspirin and Tylenol.

HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT PRESENCE IN BLAIRSVILLE MIDDLE AND ELEMENTARY BUILDINGS

High school students are not permitted in another building on campus without permission from the high school office. This restriction includes attending special student activities, such as, the elementary school circus, elementary and middle school promotion ceremonies, concerts, and all other special programs in either building. The principals *may* grant permission to attend if the student is a sibling if he or she has a written request from the parent for the sibling to accompany them to the special program. Permission will be denied if the principal of the other building has requested that no outside students attend.

Student Presence at Blairsville Elementary Before and After School – Oftentimes, students in the middle or high school levels will not ride home on the bus at the conclusion of the school day because they plan to meet a parent or guardian at the elementary school for transportation. Such students may have a parent who works at the school, or perhaps have a parent who is involved in a school activity with their younger sibling. While this practice appears to be innocuous, it has become a disruption to the learning environment.

The bell schedules are substantially different at the elementary school than those of the middle or high school levels, and entering the elementary building to enter classrooms where instruction is still continuing or where activities are being conducted is a disruption of the education process. Further, it is not the responsibility of the school staff to monitor these students, and it is not the responsibility of the school district to provide a safe place for these students to go as a convenience.

For both the safety and security of the elementary building, those students from the middle or high school levels who wish to ride with their parents/guardians who are at the elementary school must adhere to the procedures set forth hereafter.

1. No student is permitted to enter the elementary school after the middle or high school dismissal except by special permission of the building principal.
2. Any middle or high school student who wants to ride home with a parent/guardian who is at the elementary school after the middle and high school dismisses must secure a note signed by the parent stating that the student is waiting for his/her parent.
3. For high school students who have signed permission, the student may then wait in the high school lobby area until his/her parent/guardian stops by to pick them up after the elementary dismissal. During this time, they will be unsupervised, and the school district will not assume liability or responsibility for them.
4. Students who have not obtained written permission to wait may be asked to leave the elementary building.

HOMEROOM PROCEDURE

Following the opening bell, all students should report to their lockers and then go immediately to their first period class. All students should be in their rooms between the warning bell and first period bell. No one will be permitted in the halls after the first period bell has sounded. All students are to be seated and must remain quiet during the opening exercises. Students may report to the high school office before the warning bell to turn in an excuse, trip request or trip summary forms, early dismissal or bus pass requests.

LOST AND FOUND

Articles found in or around the building should be taken to the high school office. Students who have lost articles may also inquire about them in the office. Unclaimed items will be discarded or donated at the end of the school year.

USE OF VIDEO SURVEILLANCE EQUIPMENT

Video surveillance equipment will be used in the school hallways, cafeteria and on the buses. Privacy is not to be expected in these areas. For more detailed information on school bus taping, please refer to page 23.

TELEPHONE USE

Students should not ask to use the telephone, except for an urgent need to speak to a parent or guardian. Students are not to use the classroom phones. If need has been established, permission must be obtained from the classroom teacher and then

TELEPHONE USE (con't):

office personnel. Under no circumstances should a student call a boyfriend/girlfriend, a student absent from school, or anyone else for the purpose of casual conversation, including the scheduling of hair appointments, car appointments, etc. Students will not be called from the classroom to speak to a caller. In case of emergency, a message will be taken and delivered to the student. Messages from employers are not considered emergencies.

Students are not permitted to have cell phones in their possession during school hours. See page 20 for cell phone policy.

TRANSPORTATION

SCHOOL BUS

Bus transportation and bus routes have been arranged through the collaborative efforts of the Smith Bus Company and the Blairsville-Saltsburg School District for the safety and convenience of our students. To that end, the following guidelines will be strictly enforced:

**IMPORTANT NOTICE TO PARENTS AND STUDENTS
STUDENT TRANSPORTATION GUIDELINES**

Conduct of students on the school bus is an important factor in the safe transportation of school students. Students who misbehave can jeopardize the safety and welfare of other students.

Discipline issues have compelled the District to add a new component to student safety on school buses; that is, to file disorderly conduct charges for certain student actions. **Examples are as follows: standing on the bus, moving about the bus while it is in motion, excessively loud and boisterous talk, harassment of other students or the bus driver, leaning out or throwing things out the window, or any activity that distracts the driver from watching the road and practicing good driving techniques. The above are examples of student actions and are not limited to those listed.**

What does filing disorderly conduct charges mean to you? This means that after the charges are filed and the student is served with the citation from the police, a hearing will be held before the District Justice. If the student is found guilty, the charge may result in a \$300 to \$400 fine and possible other consequences. The school district will provide all possible evidence to the District Justice, including the tapes from the cameras on the school buses.

EXPECTATIONS

In order to establish a safe and efficient school bus transportation program, the following rules and regulations have been established:

1. **Students are not permitted to ride a bus other than his/her assigned bus without written permission from the school office.** Students are required to bring in a written request from the parent/guardian to receive permission to ride another bus, and this should be followed up with a phone call to the office to confirm the request. A Boarding Pass will be issued to the student from the office.
2. Students should board the bus and remain seated throughout the bus ride. Students will receive assigned seating and must sit in that seat for the entire school year or until the bus driver reassigns seats.
3. Students are not permitted to throw anything out the windows or within the bus. Keep hands, arms, and head inside the bus at all times.
4. Listen to the bus driver and follow his/her directions. Talk quietly so the driver is not distracted. Students are not permitted to use vulgarity on the bus.
5. Students must remain seated until the bus comes to a complete stop before making an attempt to get off the bus. **DO NOT** walk in the aisleway while the bus is still moving.
6. **NO FOOD OR DRINK IS PERMITTED ON THE SCHOOL BUS.**
7. Loud playing radios are not permitted on the bus.
8. The school discipline policy is in effect on the bus.

The Blairsville-Saltsburg School District reserves the right to use cameras on the school buses and utilize video and audio taping as a method of determining student discipline. Failure of students to comply with the above will cause disciplinary actions.

DISCIPLINE

1. Students riding the school buses are under the direct supervision of the bus driver. The bus driver has the authority to administer the following disciplinary actions:
 - a. Talk with the student about his/her misconduct.
 - b. Change the student's seat.
 - c. Restrict bus privileges, i.e., not permitted to open bus window, last person to depart bus at the school, etc.
 - d. Report student to building principal.
2. If a student continually misbehaves, the driver will report the student to the building principal to handle discipline. The driver shall record, in writing, each verbal warning and restriction of bus privileges.

When it is necessary for the driver to issue a Bus Conduct Report to the principal, one of the following discipline measures will occur:

Secondary Students:

1st notice: Student will be given a warning and/or a two (2) hour after school detention, and a copy of the Bus Conduct Report will be sent home.

2nd notice: Student will be given three (3) days suspension of bus privileges and a copy of the Bus Conduct Report will be sent home.

3rd notice: Student will be given five (5) days suspension of bus privileges and a copy of the Bus Conduct Report will be sent home. Students attending ICTC may lose the privilege to attend ICTC and will have to remain at their respective building for instruction.

4th notice: Student will be given ten (10) days suspension of bus privileges with a possibility of suspension of privileges for the remainder of the year.

If a student commits any of the following infractions, he or she will receive disciplinary action, which will be at the discretion of the building principal in accordance with school board policy:

- Personal assault (pushing, hitting, tripping, kicking, slapping, grabbing, spitting at, pulling hair, pinching, or continued verbal abuse)
- Fighting (violent behavior, intent to injure, punches to face, etc.)
- Threatening another person with an object
- Setting off firecrackers or "poppers"
- Use of tobacco, alcoholic beverages, or drugs on the bus
- Possession of alcoholic beverages or drugs on the bus
- Repeated misbehavior on the school bus after receiving official warning

An incident may be recorded on video/audio, and may be used as evidence against the student. Discipline will include suspension of school bus privileges, and/or issuance of a corresponding citation.

- A tobacco citation will be filed with the magistrate for the possession or use of tobacco.
- Disorderly conduct charges may be filed with law enforcement.
- Law enforcement will be summoned for any situation involving alcoholic beverages or drugs on the bus.

In the event that a student is given a suspension of their riding privileges, the parent/guardian is responsible for making other transportation arrangements for the student to attend school. Suspension of bus privileges does not constitute an excusable absence from school.

WEATHER

When inclement weather does not permit school buses to run on a regular schedule due to poor road conditions, the following guidelines will be followed:

One Hour Delay – All buses will run one hour later than the normally scheduled time.

Two Hour Delay – All buses will run two hours later than the normally scheduled time.

Early Dismissal – Parents will be notified via the radio and news stations in the event that students are dismissed early from school.

Please tune in to the radio/TV stations for reports regarding our school district.

In the event that the school bus is unable to safely travel your road and you are unable to transport your child to school, the day will be considered an excused absence. Each school office will be given a list of the areas that the school buses were not able to travel for verification of excuses. If road conditions improve during the transporting of secondary students and the bus

is able to reach the elementary students in an area they were not able to travel earlier, your secondary student should ride the elementary bus. If the elementary bus is available for secondary students to ride, they will not be given an excused absence for the day they miss.

If you have any questions regarding a bus not picking up or dropping off your child, please call Smith Bus Company at 724-459-6930.

BUS STOPS

Anyone interested in requesting a new bus stop/bus route or a change in an existing bus stop/bus route should contact Leigh A. Free, Transportation Coordinator, at 724-459-5500, Ext. 1113.

Please review these transportation guidelines with your children so that both you and your children understand the repercussions of not following the rules. Bus drivers will be asked to read the rules to the students within the first week of school, but it is ultimately the parent's responsibility to insure your children understand safe school bus riding practices. There will be no exceptions to the above discipline.

DRIVING TO SCHOOL

Students who desire to drive to school must:

Receive permission from the High School Office. Permission may be granted following an interview with the student and by submitting a written request from the student's parent or guardian indicating the reason for requesting permission to drive.

Purchase a Parking Permit. Permits may be purchased for a non-refundable \$5.00 fee.

Hang Parking Permit on Mirror. Vehicles without permits will be removed from the parking lot at the owner's expense.

Park in Assigned Slot Only. Parking slots will be numbered and Parking Permits will have a corresponding number. Slot and permit numbers must match. **Students are not permitted to park in the upper parking lot without permission.**

Temporary Permits will be issued when necessary to students who do not drive to school on a regular basis; i.e. for doctor appointments, etc.

Loss of Driving Privilege:

Driving to school is a privilege contingent upon the acceptable behavior of the student, and permission may be rescinded at the discretion of the principal. Unacceptable behavior includes tardiness, excessive absence, parking in unauthorized locations, reckless driving, leaving campus without permission, or other failure to comply with the established procedures. Students on Behavior Probation are not permitted to drive during the probation period.

VISITORS AND GUESTS

All visitors must report to the office, register the day, time and purpose of their visit, and obtain a Visitor's Pass. Students must receive permission in advance, from the principal, prior to bringing visitors to school.

SECTION V: POLICIES - BLAIRSVILLE-SALTSBURG SCHOOL DISTRICT

Policies of the Blairsville-Saltsburg School District may be viewed on the school district website: www.b-ssd.org. Policies of interest to students and parents may include, but are not limited to:

- #207 Health Examinations
- #213 Promotion and Retention
- #214b Behavior Support for Individuals with Disabilities
- #223 Suspension and Expulsion
- #225 Student Rights and Responsibilities
- #227 Drug and Alcohol Abuse
- #228 Sexual Harassment
- #231 Weapons
- #232 Harassment and Assault
- #709 Acceptable Uses of the Computers, Networks, Internet, Electronic Communication Systems and Information

ASSAULT/HARASSMENT POLICIES

The Blairsville-Saltsburg School District will not tolerate any form of assault, which is defined as: engaging in a course of conduct or repeatedly committing acts which seriously alarm, harm, or annoy another person; including, but not limited to: harassment, sexual harassment, ethnic intimidation, and physical assault. To report an incident, obtain an Incident Report Form from the high school office. Board policies #228 and #232 may be viewed on the school website.

In addition to District consequences, civil penalties for assault include: Imprisonment for a term of not more than 90 days and a maximum fine of \$300.00. (See PA Civil code, Chapter 27, lines 2709-3309.)

DRESS CODE POLICY

We recognize that each student's mode of dress and grooming are an expression of personal style and individual preference. Dress regulations serve as a guide for students. Students are expected to exhibit cleanliness and good taste in their personal appearance. Students are expected to dress in a manner that will protect their modesty, is tasteful and appropriate. A student's appearance will be a source of pride not only to their school, but also to the individual and his/her family.

The students have the responsibility to dress and groom themselves appropriately for school. They must meet fair standards of safety and health, and not to cause disruption to the education process. If a student is uncertain as to the appropriateness of clothing for schoolwear, he/she should check with the principal before wearing the clothing to school.

Students not adhering to the dress guidelines will be required to modify their dress, or parents will be called to make arrangements for an appropriate change of clothing. It is understood that if attention is directed toward a student's garment regarding its inappropriateness for school, the garment is not to be worn again to school. If there is a question about the appropriateness of dress, the principal will make the final determination.

Students who are defiant or disrespectful can be subject to disciplinary action imposed by the teacher or the principal. Students who are sent to the office because of non-compliance or defiance of school personnel's request to modify their clothing are subject to disciplinary action(s).

The following list identifies examples of **unacceptable clothing and accessories**. This is not considered to be a comprehensive listing of unacceptable dress for the school environment, but is a guide to better understand the parameters set by the administration.

- Hats, bandanas and sunglasses cannot be worn in school.
- No bare feet, untied shoelaces.
- No pajamas.
- No shirts or tops that expose the midriff (the bottom of the top garment and the top of the bottom garment must overlap or be tucked one inside the other.)

- No halter tops, strapless tops, tube tops, tops with only one strap, see-through tops or mesh clothing, clothing with straps less than 2 inches wide, spaghetti straps.

DRESS CODE POLICY (con't):

- No low-cut shirts/blouses or tops.
- No low-cut armholes or muscle shirts.
- No short shorts, cut-off shorts or biking shorts. All shorts and skirts must be fingertip length or longer.
- Biking pants may be worn with a top covering the hips.
- No pants/shorts/skirts worn below the waist and/or in a manner that reveals undergarments, underwear or skin when standing or sitting.
- No pants/shorts that are excessively too large or are worn off the waist.
- Coats, jackets or garments designed for protection from outside weather shall not be worn in the school building under ordinary circumstances.
- No spiked jewelry, dog collars or jewelry with the potential for creating a hazard.
- No chain of any length hanging from clothing, purses, wallets or backpacks.
- No “camo” (camouflage) clothing.
- Only natural color hair is permitted. Unnatural hair coloring will be required to be either washed out or chemically changed and the natural hair color restored.
- No spiked hair or unusual hairstyles are permitted. Hair must be uniform in length. Mohawks are prohibited.
- Nose piercings must be 14 gauge or smaller. No eyebrow or lip piercing jewelry is permitted, and must be removed before arriving to school. Earring(s) may be worn in/on the ear. Other body piercings must be covered or concealed.
- During physical education and technology education classes, all jewelry must be removed.
- No clothing, patches, buttons, pins or other accessories that are obscene, vulgar, seductive, demeaning, suggestive, disrespectful, or that conveys a double meaning are permitted.
- Clothing, patches, buttons, pins with product advertisements which promote drugs, alcohol, tobacco or violence are not permitted.
- Backpacks are not permitted to be carried in the school between 7:35 a.m. and 2:35 p.m.

Addendum: The school acknowledges that prom attire will deviate somewhat from the school day dress code, HOWEVER, it is expected that the general provision for appropriate attire will be followed; i.e. “Students are expected to dress in a manner that will protect their modesty, is tasteful and appropriate.”

DRUG, ALCOHOL AND TOBACCO POLICY

#234 Smoking and Use of Tobacco Products (Act 145 of 1996)

1. Purpose: The Board recognizes that use of tobacco by students presents a health and safety hazard which can have serious consequences for both users and non-users.
2. Definition: For purposes of this policy, tobacco shall be defined as a lighted or unlighted cigarette, cigar, or pipe; other lighted or unlighted smoking product; and smokeless tobacco in any form.
3. Authority: The Board prohibits students from possessing and using tobacco at any time upon school property, including all district buildings, grounds, athletic facilities and vehicles and at all school sponsored activities. In addition, the use and possession of tobacco shall be prohibited by students proceeding to and from school and/or any school related or sponsored activity. The school district shall initiate prosecution of any student who violates this policy. Under Act 145 of 1996 of the Pennsylvania Crimes Code, which amends the Crimes Code (Title 18), a student convicted of possessing or using tobacco in a school building or on a school bus or school property shall be fined up to \$50.00 plus court costs or admitted to alternative adjudication. The provisions of Title 35, Section 1223.5 of Purdon’s Pennsylvania Statutes Annotated entitled “School Tobacco Control” are incorporated into this policy.
4. Delegation of Responsibility: The Superintendent or designee shall annually notify students and parents about the district’s Smoking and Use of Tobacco policy by publishing such policy in the student handbook.
5. Guidelines: A student convicted of possessing or using tobacco in a school building or on a school bus or school property shall be fined up to \$50.00 plus court costs or admitted to alternative adjudication.

In compliance with ACT 128 of 2000, School Tobacco Control, the Blairsville-Saltsburg Board of Education has established a zero-tolerance policy on the use of tobacco by employees, pupils, parents and other persons in school buildings, school buses, and on school property under the control of the school district, except in an area designated for tobacco use by those age 18 or older. Smoking may only occur in this area in compliance with Pennsylvania state law. An offense under this section shall be deemed an offense under 18 Pa.C.S.6306.1. Citations will be imposed.

#227 Drug and Alcohol Abuse

1. **Purpose:** The Board of Directors recognizes and affirms the individual value and potential of each member of its school community. The Board also recognizes that chemical abuse and dependency seriously impair the ability of an individual to develop his full potential. This policy is based on the belief that chemical dependency is a life-threatening illness that affects individuals in all areas of their lives, and that chemical dependency is a treatable illness.

The Board further recognizes that the misuse of drugs and alcohol is a serious problem with legal, physical, and social implications for the whole school community. As such, the Board is very much concerned about the problem that may be caused through the misuse of drugs and alcohol by students, especially as such misuse relates to the safety, efficiency, and productivity of the students. The Board adopts the position that students must be chemically free in order to develop in the most productive and healthy manner.

The primary purpose and justification for any action on the part of the school staff in response to drug and alcohol abuse would be the protection of the health, safety, and welfare of students, staff, and school property.

Recognizing that chemical use and abuse may be indicative of the disease process of chemical dependency, it is this district's policy to prevent and prohibit the possession or use, mimic of use, sale or mimic of sale, distribution or intent of distribution of any illegal or controlled mind altering chemical medication, or abused chemical not approved by the health office on school property, at school-sponsored events, on school buses, and enroute to or from school by any mode of travel. Due consideration will be given to the legal rights and responsibilities of the school administration, staff, students, and parents. (Board Policy #227 *Drug and Alcohol Abuse*, on file in the Superintendent's office)

2. **Definition:** For the purpose of this policy, the following definitions apply: Drugs, Mood Altering Chemicals, and Alcohol may be used interchangeably and shall include any alcohol or malt beverage, controlled substance, or illegal and abused substance as prohibited by the Controlled Substance Drug, Device, and Cosmetic Act (P.S. 35 § 780-101, et seq) and the Look Alike Drug Law.

Conviction shall be defined as finding of guilt (including a plea of nolo contendere) or imposition of sentence, or both, by any judicial body charged with the responsibility to determine violations of the federal or state criminal drug statute.

Criminal Drug Statute shall be defined as a federal or nonfederal criminal statute involving the manufacture, distribution, dispensing, use or possession of any controlled substance.

Drug-free Workplace shall be defined as the site for the performance of work done in connection with a specific federal or state grant at which professional employees are prohibited from engaging in the unlawful manufacture, distribution, dispensing, possession or use of a controlled substance.

School Property shall include not only actual buildings, facilities and grounds on the school campus, but shall also include buses, school bus stops, school parking areas and any facility being used for a school function.

Drug-free School Zone is defined as a 1,000-foot buffer zone around schools. This boundary was defined by the drug trafficking provisions of Act 31 adopted in March of 1988.

Administrative Staff shall include all building principals, central office directors, business manager, assistant superintendent, and superintendent.

Professional Staff shall include all teachers, nurses, guidance counselors, psychologists, librarians, and speech therapists.

Classified Staff shall include all secretaries, custodians, cafeteria workers, aides, noon hour supervisors, crossing guards, and attendance officers.

School Personnel shall include any persons employed under the supervision of the School District of Blairsville-Saltsburg.

Core Team is a multi-disciplinary team composed of school personnel including teachers, staff, administrators, nurses, guidance counselors, and school psychologists. The team will be trained to recognize behaviors which are commonly associated with the students at-risk. In Blairsville-Saltsburg School District, the Core Team is referred to as the SSS Team (Student Support Services.)

Cooperative Behavior shall be defined as the willingness of a student to work with professional staff in a reasonable and helpful manner complying with requests and recommendations of said persons.

Uncooperative Behavior shall be defined as any resistance or refusal on the part of the student to comply with the reasonable requests or recommendations of professional staff.

Confiscation will occur when there is reasonable cause to believe that a student is in possession of drugs or mood altering chemicals, alcohol or paraphernalia. There is an obligation to search for and seize chemicals, substances or paraphernalia by all professional employees who work with the students, and to submit such material to the appropriate administrator. (Pa. School Code, as amended, Chapter 12, Section 12.14).

Confidentiality – The privileged confidentiality between students and professional staff shall be respected and no confidential communications made to any such employee shall be required to be revealed without the consent of the student or his/her parent unless the best interest of the student can be served.

Student Contract Procedure is any verbal and/or written agreement between a student and professional staff which is intended to help the student improve some aspect of his performance.

Out-of-School Suspension is a temporary exclusion from school attendance in accordance with Section 1318 of the Pennsylvania School Code, as amended.

Distributing shall include the delivery, selling, passing, sharing or giving any alcohol, drug, or mood altering substance, as defined by this policy, for one person to another or to aid therein.

Paraphernalia is any apparatus associated with the use of drugs and/or mind-altering chemicals.

3. Delegation of Responsibility: A statement notifying students that the unlawful manufacture, distribution, dispensing, possession, or use of a controlled substance is prohibited on school premises shall be provided annually by the Superintendent or his designee. The statement shall incorporate the following items:
 1. **Blairsville Saltsburg School District Guidelines for Conduct**: Students who violate local, state, or federal laws concerning possession, use, or distribution of alcohol and other controlled substances are subject to disciplinary action including, but not limited to, a warning, written reprimand, suspension, or expulsion, and any additional consequences from local, state, and federal law. Disciplinary action may include participation in and successful completion of a drug and alcohol rehabilitation program approved by an appropriate health or law enforcement agency.
 2. **Blairsville-Saltsburg School District Standards of Conduct**: It is the policy and intent of the Blairsville-Saltsburg School District to provide a drug-free, healthful, and safe environment free from drug and alcohol abuse. In light of this, and in accordance with PL 10 1 –226, Blairsville-Saltsburg School District prohibits the unlawful possession, use, or distribution of drugs and alcohol by students and employees on its property or as part of any Blairsville-Saltsburg School District related or sponsored activities.
 3. **Legal Consequences of Drug Violations**: Blairsville-Saltsburg School District absolutely prohibits the unlawful manufacture, distribution, possession, or use of a controlled substance or alcohol on Blairsville-Saltsburg School District premises or while participating in or attending school related activities of the district off the premises. All applicable legal sanctions under local, state, or federal law for the unlawful possession or distribution of drugs or alcohol will be applied.

The Drug and Alcohol Abuse Policy and the procedures to be followed as related to students are further specified by the following:

ARTICLE I

A professional staff member is concerned about inappropriate behavior, poor class performance, tardiness, absenteeism, etc. It may or may not be related to use of drugs, alcohol or mood-altering substances.

Immediate Action

1. Observe and record inappropriate behavior(s).
2. Discuss concerns with student and a verbal contract is recommended.
3. Ask for a change in the student's behavior. In order to facilitate this process, use of a written student contract is recommended.
4. Evaluate behavior daily.
5. If no satisfactory change, refer student to Core Team.

Investigation

Core Team will investigate as needed.

Notification of Parents

Notification of behavior and/or performance indicators if warranted.

Disposition of Substance

Not applicable

Discipline/Rehabilitation

An intervention conference will be held if the Core Team feels it is indicated by the data plus Policy #16.

Notification of Police

Not applicable

ARTICLE II

A student demonstrates symptoms of possible drug or alcohol use (staggering, slurred speech, incoherence, dazed appearance, inability to respond, vomiting, unconsciousness, etc.) This situation will be handled as a medical emergency.

Immediate Action

All standard health and first aid procedures will be followed. The student will not be left unsupervised.

Investigation

If a drug or alcohol use is suspected, the principal or authorized designate is responsible for initiating the investigation procedures normally employed when a student is apprehended for drug/alcohol use or possession (see Article IV). Core Team will be notified if drug or alcohol use is suspected.

Notification of Parents

Yes

Disposition of Substance

If a substance is discovered at the time of the emergency, it will be provided to the appropriate medical personnel for the sole purpose of aiding in treatment. Substance will then be sealed, documented, and submitted to the police for analysis.

Discipline/Rehabilitation

Minimum 10 days suspension if drug or alcohol use is verified. Minimum of 4-10 days suspension. Maximum – possible recommendation for expulsion.

Notification of Police

Yes, if chemical substance is confiscated.

ARTICLE III

The student is found in possession of paraphernalia, which is any apparatus associated with the use of drugs and/or mood altering chemicals (for example, but not limited to, papers, bongs, clips, pipes, stones, and needles).

Immediate Action

School personnel will confiscate the paraphernalia, escort student to the principal's office or summon the principal or his designee. Staff member writes anecdotal report of incident.

Investigation

The principal or his designee will request that the student empty his/her pockets and/or purse and volunteer all paraphernalia. Upon reasonable cause the student's personal locker, desk, and all personal property will be searched according to school policy. The student shall not be left unsupervised.

Notification of Parents

The principal or his designee will attempt to contact the parent/guardian immediately and describe the situation. The principal will attempt to provide the parent/guardian with an opportunity to be present when police are involved.

Disposition of Substance

When paraphernalia is confiscated it will be properly documented and stored.

Discipline/Rehabilitation

Refer to Core Team

Minimum - 1 to 2 days suspension

Maximum - School Board Hearing

Notification of Police--Yes, if appropriate

ARTICLE IV

The student is found using, in possession of, or suspected to be under the influence of a drug when attending as a participant or spectator, any school sponsored function or travel, on or off school property, and including any athletic or activity event at another school district, school, or public/private location.

Immediate Action

The group sponsor or accompanying administrator will be notified. Security to be summoned if necessary.

Investigation

The sponsor(s) or administrator(s) will request that the student empty his/her pockets and/or purse and volunteer all drug-like substances. The student will not be left unsupervised.

Notification of Parents

A parent will be contacted immediately, the situation described and requested to transport student home. If parents are unable or unwilling to transport student, police will be asked to transport student home.

Disposition of Substance

Substance will be sealed, documented, and turned over to the police with a request for analysis.

Discipline/Rehabilitation

Refer to Core Team

Minimum - 4 to 10 days full suspension

Maximum - School Board Hearing

Exclusion from extracurricular activities at the discretion of the principal.

Notification of Police--Yes

ARTICLE V

The student is caught with drugs or alcohol for the first time and is cooperative with investigation.

Immediate Action

Professional staff will confiscate substance and escort student to principal's office.

Investigation

The principal or his designee will request that the student empty pockets and/or purse and volunteer all drug-like substances. The student will be searched and then the student's locker, desk, and all personal property will be searched in accordance with school policy and Chapter 12, Section 12.14 of the Pennsylvania Public School Code. The student will not be left unsupervised.

Notification of Parents

The principal or his designee will attempt to contact the parent/guardian immediately and describe the situation. A parent conference will be arranged.

Disposition of Substance

Substance will be sealed, documented and turned over to the police with a request for an analysis.

Discipline/Rehabilitation

Refer to Core Team

Minimum - 4 to 10 days full suspension

Maximum - School Board Hearing

Assessment by a licensed drug and alcohol facility within 10 days and compliance with its recommendation. Exclusion from extracurricular activities at the discretion of the principal.

Notification of Police

Yes

ARTICLE VI

A student is caught with drugs for the first time and is uncooperative with the investigation.

Immediate Action

Professional staff will summon the principal and confiscate drug.

Investigation

The student will be appropriately searched. The student's locker, desk, and all personal property will be searched according to school policy and Pennsylvania Public School Code. The student will not be left unsupervised.

Notification of Parents

The principal or his designee will attempt to contact the parent/guardian immediately and describe the situation. A parent conference will be arranged.

Disposition of Substance

Substance will be sealed, documented and turned over to police with a request for an analysis.

Discipline/Rehabilitation

Refer to Core Team

Minimum – 4-10 days full suspension

Maximum - School Board Hearing

Assessment by a licensed drug and alcohol facility within 10 days and compliance with its recommendation. Exclusion from extracurricular activities at the discretion of the principal.

Notification of police

Yes

ARTICLE VII

A student is caught again in possession of drug or alcohol.

Immediate Action

The teacher will summon the principal or escort the student to the principal's office.

Investigation

The student will be appropriately searched. The student's locker, desk, and all personal property will be searched according to school policy and Pennsylvania Public School Code. The student will not be left unsupervised.

Notification of Parents

The parent will be asked to report to the school.

Disposition of Substance

Substance will be sealed, documented, and turned over to the police with a request for an analysis.

Discipline/Rehabilitation

Refer to Core Team

Minimum – 4-10 days full suspension

Maximum - School Board Hearing

Assessment by a licensed drug and alcohol facility within 10 days and compliance with its recommendation. Exclusion from extracurricular activities at the discretion of the principal

Notification of Police

Yes

ARTICLE VIII

A student is distributing a drug, mood altering substance or alcohol.

Immediate Action

School personnel will confiscate chemical(s), escort student to the principal's office or summon the principal or his designee. Contact police.

Investigation

Police will handle from legal point of view. Core Team will gather data, assess, and plan for intervention process with all involved.

Notification of Parents

The principal or designee will attempt to contact the parent/guardian immediately and describe the situation. The principal will attempt to provide the parent/guardian with an opportunity to be present when police are involved.

Disposition of Substance

Substance will be sealed, documented, and turned over to the police with a request for an analysis.

Discipline/Rehabilitation

Refer to Core Team

Out of school suspension with possible homebound instruction provided until School Board Hearing for expulsion. If return to school approved, assessment by a licensed drug and alcohol facility within 10 days of return to school and compliance with recommendation.

Notification of Police

Yes

(End of Board Policy No. 227, Section 200 Students, Drug and Alcohol Abuse, as adopted 3/19/90, Revised 7/19/93, 11/16/98, 5/17/99)

HEALTH RISKS ASSOCIATED WITH THE USE OF ALCOHOL

Alcohol is the most socially acceptable drug in our society and the number one drug of choice among adolescents in our area. Alcohol consumption causes a number of marked changes in behavior.

Low doses significantly impair the judgment and coordination required to drive a car safely.

Low to moderate doses of alcohol increase the incidence of a variety of aggressive acts.

Moderate to high doses of alcohol cause marked impairments in higher mental functions, severely altering a person's ability to learn and remember information.

Very high doses cause respiratory depression and death.

Repeated use of alcohol can lead to dependence.

Sudden cessation of alcohol intake is likely to produce withdrawal symptoms, including severe anxiety, tremors, hallucinations, and convulsions.

Long-term consumption of large quantities of alcohol, particularly when combined with poor nutrition, can lead to permanent damage to the brain and liver.

HEALTH RISKS ASSOCIATED WITH CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES

A wide variety of substances are included under the heading of controlled substances; hallucinogens, stimulants, depressants, and narcotics. Each of these controlled substance have individual characteristics and methods, symptoms, and dangers of abuse. For more information on these substances, contact the Prevention Unit at ARIN IU 28.

Both prescription and non-prescription drugs can be abused when used inappropriately or mixed with alcohol. ARIN's Prevention Unit has excellent resource materials on this topic.

COUNSELING, TREATMENT, REHABILITATION OR RE-ENTRY PROGRAMS

Blairsville-Saltsburg School District students and employees may contact the ARIN Prevention Unit for resource material or the following agencies for information about counseling, treatment, rehabilitation or reentry programs.

Area Treatment Resources:

ARIN Intermediate Unit 28

Drug & Alcohol Prevention Program
Indiana, PA 15701
724-463-5300

ARC Manor

Kittanning, PA 16201
(724) 548-7607 or 800-323-1333

Armstrong/Indiana County Drug and Alcohol Commission

Shelocta, PA 15774
(724) 354-2746

The Open Door

Indiana, PA 15701
(724) 465-2605

Alcoholics Anonymous

724-349-4061

Twin Lakes Recovery Resources

814-536-1576

Narcotics Anonymous

Laurel Mountain Highlands Area Chapter
1-800-494-3414

St. Francis Hospital

45th Street & Penn Ave.
Pittsburgh, PA 15201
(412) 622-4602

Pennsylvania Department of Education Student Assistance Program

Marie Bozelli, Regional Coordinator
724-284-9183

Other Sources of Information – Call Toll Free:

1-800-COCAINE - Cocaine Helpline
1-800-NCA-CALL - National Council on Alcoholism Information
1-800-662-HELP - National Institute on Drug Abuse

NONDISCRIMINATION POLICY

The Blairsville-Saltsburg School District is an equal opportunity education institution and will not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex and handicap in its activities, programs, or employment practices in accordance with federal and state statutes and regulations. For information regarding civil rights, grievance procedures or services, activities, and facilities that are accessible to and usable by handicapped person, contact the Title IX Coordinator, at 100 School Lane, Blairsville, PA 15717 or Mrs. Theresa Hanley, Section 504 Coordinator at 102 School Lane, Blairsville, PA 15717 or by calling 724-459-5500.

SEARCH AND SEIZURE POLICY

The school district acknowledges the need to provide a safe learning environment for its staff and students, and in accordance with Board Policies #218 and 219, the search and seizure policy will be as follows:

1. Locker Search – All lockers are and shall remain the property of the school district. Therefore, students cannot expect a right to privacy when using the district's lockers. Students are encouraged to keep their assigned lockers or cabinets closed and locked against incursion by other students, but no student may use a locker as a depository for a substance or object which is prohibited or which constitutes a threat to the health, safety or welfare of the occupants of the school building or the building itself.
2. Personal Property – Any item which has been brought onto school grounds is subject to search in the interest of the safety and well being of all individuals.
3. Vehicle Search – Any vehicle on school property is subject to search if the principal or his designee has established reasonable suspicion or probable cause for possession of contraband or stolen property.

The District reserves the right to request intervention from police authorities, including the use of canine units, which will have the same rights as detailed within the Search and Seizure guidelines. Police intervention shall be in accordance with School Board Policy #218.

If the school delegate finds that a student is in violation of public law, or if that student has placed himself/herself, or the staff and students on the campus at risk, then that individual will be subject to the discipline guidelines as defined in this Student Handbook.

WEAPONS POLICY

In accordance with Section 1317.2 to the Public School Code provides that school districts must expel for a period of at least one year "any student who is determined to have brought a weapon onto any school property, any school sponsored activity or any conveyance providing transportation to a school or school sponsored activity". 24 PA. Stat. Ann. 1317.2(A). The Act defines "weapon" to include, but not be limited to, "any knife, cutting instrument, cutting tool, nunchaku, firearm, shotgun, rifle and any other tool, instrument or implement capable of inflicting serious bodily injury."

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT PAGE
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Parents and Students:

The Blairsville-Saltsburg School District promotes cooperation and communication between home and school. When students know what is expected of them, they can be more successful. When parents know these same expectations, they can better guide their children and help them to be successful in the school environment.

The contents of the Student Handbook, including the Discipline & Attendance Policies and Computer Policy & Security Agreement, have been reviewed in school with the students.

As a student in the Blairsville-Saltsburg School District, I have been given the opportunity to examine and review the contents in this handbook. I also understand that I am assumed to be a user of district technology and am accountable to the district's computer policy and security agreement terms unless permission to access network computer services is denied by my parent/guardian.

Student Name/Date: _____

As a parent in the Blairsville-Saltsburg School District, I have been given the opportunity to examine and review the contents in this handbook. I also understand that my child is assumed to be a user of district technology and is subject to terms of the district's computer policy and security agreement unless I request, in writing, that he/she not have access to network computer services.

Parent/Guardian Signature/Date: _____

Please sign and detach this page from the handbook and return it to the homeroom teacher by FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 5, 2008. Failure to do so will result in Behavior Probation for the student until the signature page is turned in. Thank you.