

# **Blevins Public Schools**

## **Student Handbook**

Blevins Elementary  
PO Box 98  
Blevins, AR 71825  
Phone: (870) 874-2283  
Fax: (870) 874-2300



Blevins High School  
PO Box 98  
Blevins, AR 71825  
Phone: (870) 874-2281  
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**STRIVING FOR EXCELLENCE**

**2014 - 2015**

**BLEVINS PUBLIC SCHOOLS**

**BLEVINS, ARKANSAS**

**2014 - 2015**

Dear Parents:

The school board would like to take this opportunity to express its pleasure of being able to serve the students of this district. We are proud of our accomplishments over the years and look forward to the challenges of the future. We believe in quality education, and we think the movement toward education in the 21st century is exciting and challenging.

This handbook sets forth rules and regulations for our school. You must note that some infractions may result in loss of credit, expulsion, or for some offenses, placement in an alternative learning site. You should read the handbook. Act 104 of 1983 requires you acknowledge receipt of the handbook. This form must be signed and returned within the first week of school.

Student's Signature

Social Security No. (optional)

Date

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Parent's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

## Corporal Punishment

Parents, who choose not to have corporal punishment administered to their child, ***must deliver such request in writing to the principal's office at the beginning of each school year.*** If a situation warrants corporal punishment, in this case, the student will receive a 3-day suspension.

## Blevins Public Schools Emergency Medical Treatment Release

Officials of Blevins Public Schools are hereby granted the authority in case of emergency to take my child, \_\_\_\_\_ for help, or to the emergency room. I understand that the school will try to contact me or a family member, but in an emergency situation that is not always possible.

Parent/Guardian Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## Food Allergies

Parents must provide a doctor's note each year for food allergies.

## Photo Release Permission Slip/Waiver

During the year, students may be photographed or videotaped by the media and/or district personnel while they are in the classroom or participating in school activities, under the supervision of the teacher/principal. Please sign the form below to indicate your wishes as to if the media and/or the district has your permission to publish your child's photo. Publication may include school web site, brochures, yearbook, or other media.

I, \_\_\_\_\_, the parent or legal guardian of \_\_\_\_\_, do hereby give permission to use photographs or videographs of the aforementioned student, without any prior review, for any lawful purpose. This remains in effect for the 2014-2015 school year until permission is withdrawn in writing by the parent or legal guardian.

\_\_\_\_\_ YES      \_\_\_\_\_ NO

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Parent or Legal Guardian

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date Signed

## **Blevins School District Acceptable Use Policy Including Internet Safety and CIPA Requirements**

Internet access is available to students and teachers in the Blevins School District.

We are very pleased to provide this access to Blevins School District and believe this Internet access offers vast, diverse, and unique resources to students and teachers. Our goal is to promote educational excellence in schools by facilitating resources sharing, innovation, and communication.

The Internet is an electronic highway connecting thousands of computers all over the world and millions of individual subscribers, students, and teachers have access to:

1. E-mail communication with people all over the world.
2. Public domain software and shareware of all types.
3. Discussion groups on an abundance of topics.
4. Access to many university library catalogs and ERIC.

With access to computers and people all over the world also comes availability of material that may not be of educational value in the context of the school setting. Blevins School District has taken precautions to restrict access to controversial materials. However, on a global network it is impossible to control all materials, and an industrious user may discover controversial information. Blevins School District firmly believes that the valuable information and interaction available on this worldwide network far outweighs the possibility that users may obtain information that is not consistent with the educational goals of the District.

Internet access is coordinated through a complex association of government agencies and regional and state networks. In addition, the smooth operation of the network relies upon the proper conduct of the end users who must adhere to strict guidelines. These guidelines are provided here so that you are aware of the responsibilities you are about to acquire.

- The Blevins School District provides all internet access points with a firewall protection provided by the Arkansas Department of Education.
- Online activities are monitored by the program SMART Sync to ensure appropriate online behavior.
- The Blevins School District will provide training for both students and staff on appropriate online behavior, including social networking websites and chat rooms.
- The Blevins School District will educate the students about cyberbullying awareness and the correct response by victims of this crime to ensure safe internet use by all individuals of this school district.

In general this requires efficient, ethical, and legal utilization of the network resources. If a Blevins School District user violates any of these provisions, his or her account may be terminated and future access could be denied.

## **INTERNET SAFETY**

### **General Warning; Individual Responsibility of Parents and Users.**

All users and their parents/guardians are advised that access to the electronic network may include the potential for access to materials inappropriate for school-aged pupils. Every user must take responsibility for his or her use of the computer network and Internet and stay away from these sites. Parents of minors are the best guides to materials to shun. If a student finds that other users are visiting offensive or harmful sites, he or she should report such use to the person designated by the School.

### **Personal Safety.**

Be safe. In using the computer network and Internet, do not reveal personal information such as your home address or telephone number. Do not use your real last name or any other information which might allow a person to locate you without first obtaining the permission of a supervising teacher. Do not arrange a face-to-face meeting with someone you "meet" on the computer network or Internet without your parent's permission (if you are under 18). Regardless of your age, you should never agree to meet a person you have only communicated with on the Internet in a secluded place or in a private setting.

### **"Hacking" and other Illegal Activities.**

It is a violation of this Policy to use the School's computer network or the Internet to gain unauthorized access to other computers or computer systems, or to attempt to gain such unauthorized access. Any use which violates state or federal law relating to copyright, trade secrets, the distribution of obscene or pornographic materials, or which violates any other applicable law or municipal ordinance, is strictly prohibited.

### **Confidentiality of Student Information**

Personally identifiable information concerning students may not be disclosed or used in any way on the Internet without the permission of a parent or guardian or, if the student is 18 or over, the permission of the student himself/herself. Users should never give out private or confidential information about themselves or others on the Internet, particularly credit card numbers and Social Security numbers. A supervising teacher or administrator may authorize the release of directory information, as defined by law, for internal administrative purposes or approved educational projects and activities.

### **Active Restriction Measures.**

The School, either by itself or in combination with the DIS providing Internet access, will utilize filtering software or other technologies to prevent students from accessing visual depictions that are (1) obscene, (2) child pornography, or (3) harmful to minors. The School will also monitor the online activities of students, through direct observation and/or technological means, to ensure that students are not accessing such depic-

tions or any other material that is inappropriate for minors. The term "harmful to minors" is defined by the Communications Act of 1934 (47 UK Section 254 [h][7], as meaning any picture, image, graphic image file, or other visual depiction that:

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

### **Children's Internet Protection Act (CIPA)**

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

**Definitions** - Key terms are as defined in the Children's Internet Protection Act.

### **Access to inappropriate Material**

To the extent practical, technology protection measures (or "Internet filters") shall be used to block or filter Internet, or other forms of electronic communications, access to inappropriate information. Filters in place currently include M86 Filtering Software as provided by the State of Arkansas APSCN Network.

Specifically, as required by the Children's Internet Protection Act, blocking shall be applied to visual depictions of material deemed obscene or child pornography, or to any material deemed harmful to minors.

### **Inappropriate Network Usage**

To the extent practical, steps shall be taken to promote the safety and security of users of the Blevins School District online computer network when using electronic mail and other forms of direct electronic communications. Specifically, as required by the Children's Internet Protection Act, prevention of inappropriate network usage includes: (a) unauthorized access, including so-called 'hacking,' and other unlawful activities; and (b) unauthorized disclosure, use, and dissemination of personal identification information regarding minors.

### **Supervision and Monitoring**

It shall be the responsibility of all members of the Blevins School District staff to supervise and monitor usage of the

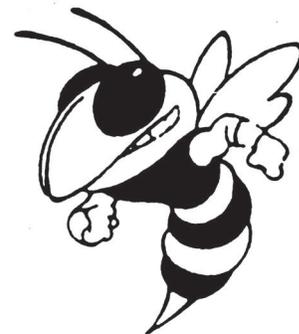
online computer network and access to the Internet in accordance with this policy and the Children's Internet Protection Act.

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

CIPA definitions of terms:

- **TECHNOLOGY PROTECTION MEASURE.** The term "technology protection measure" means a specific technology that blocks or filters Internet access to visual depictions that are:
- **OBSCENE**, as that term is defined in section 1460 of title 18, United States Code;
- **CHILD PORNOGRAPHY**, as that term is defined in section 2256 of title 18, United States Code; or
- **HARMFUL TO MINORS.** The term "harmful to minors" means any picture, image, graphic image file, or other visual depiction that:
  1. Taken as a whole and with respect to minors, appeals to a prurient interest in nudity, sex, or excretion;
  2. Depicts, describes, or represents, in a patently offensive way with respect to what is suitable for minors, an actual or simulated sexual act or sexual contact, actual or simulated normal or perverted sexual acts, or a lewd exhibition of the genitals; and
  3. Taken as a whole, lacks serious literary, artistic, political, or scientific value as to minors.
- **SEXUAL ACT; SEXUAL CONTACT.** The terms "sexual act" and "sexual contact" have the meanings given such terms in section 2246 of title 18, United States Code.

Violations of the internet use agreement will be written up as rule 31 or 34.



## Blevins Public School Computer Lab/ Computer Use Contract

The following is in addition to the computer use guidelines stated in the current Blevins Public School Handbook under "Blevins School District Internet Use Agreement." Students must also realize that what is acceptable in the Computer Lab may or may not be acceptable in other classrooms.

I \_\_\_\_\_, agree to follow the regulations listed below while using the computers in the computer lab, the local network (including local electronic mail — E-mail and Apps), and its access to the Internet, and all other technology belonging to the Blevins Public School.

I will respect and use with care all the technological resources that I choose to utilize. I also understand that I am not to remove any CD-ROMs or other resources from the computer lab, nor will I be allowed to bring outside computer resources into the lab (i.e., SD or other memory cards, flash/zip drives, etc.) without permission from the lab facilitator. I understand that all external storage devices must be scanned and found free of any virus before opening any files using equipment belonging to the Blevins Public School.

I promise to treat the equipment with respect — not to hit, tamper, or make marks on any of it with any type of object, pencil, pen, or marker (erasable or not). Equipment does include all furnishings in the computer lab.

I will, at all times, use technology in a moral and ethical manner. I understand that this means E-mail, collaborative apps, and websites open to comment will **NOT** be used to disrespect my fellow students, faculty, or others. I also understand while using the Internet that it is **MY** responsibility to notify the teacher and **IMMEDIATELY** exit any site containing inappropriate material. Inappropriate material includes, but is not limited to pornography, violence, profanity, etc., or anything deemed inappropriate by the supervising teacher or school administrators. If I do not immediately notify my teacher and I am discovered using any site containing inappropriate material, I understand that I will be subject to suspension and will lose credit for course work during the suspension period.

I will keep my account password private, and I will log off the network after I have personally logged in. I understand that all activity using my personal account is my responsibility.

I understand that using outside e-mail, chat rooms, join-

ing new groups, or subscribing to a listserv is prohibited. I understand that downloading of **ANY** material or software is **STRICTLY PROHIBITED** and **FORBIDDEN** in the computer lab. I also understand that I will not be allowed to use any material or software in the computer lab that has been downloaded elsewhere. In the case that such downloads are required in the completion of assigned coursework, exceptions must be cleared in writing by the technology coordinator.

I understand that technological resources provided by Blevins Public School are intended for instructional purposes only. While some learning activities are in game format, I understand that these games will be limited strictly to those provided by the teacher. Furthermore, I understand that no unauthorized games will be played or downloaded from the Internet. I also understand that the playing of personal music CDs, any music that may be downloaded from the Internet, and streaming of music and/or videos from the Internet is prohibited. All music and video content utilized in the completion of assigned coursework must be screened and approved in advance by the teacher and/or lab facilitator.

I understand that **ALL** activity on the Internet in the computer lab will only be allowed with the monitoring of a Blevins school teacher. If a teacher is not in the room, I understand that I am **NOT** to use the Internet or E-mail. I also understand that failure to follow any of the above rules or those listed in the Blevins School Handbook regarding Internet usage may result in the loss of computer privileges and/or disciplinary action through the office. There will be only one offense allowed, and Internet and local E-mail privileges will be revoked. I understand the first offense will be the last offense.

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**Student Signature**

**Grade:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

**I have read the regulations for computer use in the computer lab at Blevins Public Schools, and I give permission for my child to open an account on the system.**

---

**Parent Signature**

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

Blevins Elementary School  
*Parent/Teacher/Student Compact*

It is our belief that student performance will improve as a result of our cooperative efforts to support this agreement. This is a three-way partnership with a specific goal in mind. It is imperative that each person assumes his or her responsibilities.

**As the parent/care giver of a student in Blevins School, I pledge to:**

- Maintain and foster high standards of academic achievement and positive behavior.
- Find out how my child is doing by attending conferences, looking at my child's school work, or calling the school.
- Spend time each day with my child reading, writing, listening, or just talking.
- Respect, love, and encourage my child's growth and ideas.
- Help my child to resolve conflicts in a positive, non-violent way.

Parent/Caregiver signature \_\_\_\_\_

**As a Blevins Elementary School staff member, I pledge to:**

- Maintain and foster high standards of academic achievement and positive behavior.
- Respectfully and accurately inform parents of their child's progress.
- Have high expectations for myself, students, and other staff.
- Help children to resolve conflicts in positive, non-violent ways.

Staff signature \_\_\_\_\_

**As a Blevins School student, I pledge to:**

- Work hard to do my best in class and complete my homework.
- Talk to my parents about what I am learning at school.
- Have a positive attitude towards myself, others, school, and learning.
- Respect the differences of other students, their families, and staff.
- Work to resolve conflicts in positive, non-violent ways.

Student signature \_\_\_\_\_

Dear Parent or Guardian:

Every school district in Arkansas is required to report to the Arkansas Department of Education each year student data with race and ethnicity categories that are set by the federal government. The ADE does not report individual student data to the federal government but does report aggregate data for each race/ethnic group. These reports help us to keep track of changes in student enrollments and ensure that all students receive the educational programs and services to which they are entitled.

The federal government recently changed the reporting categories for student race data. As a result you have the opportunity to update the student data on your child, if you wish to do so. With the new reporting categories you may now identify your child by ethnic group (either Hispanic/Latino or non-Hispanic/Latino) and by one or more racial groups. The list below gives a description of each of the ethnic and racial groups:

### Blevins Public Schools

#### Race / Ethnicity

1. Is this student (or is the respondent) Hispanic or Latino? (Choose only one)
  - No, not Hispanic or Latino
  - Yes, Hispanic or Latino (A person of Mexican, Puerto Rican, Cuban, South or Central American, or other Spanish culture or origin, regardless of race).
2. What is the student's (or respondent's) race? (Regardless of how respondent answered the first question, choose one or more)
  - American Indian or Alaska Native (A person having origins in any of the original peoples of North and South America, including Central America, and who maintains tribal affiliation or community attachment.)
  - Asian (A person having origins in any of the original peoples of the Far East, Southeast Asia, or the Indian subcontinent including, for example, Cambodia, China, India, Japan, Korea, Malaysia, Pakistan, the Philippine Islands, Thailand, and Vietnam.)
  - Black or African American (A person having origins in any of the black racial groups of Africa.)
  - Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander ( A person having origins in any of the original peoples of Hawaii, Guam, Samoa, or other Pacific Islands.)
  - White (A person having origins in any of the original peoples of Europe, the Middle East, or North America.)

Starting in the 2009-2010 school year, all schools were required to report to the ADE using these new categories.

If you would like to update the student data for your child, please contact the schools in which your student is enrolled or mark (x) one of the above ethnic and racial groups. If the school does not hear from you by September 1, 2010, we will continue to report based on the student's current data.

Please contact your child's school, if you would like to check the student data currently on file.

Sincerely,

Billy Lee

Superintendent of schools

# BLEVINS SCHOOL DISTRICT

## 2014-2015 SCHOOL CALENDAR

August 14 .....	Open House
August 18 .....	First Day of Classes
September 1 .....	Labor Day, <b>No Classes</b>
September 18 .....	Parent/Teacher Conferences
September 19 .....	<b>No Classes</b>
October 17 .....	End of First Quarter, 43 days
November 26-28 .....	Thanksgiving Break, <b>No Classes</b>
December 19.....	End of Second Quarter, 42 days
Dec. 22 - Jan. 2 .....	Christmas Break, <b>No Classes</b>
January 5 .....	Third Quarter Begins
January 19.....	MLK Day, <b>No Classes</b>
February 5.....	Parent/Teacher Conferences
February 6.....	<b>No Classes</b>
February 16.....	President's Day, <b>No Classes</b>
March 13.....	End of Third Quarter, 47 days
March 23-27.....	Spring Break, <b>No Classes</b>
April 3 .....	Good Friday, <b>No Classes</b>
May 8.....	HS Graduation
May 25 .....	Memorial Day, <b>No Classes</b>
May 27 .....	End of Fourth Quarter, 46 days

- Designated snow days: added to the end of the academic calendar year

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## NONDISCRIMINATORY POLICY NOTIFICATION

It is the policy of the Blevins School District to provide equal opportunities without regard to race, color, national origin, sex, age, qualified handicap, or veteran in its educational programs and activities. This includes, but is not limited to, admissions, educational services, financial aid, and employment. Inquiries concerning application of this policy may be referred to:

Blevins Public Schools, PO Box 98, Blevins, AR 71825

## HIGH SCHOOL BELL SCHEDULE

1 <sup>ST</sup>	7:55 – 8:45
2 <sup>ND</sup>	8:50 – 9:35
3 <sup>RD</sup>	9:40 – 10:25
4 <sup>TH</sup>	10:30 – 11:15
5 <sup>th</sup>	11:20 – 12:05 Remediation Math/Literacy
Lunch	12:05 - 12:35
6 <sup>th</sup>	12:35 – 1:25
7 <sup>th</sup>	1:30 – 2:20
8 <sup>th</sup>	2:25 – 3:15

## ELEMENTARY SCHOOL MISSION STATEMENT

The administration, faculty, staff, students and community of Blevins Public Schools are dedicated to improving the quality of education for all students, as well as preserving the integrity of the local school district. The district strives to provide students with academic success through an environment conducive to learning. School employees model respect and emphasize citizenship. Students are encouraged to develop self-discipline and to use human and natural resource intelligently.

## HIGH SCHOOL MISSION STATEMENT

Blevins High School accepts the responsibility of providing the opportunities that will enable its students to pursue, through study and self application, a quality education and to attain personal goals through participation in the entire school program. The overall purpose of education is to develop students who are worthy and capable citizens. Education must assist each individual to: think clearly, become intellectually competent and make wise use of both human and natural resources.

In order to realize these goals Blevins High School seeks to promote high expectations, leadership, community involvement, a clear school purpose and an atmosphere conducive to learning. Like all worthwhile endeavors, Blevins High School has developed goals which will facilitate the attainment of this mission.

## SCHOOL COLORS AND SCHOOL MASCOT

Blevins School colors are red and white and the school mascot is the hornet. Students are encouraged to identify with these symbols as a representation of our school pride and spirit!

## SCHOOL SONG

**Blevins High School** (To the tune of “Sweet Genevieve”)

*Oh, BHS you'll always be  
First in our hearts and memory  
As number one in all the land  
For you we'll ever proudly stand*

*BHS our battle cry,  
Your banners, flags we'll  
Wave them high  
For you we'll live or gladly die  
The school we'll love until the end.*

## ENROLLMENT IN SCHOOL

Students have the right to attend public schools in Blevins School District in accordance with state law, board of education policies, and school procedures.

## COMPULSORY ATTENDANCE REQUIREMENTS

Every parent, guardian, or other person having custody or charge of any child age five (5) through seventeen (17) years on or before August 1 of that year who resides, as defined by policy (4.1—RESIDENCE REQUIREMENTS), within the District shall enroll and send the child to a District school with the following exceptions.

1. The child is enrolled in private or parochial school.
2. The child is being home-schooled and the conditions of policy (4.6—Home Schooling) have been met.
3. The child will not be age six (6) on or before August 1 of that particular school year and the parent, guardian, or other person having custody or charge of the child elects not to have him/her attend kindergarten. A kindergarten waiver form prescribed by regulation of the Department of Education must be signed and on file with the District administrative office.
4. The child has received a high school diploma or its equivalent as determined by the State Board of Education.
5. The child is age sixteen (16) or above and is enrolled in a post-secondary vocational-technical institution, a community college, or a two-year or four-year institution of higher education.
6. The child is age sixteen (16) or seventeen (17) and has

met the requirements to enroll in an adult education program as defined by A.C.A. § 6-18-201(b).

To enroll in a school in the District, the child must be a resident of the District as defined in District policy (4.1 RESIDENCE REQUIREMENTS), meet the criteria outlined in policy 4.40—HOMELESS STUDENTS, or in policy 4.52---STUDENTS WHO ARE FOSTER CHILDREN, be accepted as a transfer student under the provisions of policy 4.4, or participate under a school choice option and submit the required paperwork as required by the choice option.

Students may enter kindergarten if they will attain the age of five (5) on or before August 1 of the year in which they are seeking initial enrollment. Any student who has been enrolled in a state-accredited or state-approved kindergarten program in another state for at least sixty (60) days, who will become five (5) years old during the year in which he/she is enrolled in kindergarten, and who meets the basic residency requirement for school attendance may be enrolled in kindergarten upon written request to the District.

Any child who will be six (6) years of age on or before October 1 of the school year of enrollment and who has not completed a state-accredited kindergarten program shall be evaluated by the district and may be placed in the first grade if the results of the evaluation justify placement in the first grade and the child's parent or legal guardian agrees with placement in the first grade; otherwise the child shall be placed in kindergarten.

Any child may enter first grade in a District school if the child will attain the age of six (6) years during the school year in which the child is seeking enrollment and the child has successfully completed a kindergarten program in a public school in Arkansas.

Any child who has been enrolled in the first grade in a state-accredited or state-approved elementary school in another state for a period of at least sixty (60) days, who will become age six (6) years during the school year in which he/she is enrolled in grade one (1), and who meets the basic residency requirements for school attendance may be enrolled in the first grade.

Students who move into the District from an accredited school shall be assigned to the same grade as they were attending in their previous school (mid-year transfers) or as they would have been assigned in their previous school. Home-schooled students shall be evaluated by the District to determine their appropriate grade placement.

The district shall make no attempt to ascertain the immigration status, legal or illegal, of any student or his/her parent or legal guardian presenting for enrollment.

Prior to the child's admission to a District school:

1. The parent, guardian, or other responsible person shall furnish the child's social security number, or if they request, the district will assign the child a nine (9) digit

number designated by the department of education.

2. The parent, guardian, or other responsible person shall provide the district with one (1) of the following documents indicating the child's age:
  - a. A birth certificate;
  - b. A statement by the local registrar or a county recorder certifying the child's date of birth;
  - c. An attested baptismal certificate;
  - d. A passport;
  - e. An affidavit of the date and place of birth by the child's parent or guardian;
  - f. United States military identification; or
  - g. Previous school records.
3. The parent, guardian, or other responsible person shall indicate on school registration forms whether the child has been expelled from school in any other school district or is a party to an expulsion proceeding. The Board of Education reserves the right, after a hearing before the Board, not to allow any person who has been expelled from another school district to enroll as a student until the time of the person's expulsion has expired.<sup>3</sup>
4. The child shall be age appropriately immunized from poliomyelitis, diphtheria, tetanus, pertussis, red (rubeola) measles, rubella, and other diseases as designated by the State Board of Health, or have an exemption issued by the Arkansas Department of Health. Proof of immunization shall be by a certificate of a licensed physician or a public health department acknowledging the immunization. Exemptions are also possible on an annual basis for religious reasons from the Arkansas Department of Health. To continue such exemptions, they must be renewed at the beginning of each school year. A child enrolling in a district school and living in the household of a person on active military duty has 30 days to receive his/her initial required immunizations and 12 months to be up to date on the required immunizations for the student's age.

A student enrolled in the District who has an immunization exemption may be removed from school during an outbreak of the disease for which the student is not vaccinated at the discretion of the Arkansas Department of Health. The student may not return to the school until the outbreak has been resolved and the student's return to school is approved by the Arkansas Department of Health.

### **Uniformed Services Member's Children**

For the purposes of this policy, "active duty members of the uniformed services" includes members of the National Guard and Reserve on active duty orders pursuant to 10 U.S.C. Section 1209 and 1211; "uniformed services" means the Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps, Coast Guard as well as the Commissioned Corps of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, and Public Health Services; "veteran" means: a

person who served in the uniformed services and who was discharged or released there from under conditions other than dishonorable.

This policy applies to children of: active duty members of the uniformed services; members or veterans of the uniformed services who are severely injured and medically discharged or retired for a period of one (1) year after medical discharge or retirement; and members of the uniformed services who die on active duty or as a result of injuries sustained on active duty for a period of one (1) year after death.

An eligible child as defined in this policy shall:

1. be allowed to continue his/her enrollment at the grade level commensurate with his/her grade level he/she was in at the time of transition from his/her previous school, regardless of age;
2. be eligible for enrollment in the next highest grade level, regardless of age if the student has satisfactorily completed the prerequisite grade level in his/her previous school;
3. enter the District's school on the validated level from his/her previous accredited school when transferring into the District after the start of the school year;
4. be enrolled in courses and programs the same as or similar to the ones the student was enrolled in his/her previous school to extent that space is available. This does not prohibit the District from performing subsequent evaluations to ensure appropriate placement and continued enrollment of the student in the courses/and/or programs;
5. be provided services comparable to those the student with disabilities received in his/her previous school based on his/her previous Individualized Education Program (IEP). This does not preclude the District school from performing subsequent evaluations to ensure appropriate placement of the student;
6. make reasonable accommodations and modifications to address the needs of an incoming student with disabilities, subject to an existing 504 or Title II Plan, necessary to provide the student with equal access to education. This does not preclude the District school from performing subsequent evaluations to ensure appropriate placement of the student;
7. be enrolled by an individual who has been given the special power of attorney for the student's guardianship. The individual shall have the power to take all other actions requiring parental participation and/or consent;
8. be eligible to continue attending District schools if he/she has been placed under the legal guardianship of a non-custodial parent living outside the district by a custodial parent on active military duty.

## ATTENDANCE

Regular attendance is essential to a student's success in school. Most subjects are taught in sequence, requiring the understanding of each concept in the order of its presentation. Persistent absenteeism creates a genuine hardship for a student and is regarded as a very serious problem.

Students in grades nine through twelve (9-12) are required to schedule and attend at least 350 minutes of regularly scheduled class time daily. Part of this requirement may be met by students taking post-secondary courses. Eligible students' enrollment and attendance at a post-secondary institution shall count toward the required weekly time of school attendance. Each credit hour shall count as three (3) hours of attendance time. This means a three (3) hour course shall count as nine (9) hours of the weekly required time of attendance.

Enrollment and attendance in vocational-educational training courses, college courses, school work programs, and other department-sanctioned educational programs may be used to satisfy the student attendance requirement even if the programs are not located at the public schools. Attendance in such alternative programs must be pre-approved by the school's administration. The district shall strive to assign students who have been dropped from a course of study or removed from a school work program job during the semester into another placement or course of study. In the instances where a subsequent placement is unable to be made, the district may grant a waiver for the student for the duration of the semester in which the placement is unable to be made.

In rare instances, students may be granted waivers from the mandatory attendance requirement if they would experience proven financial hardships if required to attend a full day of school. For the purpose of this, ollo proven financial hardships is defined as harm or suffering caused by a student's inability to obtain or provide basic life necessities of food, clothing, and shelter for the student or the student's family. The superintendent shall have the authority to grant such a waiver, on a case-by-case basis, only when convinced the student meets the definition of proven financial hardships.

In any instance where a provision of a student's Individual Education Plan (IEP) conflicts with a portion(s) of this policy, the IEP shall prevail.

We encourage all students to strive for perfect attendance. School personnel will attempt to notify parents when a student is absent and will work closely with parents to promote good school attendance.

The student must furnish evidence, as discussed in this section, to the office on the day following the absence(s). Excuses for absences will not be accepted after the end of the "third" school day following the student's return to school except under unusual circumstances.

**High School** students **MUST** obtain an absentee slip in the high school office between 7:45 and 8:00 am. The parent/guardian, by writing, must explain the reason and length of

the absence. Any student who is late to class while getting an absentee slip will receive a tardy unless the office detains them. The absentee slip must be taken to all classes and signed by each teacher.

## **ABSENCES**

If any student's Individual Education Program (IEP) or 504 Plan conflicts with this policy, the requirements of the student's IEP or 504 Plan take precedence.

Education is more than the grades students receive in their courses. Important as that is, students' regular attendance at school is essential to their social and cultural development and helps prepare them to accept responsibilities they will face as an adult. Interactions with other students and participation in the instruction within the classroom enrich the learning environment and promote a continuity of instruction which results in higher student achievement.

### **Excused Absences**

Excused absences are those where the student was on official school business or when the absence was due to one of the following reasons and the student brings a written statement to the principal or designee upon his/her return to school from the parent or legal guardian stating such reason. A written statement presented for an absence having occurred more than five (5) school days prior to its presentation will not be accepted.

1. The student's illness or when attendance could jeopardize the health of other students. A maximum of six (6) such days are allowed per semester unless the condition(s) causing such absences is of a chronic or recurring nature, is medically documented, and approved by the principal.
2. Death or serious illness in their immediate family,
3. Observance of recognized holidays observed by the student's faith;
4. Attendance at an appointment with a government agency;
5. Attendance at a medical appointment;
6. Exceptional circumstances with prior approval of the principal; or
7. Participation in an FFA, FHA, or 4-H sanctioned activity;
8. Participation in the election poll workers program for high school students.
9. Absences granted to allow a student to visit his/her parent or legal guardian who is a member of the military and been called to active duty, is on leave from active duty, or has returned from deployment to a combat zone or combat support posting. The number of additional excused absences shall be at the discretion of the superintendent or designee.

10. Absences granted, at the Superintendent's discretion, to seventeen (17) year-old students who join the Arkansas National Guard while in eleventh grade to complete basic combat training between grades eleven (11) and (12).

Students who serve as pages for a member of the General Assembly shall be considered on instructional assignment and shall not be considered absent from school for the day the student is serving as a page.

It is the Arkansas General Assembly's intention that students having excessive absences be given assistance in obtaining credit for their courses. Excessive absences may, however, be the basis for the denial of course credit, promotion, or graduation.

### **Unexcused Absences**

Absences not defined above or not having an accompanying note from the parent or legal guardian, presented in the timeline required by this policy, shall be considered as unexcused absences. Students with 7 unexcused absences in a course in a semester shall not receive credit for that course. At the discretion of the Board of Directors after consultation with persons having knowledge of the circumstances of the unexcused absences, the student may be denied promotion or graduation. Excessive absences shall not be a reason for expulsion or dismissal of a student.

When a student has 3 unexcused absences, his/her parents, guardians, or persons in loco parentis shall be notified.. Notification shall be by telephone by the end of the school day in which such absence occurred or by regular mail with a return address sent no later than the following school day.

Whenever a student exceeds 7 unexcused absences in a semester, the District shall notify the prosecuting authority and the parent, guardian, or persons in loco parentis shall be subject to a civil penalty as prescribed by law.

At any time prior to when a student exceeds the number of unexcused absences permitted by this policy, the student, or his/her parent, guardian, or person in loco parentis may petition the school or district's administration for special arrangements to address the student's unexcused absences. If formal arrangements are granted, they shall be formalized into a written agreement which will include the conditions of the agreement and the consequences for failing to fulfill the agreement's requirements. The agreement shall be signed by the student, the student's parent, guardian, or person in loco parentis, and the school or district administrator or designee.<sup>6</sup>

Students who attend in-school suspension shall not be counted absent for those days. Days missed due to out-of-school suspension or expulsion shall be unexcused absences.

The District shall notify the Department of Finance and Administration whenever a student fourteen (14) years of age or older is no longer in school. The Department of Finance and Administration is required to suspend the former student's

operator's license unless he/she meets certain requirements specified in the statute.

Applicants for an instruction permit or for a driver's license by persons less than eighteen (18) years old on October 1 of any year are required to provide proof of a high school diploma or enrollment and regular attendance in an adult education program or a public, private, or parochial school prior to receiving an instruction permit. To be issued a driver's license, a student enrolled in school shall present proof of a "C" average for the previous semester or similar equivalent grading period for which grades are reported as part of the student's permanent record.

### **EXCUSED ABSENCE MAKEUP POLICY**

Students who have excused absences shall be permitted to make up work provided such work is completed within the time prescribed by the teacher. As a general rule, students will be granted one day for each day absent to make up work. This rule does not apply to special projects. Test or class work is sometimes announced in advance. In this case, the student would be expected to turn in required work or take the test on the day of return.

### **UNEXCUSED ABSENCE FROM HOME SUSPENSION**

Students who miss school due to out of school suspension will not be allowed to make up their work and will receive zeros for missed assignments

### **PARENT INVOLVEMENT POLICIES – TITLE I**

To ensure that the parents/guardians of the students of Blevins School District's Title I project have an opportunity to participate in the design and implementation of the project, the following practices will be observed:

- Parents will be notified that their child has been selected to participate in the Title I program.
- Parents will be informed of the objectives for their child and given periodic progress reports.
- Parents will be given instruction and suggestions as to how they may support their child's efforts in their school work.
- Suggestions and recommendations will be solicited from parents regarding the planning, development and implementation of the project.

### **PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT PLAN 2013-2014**

Blevins Public Schools communicate with parents in several ways to promote parental involvement and to support classroom instruction:

- Edline - This allows parents to access their child's grades and contact information for the child's teachers.

- School Website - The website contains, our school calendar, upcoming events, board meeting dates, lunch menu, and other relevant information.
- Parent/Teacher Conferences - Two conferences are held annually. These conferences include flexible evening hours to give families the better opportunities to participate. Parents are given students' grades and progress information.
- Contacts - Teachers contact parents on an individual (via phone and email) and group basis (via email) to discuss relevant issues. A contact log is kept for documentation.

Blevins Public Schools encourage parental involvement by asking for participation in various activities held throughout the school year. Parental involvement encourages students and supports student learning.

- Open House
- Parent/Teacher Conferences
- Academic Awards Assembly
- Senior Night
- Blood Drives
- Music Programs
- Guest Speakers
- Athletic Events
- Quiz bowl activities
- Destination Imagination
- Book Fairs
- Red Ribbon Week
- Homecoming
- Field Day

Blevins Public Schools provide opportunities for parents to be involved in the development, implementation, and evaluation of the school wide improvement plan and other decision making processes.

- Parents serve on the school ACSIP team.
- Parents serve on the parental advisory committee.
- Parents participate in reviewing the school curriculum.
- Parents participate on the Task Force that reviews student data and academic deficiencies and helps to determine areas of improvement to close the achievement gap.

Blevins Public Schools make a commitment to encourage parental involvement in classrooms.

- School administrators are required to attend at least 3 hours of professional development to enhance the understanding of effective parental involvement and to help create a climate that encourages parents to become involved in their child's learning.

- Teachers are required to attend at least 2 hours of professional development to enhance the understanding of involving parents in meaningful ways.
- Teachers are encouraged to utilize interested parental volunteers.
- Blevins Public Schools provide resources for parents.
- The school handbook is distributed to all parents and it includes the school's process for resolving parental concerns as well as policies and procedures for the school.
- A parent center is located on campus and allows for parents to check out materials that can aid their child academically, socially, or emotionally. Materials continue to be added to this center as funds allow.
- Brochures are located at both counselors' offices and at the parent center.
- Information packets and learning materials are distributed to incoming kindergarteners each year.

## **PUBLIC SCHOOL CHOICE**

Public school choice in Arkansas allows students to attend a public school in a district other than the one in which they reside. Parents of students who want to enroll their children in one of the following public schools; Bradley, Blevins, Fouke, Genoa, Nevada, Spring Hill and Texarkana, have until June 1 to apply to enroll in the fall under the Arkansas Public School Choice Act of 2013.

Pursuant to standards adopted by a non-resident school board a nonresident district may reserve the right to accept and reject applicants based on capacity of programs, class, grade level, or school building. Likewise, a non-resident district's standards may provide for the rejection of an applicant based upon the submission of false or misleading information to the above listed request for information when that information directly impacts the legal qualifications of an applicant to transfer pursuant to the School Choice Act. However, a non-resident district's standards shall not include an applicant's previous academic achievement, athletic or other extracurricular ability, handicapping conditions, English proficiency level, or previous disciplinary proceedings, except that an expulsion from another district may be included pursuant to Ark. Code Ann. §6-18-510. Priority will be given to applicants with siblings attending the district. The non-resident district shall accept credits toward graduation that were awarded by another district and award a diploma to a nonresident applicant if the applicant meets the non-resident district's graduation requirements.

Applications must be postmarked or delivered to the Superintendent of Schools no later than June 1 for a child to be able to enroll for the fall semester. Transfers shall be granted on a non-discriminatory basis. Students who have been accepted and enrolled in previous years do not have to reapply as approved transfers remain valid for as long as the student attends that public school.

The following school districts comply with this public school announcement: Bradley, Blevins, Fouke, Genoa, Nevada, Spring Hill and Texarkana. Go to [www.arkansased.org](http://www.arkansased.org) for more information on the Arkansas Public School Choice Act of 2013.

## **GIFTED AND TALENTED PROGRAM**

Blevins School District provides its students with educational opportunities that will extend their learning environment and help them reach their maximum potential through its Gifted and Talented (GT) program.

Students are identified for eligibility to the GT program by completing the Identification Process outlined in the Gifted and Talented Handbook. The gifted and talented program is a pullout program. The GT students will be pulled out of their regularly scheduled classes each week to attend the GT class. Because of the pullout status of the GT program; if a Gifted and Talented student's GPA falls below a 3.0 for the previous nine weeks grading period: 1) that student will not be pulled out of his/her academic class to attend GT class. 2) that student will be allowed to attend GT class at the end of the next nine weeks grading period if his/her GPA is 3.0 or higher. A GT student may attend GT functions before or after school during the nine weeks that his/her GPA is below 3.0.

## **TRANSFER BETWEEN SCHOOLS**

Any student transferring from a school accredited by the Department of Education to another school accredited by the Department of Education shall be placed into the same grade the student would have been in had the student remained at the former school. Any student transferring from a school that is not accredited by the Department of Education or coming from a home schooling program shall be evaluated/tested by the staff of Blevins School to determine that the placement of that student is correct. Students will be asked if they are suspended or expelled from another district before registering them.

# **CURRICULUM**

## **STUDENT PROMOTION AND RETENTION**

A disservice is done to students through social promotion and is prohibited by state law. The District shall, at a minimum, evaluate each student annually in an effort to help each student who is not performing at grade level. Parents or guardians shall be kept informed concerning the progress of their student(s). Notice of a student's possible retention or required retaking of a course shall be included with the student's grades sent home to each parent/guardian or the student if 18 or older. Parent-teacher conferences are encouraged and may be held as necessary in an effort to improve a student's academic success.

Promotion or retention of students, or their required retaking of a course shall be primarily based on the following cri-

teria. If there is doubt concerning the promotion or retention of a student or his/her required retaking of a course, a conference between the building principal, the student's teacher(s), counselor, a 504/special education representative (if applicable), and the student's parents shall be held before a final decision is made. The conference shall be held at a time and place that best accommodates those participating in the conference. The school shall document participation or non-participation in required conference. If the conference attendees fail to agree concerning the student's placement or receipt of course credit, the final decision shall rest with the principal or the principal's designee.

Regardless of the student having earned passing grades, a student who falls under one of the following categories shall be considered for retention or shall not receive credit for the course associated with the assessment. The student:

- does not take the State mandated assessment for the student's grade level or course within the time frame specified by the State;
- takes the State mandated assessment but does not put forth a good faith effort on the assessment as determined by the assessment administrator/proctor.

The Superintendent or designee may wave this provision when the student's failure was due to exceptional or extraordinary circumstances.

Students who do not score proficient or above on their grade level Benchmark Exams shall be required to participate in an Academic Improvement Plan (AIP). Each AIP shall be developed by school personnel and the student's parents and shall be designed to assist the student in attaining the expected achievement level. The AIP shall also state the parent's role as well as the consequences for the student's failure to participate in the plan, which shall include the student's retention in their present grade.

All students must successfully pass all end-of-course (EOC) assessments they are required to take unless exempted by the student's individualized education program (IEP). To receive academic credit on his/her in a course requiring a student to take a EOC assessment, the student must either receive a passing score on the initial assessment or successfully participate in the remediation program identified in his/her Individualized Academic Improvement Plan (IAIP) which shall focus on the areas in which the student failed to meet the necessary passing score. Additionally, the lack of credit could jeopardize the student's grade promotion or classification.

To the extent required by the State Board of Education, students in grade eleven(11) and below who do not meet the required score on a college and career readiness measurement shall participate in the remediation activities prescribed in his/her IAIP which may include additional opportunities to retake the measurement. Such remediation shall not require the student to pass a subsequent college and career readiness measurement in order to graduate from high school.

Promotion/retention or graduation of students with an IEP shall be based on their successful attainment of the goals set forth in their IEP.

In addition to the possibility of retention or withholding of course credit, students who either refuse to sit for a State assessment or attempt to boycott a State assessment by failing to put forth a good faith effort on the assessment as determined by the assessment administrator/proctor, or whose parents do not send their student to school on the dates the assessments are originally administered or scheduled as make-up days shall not be permitted to participate in any non-curriculum related extracurricular activity, including school dances, prom, homecoming, senior events, and may be prevented from walking or participating in graduation exercises. The student shall remain ineligible to participate until the student takes the same or a following State mandated assessment, as applicable, or completes the required remediation for the assessment the student failed to put forth a good faith effort on. The Superintendent or designee may wave this paragraph's provisions when the student's failure was due to exceptional or extraordinary circumstances. Students falling under the provisions of this paragraph shall be permitted to attend curriculum related field trips occurring during the school day.

### **Elementary Promotion and Retention**

The promotion/retention of students in kindergarten through sixth grade will be determined by the principal and teacher(s) when it is felt that it is in the best interest of the child. The following criteria will be used to form that decision.

- Classroom grades on daily work and tests
- Standardized achievement test scores
- Mastery of basic skills for that grade level
- Individual pupil's abilities

To be promoted to the next grade, students in grades 3-6 must pass on grade level three of the five subject areas, two of which must be reading and math. The five subject areas are reading, math, languages, science/health, and social studies.

The DRA test will be given to students in Kindergarten and First Grade as a determiner for promotion. Kindergarten students must be reading at a level 4, or higher, and First Grade students must be reading at level 16, or higher, by the end of the school year. Testing will be done after the first and third nine weeks and parents will be notified of their child's progress. Additional testing will be done with students who are not performing on level at these times.

The D.I. Reading Chart indicates levels that students are expected to reach throughout the school year. Many times this is a more accurate indicator of a child's progress than grades and should be referenced instead of relying solely on grades. Since students are placed in a level where they can be successful, grades may not be a true indicator of a student's ability.

	<b>End of 1<sup>st</sup> Nine Weeks</b>	<b>End of 2<sup>nd</sup> Nine Weeks</b>	<b>End of 3<sup>rd</sup> Nine Weeks</b>	<b>End of 4<sup>th</sup> Nine Weeks</b>
<b>Kindergarten</b>	Grade K Red Book Lesson 35	Grade K Red Book Lesson 70	Grade K Red Book Lesson 105	Grade K Red Book Lesson 40
<b>1<sup>st</sup> Grade</b>	Grade 1 Orange Book Lesson 10	Grade 1 Orange Book Lesson 40	Grade 1 Orange Book Lesson 70	Grade 1 Orange Book Lesson 100
<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Grade</b>	Grade 1 Orange Book Lesson 130	Grade 1 Orange Book Lesson 160	Transition Penguin Lesson 35	Grade 2 Green Book Lesson 35
<b>3<sup>rd</sup> Grade</b>	Grade 2 Green Book Lesson 70	Grade 2 Green Book Lesson 105	Grade 2 Green Book Lesson 145	Grade 3 Blue Book Lesson 35
<b>4<sup>th</sup> Grade</b>	Grade 3 Blue Book Lesson 70	Grade 3 Blue Book Lesson 105	Grade 3 Blue Book Lesson 140	Grade 4 Purple Book Lesson 30
<b>5<sup>th</sup> Grade</b>	Grade 4 Purple Book Lesson 60	Grade 4 Purple Book Lesson 90	Grade 4 Purple Book Lesson 120	Grade 5 Lesson 30
<b>6<sup>th</sup> Grade</b>	Grade 5 Lesson 60	Grade 5 Lesson 90	Grade 5 Lesson 120	

### **Grades Seven and Eight**

The core curriculum for grades seven and eight emphasizes mastery of competency and skills in language arts, social studies, mathematics, and science. To enhance the core curricula, each seventh grade student is enrolled in one semester of art, music, personal living skills, and keyboarding. Eighth grade students are enrolled in career orientation, CT: introduction, and basic skills. Students are required to take instruction in physical education and health.

Students must pass a minimum of eight of the twelve required semesters of course work each year (excluding physical education and/or athletics) to be eligible for promotion to the next grade.

### **SMART CORE CURRICULUM AND GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS**

All students are required to participate in the Smart Core curriculum unless their parents or guardians, or the students if they are 18 years of age or older, sign a Smart Core Waiver Form to not participate. While Smart Core is the default option, both a *Smart Core Informed Consent Form* and a *Smart Core Waiver Form* will be sent home with students prior to their enrolling in seventh grade, or when a 7-12 grade student enrolls in the

district for the first time and there is not a signed form in the student's permanent record. Parents must sign one of the forms and return it to the school so it can be placed in the students' permanent records. This policy is to be included in student handbooks for grades 6-12 and both students and parents must sign an acknowledgement they have received the policy. Those students not participating in the Smart Core curriculum will be required to fulfill the Core curriculum or the requirements of their IEP (when applicable) to be eligible for graduation. Counseling by trained personnel shall be available to students and their parent or legal guardians prior to the time they are required to sign the consent forms.

While there are similarities between the two curriculums, following the Core curriculum may not qualify students for some scholarships and admission to certain colleges could be jeopardized. Students initially choosing the Core curriculum may subsequently change to the Smart Core curriculum **providing** they would be able to complete the required course of study by the end of their senior year. Students wishing to change their choice of curriculums must consult with their counselor to determine the feasibility of changing.

This policy, the Smart Core curriculum, and the courses necessary for graduation shall be reviewed by staff, students, and

parents at least every other year to determine if changes need to be made to better serve the needs of the district's students. The superintendent, or his/her designee, shall select the composition of the review panel.

Sufficient information relating to Smart Core and the district's graduation requirements shall be communicated to parents and students to ensure their informed understanding of each. This may be accomplished through any or all of the following means.

- Inclusion in the student handbook of the Smart Core curriculum and graduation requirements;
- Discussion of the Smart Core curriculum and graduation requirements at the school's annual public meeting, PTA meetings, or a meeting held specifically for the purpose of informing the public on this matter;
- Discussions held by the school's counselors with students and their parents; and/or
- Distribution Of a newsletter(s) to parents or guardians of the district's students.

## GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

The number of units students must earn to be eligible for high school graduation is to be earned from the categories listed below. A minimum of 22 units is required for graduation for a student participating in either the Smart Core or Core curriculum. In addition to the 22 units required for graduation by the Arkansas Department of Education, the district requires an additional 1 unit to graduate for a total of 23 units. The additional required unit may be taken from any electives offered by the district. There are some distinctions made between Smart Core units and Graduation units. Not all units earned toward graduation necessarily apply to Smart Core requirements.

## DIGITAL LEARNING COURSES

The District shall offer one or more digital learning course(s) through one or more District approved provider(s) as either a primary or supplementary method of instruction. The courses may be in a blended learning, online-based, or other technology-based format. In addition to the other graduation requirements contained in this policy, students are required to take at least one (1) digital learning course for credit while in high school.

### SMART CORE: Sixteen (16) units

English: four (4) units — 9th, 10th, 11th, and 12th Oral Communications: one-half (½) unit

Mathematics: four (4) units (all students under Smart Core must take a mathematics course in grade 11 or 12 and complete Algebra II.)

- Algebra I or Algebra A & B\* which may be taken in grades 7-8 or 8-9

- Geometry or Investigating Geometry or Geometry A & B\* which may be taken in grades 8-9 or 9-10

\*A two-year algebra equivalent or a two-year geometry equivalent may each be counted as two units of the four-unit requirement for the purpose of meeting the graduation requirement, but only serve as one unit each toward fulfilling the Smart Core requirement.

- Algebra II
- Beyond Algebra II: this can include Pre-Calculus, Calculus, AP Statistics, Algebra III, Advanced Topic and Modeling in mathematics, Mathematical Applications and Algorithms, Linear Systems and Statistics or any of several IB or Advanced Placement math courses (Comparable concurrent credit college courses may be substituted where applicable)

Natural Science: a total of three (3) units with lab experience chosen from One unit of Biology; and

Two units chosen from the following three categories

- Physical Science
- Chemistry
- Physics or Principles of Technology I & II or PIC Physics

Social Studies: three (3) units

- Civics one-half (½) unit
- World History - one unit
- American History - one unit

Physical Education: one-half (½) unit

**Note:** While one-half (½) unit is required for graduation, no more than one (1) unit may be applied toward fulfilling the necessary units to graduate.

Health and Safety: one-half (½) unit

Economics —one half (½) unit — dependent upon the licenser of the teacher teaching the course, this can count toward the required three (3) social studies credits or the six (6) required Career Focus elective credits.

Fine Arts: one-half (½) unit

### CAREER FOCUS: - Six (6) units

All career focus unit requirements shall be established through guidance and counseling based on the student's contemplated work aspirations. Career focus courses shall conform to the curriculum policy of the district and reflect state curriculum frameworks through course sequencing and career course concentrations where appropriate.

The Smart Core and career focus units must total at least twenty-two (22) units to graduate. Additionally, the district requires 1 unit for a total of 23 units to graduate which may be taken from any elective offered by the district.

## CORE: Sixteen (16) units

English: four (4) units — 9, 10, 11, and 12 Oral Communications: one-half ( $\frac{1}{2}$ ) unit

Mathematics: four (4) units

- Algebra or its equivalent\* -1 unit
- Geometry or its equivalent\* - 1 unit
- All math units must build on the base of algebra and geometry knowledge and skills.
- (Comparable concurrent credit college courses may be substituted where applicable)

\*A two-year algebra equivalent or a two-year geometry equivalent may each be counted as two units of the four (4) unit requirement.

Science: three (3) units

- at least one (1) unit of biology or its equivalent
- one (1) unit of a physical science

Social Studies: three (3) units

- Civics one-half ( $\frac{1}{2}$ ) unit
- World history, one (1) unit
- American History, one (1) unit

Physical Education: one-half ( $\frac{1}{2}$ ) unit

**Note:** While one-half ( $\frac{1}{2}$ ) unit is required for graduation, no more than one (1) unit may be applied toward fulfilling the necessary units to graduate.

Health and Safety: one-half ( $\frac{1}{2}$ ) unit

Economics: one half ( $\frac{1}{2}$ ) unit – dependent upon the licenser of the teacher teaching the course, this can count toward the required three (3) social studies credits or the six (6) required Career Focus elective credits.

Fine Arts: one-half ( $\frac{1}{2}$ ) unit

## CAREER FOCUS: - Six (6) units

All career focus unit requirements shall be established through guidance and counseling based on the student's contemplated work aspirations. Career focus courses shall conform to the curriculum policy of the district and reflect state curriculum frameworks through course sequencing and career course concentrations where appropriate.

The Core and career focus units must total at least twenty-two (22) units to graduate. Additionally, the district requires 1 unit for a total of 23 units to graduate which may be taken from any elective offered by the district.

## SMART CORE INFORMED CONSENT FORM (GRADUATING CLASS OF 2014 AND AFTER)

Name of Student:

Name of Parent/Guardian:

Name of District:

Name of School:

Smart Core is Arkansas's college- and career-ready curriculum for high school students.

College- and career-readiness in Arkansas means that students are prepared for success in entry-level, credit-bearing courses at two-year and four-year colleges and universities, in technical postsecondary training, and in well-paid jobs that support families and have pathways to advancement. To be college- and career ready, students need to be adept problem solvers and critical thinkers who can contribute and apply their knowledge in novel contexts and unforeseen situations. Smart Core is the foundation for college- and career-readiness. All students should supplement with additional rigorous coursework within their career focus.

Successful completion of the Smart Core curriculum is one of the eligibility requirements for the Arkansas Academic Challenge Scholarship. Failure to complete the Smart Core curriculum for graduation may result in negative consequences such as conditional admission to college and ineligibility for scholarship programs. Parents or guardians may waive the right for a student to participate in Smart Core and to instead participate in the Core curriculum. The parent must sign the separate Smart Core Waiver Form to do so.

## SMART CORE CURRICULUM

English – 4 units

- English 9th grade
- English 10th grade
- English 11<sup>th</sup> grade
- English 12<sup>th</sup> grade

Mathematics – 4 units; One unit must be taken at 11th or 12th grade

- Algebra I or First Part and Second Part Algebra I (Grades 7-8 or 8-9)
- Geometry or First Part and Second Part Geometry (Grades 8-9 or 9-10)
- Algebra II
- Fourth Math — Choice of: Advanced Topics and Modeling in Mathematics, Algebra III, Calculus, Linear Systems and Statistics, Mathematical Applications and Algorithms, Pre-Calculus, or an Advanced Placement mathematics

Natural Science – 3 units with lab experience chosen from:

- Biology (1 unit) Two units from the following three options:
- Physical Science
- Chemistry
- Physics or Principles of Technology I & II or PIC Physics

Social Studies – 3 units(see note beside economics)

- Civics – unit
- World History –1 unit
- American History –1 unit

Oral Communication – ½ unit

Physical Education – ½ unit

Health and Safety – ½ unit

Economics – ½ unit (may be counted toward Social Studies or Career Focus)

Fine Arts – ½ unit Career Focus – 6 units

(Comparable concurrent credit may be substituted where applicable.)

By signing this form, I acknowledge that I have been informed of the requirements and implementation of the Smart Core curriculum and am choosing the Smart Core curriculum for my child.

Parent/Guardian Signature

Date School Official Signature Date

Arkansas Department of Education—May 24, 20

## CLASSIFICATION OF STUDENTS

A student will advance from one grade to the next in accordance with the completion of required courses and the earning of sufficient credits. Classification will be set at beginning of school, and will not change during the school year.

Minimum Requirements:

5.5 credits	10th grade
11.0 credits	11th grade
16.0 credits	12th grade

## GRADUATION PARTICIPATION

Senior students must be enrolled in a minimum of eight (8) on campus classes to be considered as a candidate for graduation. All twenty-three (23) graduation requirements must be met before a student is allowed to participate in graduation exercises.

**STUDENTS THAT DO NOT MEET GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS WILL NOT BE ALLOWED TO PARTICIPATE IN GRADUATION EXERCISES.**

## HONOR GRADUATES

Students completing a College Preparation curriculum with a cumulative grade point average of 3.5 GPA or greater on a 4.0 scale will be designated as honor graduates. Exchange students are eligible for this honor if they meet all the requirements.

## VALEDICTORIAN / SALUTATORIAN

A student must be enrolled in the Blevins School District their 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> grade years (4 semesters) to be eligible for this honor. The top ranked honor graduate will be the valedictorian and the second ranked honor student the salutatorian. Exchange students are not eligible for this honor.

## CORRESPONDENCE AND SUMMER SCHOOL CREDITS

When necessary, students may acquire a total of two units of credit toward graduation through correspondence and/or summer school. The student must have prior approval from the principal and counselor in order for these credits to count toward graduation.

## CONCURRENT CREDIT

A ninth through twelfth grade student who successfully completes a college course(s) from an institution approved by the Arkansas Department of Education shall be given credit toward high school grades and graduation at the rate of one (1) high school credit for each three (3) semester hours of college credit. Unless approved by the school's principal, **prior to enrolling for the course**, the concurrent credit shall be applied toward the student's graduation requirements as an elective. Students will retain credit applied toward a course required for high school graduation from a previously attended, accredited, public school. Any and all costs of higher education courses taken for concurrent credit are the student's responsibility.

## ADVANCED PLACEMENT

The district will provide advanced placement courses on campus, through the Arkansas Virtual High School and through other distance learning. This is open to all students that can meet the requirements set forth by these institutions and are properly evaluated.

## GRADING INFORMATION

The grade given in each class will reflect the academic work completed for that class and does not include bonus points. Grades assigned to students reflect educational objectives only.

## Elementary Grading Information

Kindergarten Classes utilize a mastery checklist based on the Arkansas Kindergarten Frameworks. The mastery checklist areas include: mathematics, reading habits, reading comprehension, print-sound code, listening and speaking, writing habits and processes, writing for different purposes, language use and conventions, letter recognition (upper and lower case), number recognition, shape recognition and color recognition. A (√) indicates mastery. An (x) indicates an area of concern. An (\*) indicates that the concept has not been tested at this time.

For students in 1<sup>st</sup> grade through 6<sup>th</sup> grade, A grade will be given for each of the four nine weeks and each of the two semesters. Semester grades will be recorded on the child's permanent record folder kept on file in the school office. Letter grades are determined as follows:

- A = 90 - 100%
- B = 80 - 89%
- C = 70 - 79%
- D = 60 - 69%
- F = Below 60% failing

Students will receive letter grades in P.E., Music, Art, and a conduct grade each nine weeks.

## High School Grading Information

### Grading Scale

(regular)	GPA Scale	Weighted Scale
A = 90 - 100	A = 4 points	A - 5 points
B = 80 - 89	B = 3 points	B - 4 points
C = 70 - 79	C = 2 points	C - 3 points
D = 60 - 69	D = 1 point	D - 2 points
F = 0 - 59	F = 0 points	F - 0 points

A number grade and a letter grade is given in each academic course for each of the four nine weeks and for each of two semesters. A nine weeks test is given for the first and third nine weeks. This test will be comprehensive of all material covered during the grading period. It shall have no more weight than other tests in calculating the grade. A nine weeks test for the second and fourth nine weeks is not required, but may be given at the discretion of the teacher. A student may not retake a course, for which they have already earned credit, to improve his/her grade.

### Weighted Credit

Weighted credit is granted to students that complete AP (Advanced Placement) or IB (International Baccalaureate) ADE approved honors courses. For students to receive credit teachers must have proper training and students must take AP test.

## TRANSFER CREDIT

Transfer grades from a school accredited by the Department of Education for regular coursed will be computed using the standard 4.0 Grade Point Average (GPA). State approved advanced placement transfer courses will be computed as follows: A=5.0, B=4.0, C=3.0, D=2.0. GPA's are developed for the purpose of class ranking.

### SEMESTER TESTS - HIGH SCHOOL

A student may be exempt from taking semester tests if he/she has earned an 80 or better average and has no more than six (6) absences of any kind for the semester. Students that have home suspension in either semester of the current school year will not be exempt. Exemptions are determined in each individual class per semester.

The semester test counts as one fifth or 20% of the semester grade, which is determined as follows:

Take the first 9 weeks average (twice), plus the second 9 weeks average (twice), plus the semester test grade, divide the total by 5.

## PROGRESS REPORTS

Progress reports will be given during the fifth week of each grading period. If a conference with the teacher is needed, please contact the teacher or office to set up a date and time.

## REPORT CARDS

Report cards are issued following the completion of each nine weeks grading period.

## PARENT/TEACHER COMMUNICATION

To ensure that parents are kept informed of their child's academic and behavior performance, Blevins School District shall hold two Parent/Teacher Conferences during the school year. Progress Reports shall be sent home to parents on the fifth week of each nine-week grading period. For students receiving failing grades in core subject areas, teachers will contact parents on a monthly basis.

## PARENT/TEACHER CONFERENCES

Parent-teacher conferences are encouraged and may be requested by parents or guardians when they feel they need to discuss their child's progress with his/her teachers. Conferences shall be scheduled at a time and place to best accommodate those participating in the conference. All visitors on campus are required to report to the office to receive visitor status permission.

**Elementary Schools** - All elementary teachers will attempt to meet with the parents or guardians or each student at least one a semester through a parent-teacher conference, telephone conference, or a home visit. Teachers shall communi-

cate more often with parents/guardians of student performing below grade level.

**High Schools** – Teachers shall attempt to communicate personally with the parents or guardians of each student at least twice during the school year to discuss the student’s academic progress. Teachers shall communicate more often with parents/guardians of students performing below the level expected for their grade.

## **HOMEWORK POLICY**

**Elementary** – Homework will be assigned only as a reinforcement of a previously taught skill. Blevins Schools recognize the importance of developing good study habits and responsibility for assignments. We also recognize the importance of learning acquired by young people outside of school, through reading, extracurricular activities, play, and the need for free time to engage in these activities.

Parents can help by providing a suitable place for study, establishing a regular time to study, and giving encouragement and showing interest in their child’s work.

- During the first weeks of school, each student’s teacher will inform parents of the homework procedure and requirements for that grade. Assignments will consist of learning activities related to the school program and will be appropriate to the age and ability of the students.
- Unfinished class work must be completed by the student in addition to the regular homework assignment.
- The types of homework and length will vary according to the student’s grade level:
- In kindergarten through second grade homework will be minimal.
- In third through sixth grade homework should not exceed two hours.
- Special projects, such as for science or social studies, may take longer and extend over a period of time.

**High School** – Teachers will assign appropriate homework to aid the students in achieving the goals and objectives of each course. Homework can provide practice and drill that reinforces classroom learning and can provide opportunities for independent study, research, and creative thinking.

Students will be expected to complete their assigned homework for each class, regardless of scheduled load. Parents shall be responsible for their children’s independent study that is necessary to meet class requirements.

## **ACCELERATED READER**

The purpose of the Accelerated Reader Program (AR) is to develop and nurture a student’s lifelong love of reading and learning. This program is used for positive reinforcement for reading; therefore, teachers may use AR for bonus points in the classroom, but AR may not be used to negatively impact a

student’s grade. If your child is caught cheating, he/she may forfeit any right to rewards for the remainder of the school year.

## **ATHLETICS**

The Arkansas Activities Association and the Arkansas Department of education establish academic standards for participation in competitive interscholastic activities.

**Junior High** (grades 7, 8 and 9) - Effective Spring Semester, 1997-1998 School Year. A student promoted from the sixth to the seventh grade automatically meets scholarship requirements. A student promoted from the seventh to the eighth grade automatically meets scholarship requirements for the first semester. The second semester eighth grade and the first semester ninth grade student meets the scholarship requirements for junior high if he has successfully passed four (4) academic courses the previous semester, three (3) of which shall be in the core curriculum areas specified by the Arkansas Department of Education.

**High School** (grades 10, 11 and 12) – Effective Spring Semester, 1997-1998 School Year. In order to remain eligible for competitive interscholastic activity, a student must have passed four (4) academic courses the previous semester and either:

1. Have earned a minimum GPA of 2.0 from all academic courses the previous semester.
2. Have met the “proficiency standard” as defined by the State Board of Education on the state criterion-referenced tests, including both mathematics and literacy tests, for twelfth-grade eligibility.
3. Have achieved at or above the 50<sup>th</sup> percentile on the Basic Battery on the norm-referenced test administered by the state, for tenth-and eleventh-grade eligibility.

It should be noted that a violation of the AAA rule might result in forfeitures. A violation of the ADE regulation could affect a school’s accreditation. Blevins High School participates in class A competition regulated by the Arkansas Activities Association. Interscholastic teams include junior boys and girls basketball, senior boys and girls basketball, and baseball. Other sports such as track and softball may be included when there is enough interest. Any student who meets the requirements set forth by the school, coaches, and the Arkansas Activities Association is eligible to become a member of Blevins High School athletic teams. Insurance or a waiver of liability is required for a student to participate in athletics. Because of the extreme physical effort put forth in preparing for the participation in athletic events, a physical examination and approval is required.

Each player is encouraged to follow good rules of conduct, loyalty, sportsmanship, and honesty. Players should always remember they are representatives of their home, their school, and their community. Members of an athletic team may be dis-

ciplined (other than by the rules and consequences set forth in this handbook) by the coach for breaking team rules. Players and managers are required to go to games in the game bus. A student may return home with his/her parents or designee when the parent makes the request in person or the coach has confirmation of such a request. A violation of the above will result in the player being dropped from the team. The athletic director and coaches will determine rules for athletic teams and activities.

Cheerleaders are considered athletes and must pass a physical examination and have insurance. The athletic director and sponsor will determine rules for cheerleader activities. Cheerleaders will ride the game bus when possible. Any cheerleader not adhering to the rules and regulations will be disciplined.

Students must be present for one half day on the day of the activity and in attendance (not tardy) the next day if the next day is a regular scheduled school day. Students that are absent or late two times will be subject to discipline actions, which may include disqualification from participation in the next activity. The principal may grant an exception for some types of excused absences that may be beyond the control of the student.

## **POLICY FOR TRANSFER OF A STUDENT FROM JR. HIGH ATHLETICS TO SENIOR HIGH ATHLETICS**

### **1. Required transfer due to eligibility rules set by the Arkansas Activities Association**

A 9<sup>th</sup> grade student may move up from junior high athletics to senior high athletics if athletic eligibility has run out for junior high athletics by Arkansas Activities Association rules or at the end of the junior high season. However, this move cannot interfere with the academic plan that the student has chosen to participate in. The student must complete academic requirement established by the Blevins Board of Education first and participate in the senior high athletic program as an extracurricular activity until all academic requirements are completed.

### **2. Voluntary**

No student may voluntarily move up in athletics without approval from the Blevins Board of Education. A plan in conjunction with the High School Counselor, and basketball coach must be filed in the administration office two weeks prior to the scheduled board meeting. However, this move cannot interfere with the academic plan the student has chosen to participate in. The student must complete academic requirements established by the Blevins School Board of Education first and participate in the senior high athletic program as an extracurricular activity until all academic requirements are completed.

## **LETTERING AND AWARDS – HIGH SCHOOL**

Jackets will be ordered after the student has played two consecutive years in grades 9 through 12. Sophomores and juniors on a team for the first time will receive a letter only with

a senior year choice of a jacket or plaque. Students moving to Blevins from another district must meet the same requirements as those already in attendance. Decisions on disputes which might arise will be made based on recommendation of the coaches to the athletic director and if necessary the recommendation of the athletic director to the superintendent and/or the superintendent to the board of education. No nicknames on letter jackets; first or last names only!

## **CLOSED CAMPUS - CHECKING OUT**

Blevins High School has a closed campus policy. Students are not allowed to leave campus for any reason during school hours without the knowledge and consent of the principal. Permission to leave the school grounds will be granted only if parent or guardian **personally makes arrangements with the principal or his designee** (phone call or comes by the office in person). **The student must have official documentation or a note from the parent when they return to school from the absence to be excused according to the excused absence policy.** Prearranged check out must sign out at the office when leaving school each day. **Dismissal from campus for lunch is not permitted.** The unauthorized leaving of campus will result in a truancy violation.

## **TARDINESS (Elementary)**

Students are to arrive no earlier than 7:40 am or later than 7:50 am. Students are to place their backpacks outside their classroom door and assemble in the gym. Students are not to be dismissed from school until 3:15 pm without being checked out through the office.

**Children who are tardy or leave school early miss much of the day's instruction. It is to your child's advantage to be in class during the whole instructional day.** A written record of tardies and early check-outs is kept on file in the school office. Parents are required to come to the office when bringing a late child(ren) and when checking a student out early. After 6 tardies per semester, a parent/teacher conference is required. After 10 tardies a FINS will be filed with the court system.

## **WITHDRAWAL FROM SCHOOL**

To withdraw from school, the student should obtain a withdrawal form from the counselor. Each of the student's teachers will indicate drop grades on the form and will initial when all student responsibilities are met. Books and other school materials must be turned in to the proper personnel and all accounts must be paid in full. Completed drop form should be returned to counselor and copies of records for enrollment into next school will be made available.

## **WITHDRAWAL/ADDITION OF CLASSES - HIGH SCHOOL**

Seventh through twelfth grade students may withdraw from an individual class under special circumstances. The student must have the permission of the counselor or principal to

drop and/or add a class. Withdrawals must be completed before the end of the first three days of each semester.

## STUDENT RECORDS

Information in an active student's permanent record file should include the name of the student, name of parent and/or guardian, date of birth, address, social security number, semester grades, grade point averages, state and/or local mandated testing scores, health records, and other information deemed necessary (example home phone, contact person, emergency contact number, medical attention choice, and medical/health problems).

**Release of Student Records**--The school may release student records without the written consent of the parent or the eligible student to the following:

- School officials including teachers who have been determined to have legitimate educational interest in the information
- Other schools to which the student has transferred, upon that school's request
- Student or parents of student
- In compliance with a judicial order or subpoena, parents will be notified in this case
- Appropriate persons in connection with an emergency if the knowledge of such information is necessary to protect the health or safety of the student or other persons.
- An agency to whom data release is required by state statute, e.g., State Board of Corrections, state or local law enforcement officers including probation officers or administrators, officers or employees of a county agency responsible for protective services to children when seeking information on a minor requiring investigation or supervision
- Personal memoranda prepared by a teacher, counselor, or administrative staff member concerning observations of the staff or teachers with reference to students' personalities and behavior problems will not be exhibited to the parents/guardians or student

**Challenges to the Content of Records** -- Parents, legal guardians, or eligible students may review a student's records to ensure accuracy. A written response to any information on the records may be submitted to the principal. Upon request, a hearing shall be conducted by the school board to resolve a dispute concerning a student's record.

**Records of Special Education Students** -- Records of special education students will be managed according to state and federal regulations and laws. The special education teacher will make this information available to parents or guardians of special education students.

## PRIVACY OF STUDENTS' RECORDS/DIRECTORY INFORMATION

All students' education records are available for inspection by the parents of any student who is under the age of eighteen (18). At the age of eighteen (18), the right to inspect a student's records transfers to the student. The district forwards records, including discipline records, to schools that have requested them and in which the student seeks or intends to enroll. The district shall receive written permission before releasing educational records to any agency or individual not authorized by law (FERPA) to receive and /or view the educational records without prior parental permission. For purposes of this policy, the Blevins School District does not distinguish between a custodial and noncustodial parent with respect to gaining access to a student's records. The fact of a person's status as parent or guardian, alone, enables that parent or guardian to review his child's records.

## HEALTH RECORDS

Our main objective is to promote wellness and help your child stay healthy and happy. During the school year, the nurse will be screening for hearing, vision, and scoliosis. You will receive notice if your child might have a problem.

Teachers and other personnel shall provide immediate first aid to injured students. Parents will be notified immediately if the injury is serious. Other than giving emergency first aid when it is required, school personnel may not give any medication, unless permission in writing is granted by parents or guardians.

In extreme cases when the taking of medication is necessary for a child to be able to attend school, a parent may request a principle or designated staff, to give prescribed medicine based upon written instructions from the physician. Such medication shall be taken to school in a properly labeled bottle, which shows the child's name and the name of the medication. However, students may carry asthma medication, inhalers and self-medicate to prevent asthma attacks. (Act 1694 of 2004) "Alex's Law"

Parents of children who become ill at school will be notified to check on their child and if necessary, remove them from the educational environment.

There are some important ways you can help us:

If you do not have a phone, please be sure we have a message number. If you cannot be reached during the school day in case of an emergency, we MUST have a relative or other responsible person we may call and the number of your preferred doctor. Please notify us if you object to our using the nearest doctor available in the event you cannot be reached in an emergency.

Parents will be expected to pick up children when any one or combination of the symptoms listed below is noted.

- a. Temperature of 101 orally
- Vomiting or diarrhea

- Rash
- Suspected communicable illness
- Injury or illness requiring a doctor's evaluation
- Those noted by their teacher as unable to complete school tasks
- Head lice or nits
- Ringworm

Ill children should remain at home until they have been **FREE OF FEVER FOR 24 HOURS WITHOUT THE USE OF MEDICATION**. Children who have vomited within 24 hours should not be sent to school. Any contagious disease should be cleared through your doctor or health department, or should be shown as treated and completely free of symptoms **BEFORE a student returns to school**. A student with head lice or nits **MUST remain at home until proof of treatment can be presented to the school and/or a statement from a certified health official has been obtained**. Students sent home for the third time with head lice, must have a clearance referral from the doctor before returning to the classroom. If your child has an allergy (especially food or milk), we need to be informed of this and a doctor's statement is required.

Any student who has emergency medicines that must be administered during the school day must provide, within one week of enrollment or a new diagnosis, a signed medical action plan from a doctor. This includes asthma, severe allergies, diabetes, seizures, or any life threatening conditions.

## INSURANCE

All students can be covered by insurance against accidents. Two types of policies are available: (1) full-time coverage and (2) coverage only at school and school events. Application forms are provided for each student at registration. The student is immediately covered upon payment of the premium. All student athletes must be covered under the insurance plan or their parents must sign a waiver of responsibility, which releases the school from liability.

## TEXTBOOKS

Textbooks are assigned each year to all students. They are provided free through the taxpayers of Arkansas; therefore, students are responsible for their books. Fines are assessed for unnecessary markings, cover and binding damages, torn or loose pages, decals/stickers, water damage, and unnecessary abuse or neglect. Fees and charges are collected through the school office. Books that are lost or damaged must be paid for before another book is issued. Students who lose a library book will be charged the cost required to replace that book by the librarian.

## TELEPHONE

The office telephones are business phones and are not to be used by students, except in emergency.

## VISITORS AT SCHOOL

All visitors are required to report to the superintendent's or principal's office. Visitors are not allowed on campus to mix with the general population of students. All visiting must be done in the office unless special permission is given by the superintendent or principal. State law prohibits loitering on or near school grounds. Students from other schools are not allowed to visit students at Blevins High School. Former students will not be allowed to visit the campus on a daily basis.

## HOME SCHOOLING (High School)

Students who transfer grades from non-accredited schools will not have those grades entered on their permanent record. Home schooling records will be used for placement only, provided that the student has taken the achievement test as required by law. A copy must be provided to the school by the parent. Rank in class and grade point average will be determined by credits earned in grades 9-12, all-inclusive, while attending an accredited school. A student must meet all graduation and attendance requirements for Blevins High School to receive a diploma.

## GRADE PLACEMENT FOR HOME-SCHOOLED STUDENTS (First-Sixth grades)

Home-schooled students, who enter Blevins School District with no record of State-Mandated testing for the period of time that the student was home-schooled, will be given a battery of placement tests to help determine the most appropriate grade setting for the admitting student.

A committee comprised of classroom teacher/s, Instructional Facilitator/s, Curriculum Director, Direct Instruction Coordinator, and Elementary Counselor will consider information given by parent/s and testing results to determine the most appropriate setting for the admitting student. Tests to be given will include, but not be limited to:

Key Math (2nd-6th), STAR Math (2nd-6th), Brigance Screening (1st), Direct Instruction Placement Test (1st-6th) STAR Reading (1st-6th)

## TRANSPORTATION CHANGES -- ELEMENTARY

For your child's safety, student must have a note signed by the parent/guardian or a call to the office, **BEFORE 2:00 pm** in order to stay after school for ball practice, ballgames or to go home with another student or adult. The child's regular bus driver must also have a note if the child is to ride another bus. If no note or call is made to the office, the student will not be allowed to make the change.

## CAR RIDER PICK-UP GUIDELINES -- ELEMENTARY

Please help the car rider pick up time to run more smoothly and efficiently by following these guidelines:

Blevins students should:

1. Blevins Elementary car riders will be dismissed at 3:10 pm.
2. When the car rider bell rings, students are dismissed to wait inside the 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup>, and 6<sup>th</sup> grade rear entrance doors that adjoin the covered sidewalk area for further instructions from the person on duty.
3. The area in front of the covered sidewalk is for pick-up. Please do not park there, but wait in the car rider driveway.
4. Parents should pick their children up from school by 3:15 pm. Parents arriving later than 3:15 pm will need to come to the office in order to pick up their child(ren).

Students who ride with staff members should wait until the bus rider bell rings before going to the staff member's room or sit and wait on the bleachers in the gym. Students waiting for a staff member may play outside after the buses leave. Keep in mind there is no supervision.

### **MEALS: BREAKFAST AND LUNCH — ELEMENTARY**

Breakfast and lunch are served in the school cafeteria daily. Students may participate if their parents/guardians wish. A schedule of breakfast and lunch prices for paid and reduced meals is issued at the beginning of each school year. Parents/guardians who wish to apply for the Federal Lunch Program may do so by completing the forms. All students receive these forms when they enter school. If additional copies are needed, please contact the school office. It would be best that children who eat school lunches and breakfasts regularly bring money each Monday for the entire week.

Lunch: \$1.75    Breakfast: \$1.00

Student behavior in the cafeteria is based on courtesy and cleanliness. This means leaving the eating area in the condition in which you would want to eat. Students must follow the cafeteria rules and obey the staff members on duty. Students are to remain in the cafeteria until they are dismissed. Students may choose one friend to eat lunch with them when they have a visitor eating. Please remember only one friend per child. No food should be taken from the cafeteria. No student should expect food or drink substitutions. The only exception to this rule is to have a doctor's letter on file with the cafeteria manager and in the school office. Students will not be allowed to use the microwave or refrigerator for meal preparation.

### **MONEY, TOYS, AND OTHER ITEMS AT SCHOOL — ELEMENTARY**

Please place any money your child brings to school in a marked, sealed envelope designating its allocation, child's name and teacher. It is the parents' responsibility to pay for all lunch and breakfast charges.

Students should not bring any more money than they need for

lunch, school supplies, library fees, or for a school activity or field trip. It is the student's responsibility to keep up with his/her money and valuables.

Items such as toys, cologne, make-up, perfume, fingernail polish, permanent markers, CD players, MP3 players, collectable cards, radios, magazines, electronic games, beepers, CDs, laser pointers, etc...are not to be brought to school. Materials, as the above mentioned, will be confiscated and returned at the end of the school year. According to Act 1408 of 1999, laser pointers will be confiscated and turned over to local law enforcement authorities.

### **STAYING IN AT PHYSICAL ACTIVITY/P.E. — ELEMENTARY**

No student will be allowed to stay in at recess or P.E. class unless they have a written note from a parent/guardian or doctor stating a medical condition or reason. No student will be kept in during recess by the teacher unless he/she is under the direct supervision of the teacher or a designated adult.

### **PARTIES — ELEMENTARY**

Christmas, Valentine's Day, and Field Day are the only holiday parties celebrated in the classroom. Teachers will inform parents of the time and arrangements for the party. Any additional celebrations will be scheduled at the teacher's and principal's discretion. All students regardless of conduct grades or unpaid fees will be allowed to participate in these parties. Arkansas Food Code: 3-201.11 states that all foods brought to school must be prepared in a commercial food service establishment. Therefore, any food provided for a party must be store bought.

### **DELIVERIES TO SCHOOL — ELEMENTARY**

Flowers for students may be delivered to the school office where they will be picked up by the student at the end of the day. **NO BALLOONS OF ANY KIND ARE ALLOWED.** Because of hazards all balloons sent to school will be returned.

### **DISCIPLINE**

The discipline within a school system affects the effectiveness of student educational growth. Discipline is a minor problem at Blevins Public Schools and will continue to be. Discipline infractions may range from a minimum of a verbal reprimand to a maximum of expulsion.

**Authority for student discipline** -- Teachers, school bus drivers, principals and the superintendent have the authority to take customary and reasonable measures to maintain proper control and discipline among students placed in their care and supervision. Such measures may include the use of reasonable force in the exercise of lawful authority to restrain or correct pupils and maintain order.

**Corporal Punishment** -- Reasonable discipline may include the administration of corporal punishment, detention assignment, or suspension. Corporal punishment is to be administered to a student as one of the last means of correction. Corporal punishment will be administered using the following guidelines:

- A. Corporal punishment will be administered, in the exercise of sound discretion, by a certified employee in the presence of an administrator or designee.
- B. Corporal punishment shall not be excessive or unduly severe nor shall it be administered in a spirit of malice or anger.
- C. The student shall be advised of the rule infraction for which he/she is being punished. If the student claims innocence, the student will be permitted to state his/her position which will be considered prior to punishment.
- D. Corporal punishment shall not be administered in the presence of the class.
- E. Refusal to take corporal punishment will result in automatic suspension.
- F. A written report will be filed with the principal's office when corporal punishment is administered. The report will include (1) the rule violation, (2) the witness signature, (3) the signature of the person administering the punishment and (4) other methods used to solve this behavior.
- G. Parents, who choose not to have corporal punishment administered to their child, ***must deliver such request in writing to the principal's office at the beginning of each school year.*** If a situation warrants corporal punishment, in this case, the student may receive a 3-day suspension.

**Persistent Disregard for School Rules** - A student who persists in acts of misconduct after reasonable efforts have been made by the school to modify the student's behavior shall be recommended for placement in ALE or expulsion.

**ACT 888 OF 1995--SECTION 1.** (a) Whenever the principal, or other person in charge, of a public school has direct knowledge or has received information leading to a reasonable belief that a student enrolled in the public school has committed a felony on school property, or while under school supervision, or has committed any other violent criminal act against a teacher, school employee or student, the principal, or the person in charge, shall immediately report the incident to the appropriate local law enforcement agency for investigation and to the appropriate school district for resolution.

**Freedom of Expression, Assembly and Distribution of Literature**--The Blevins School District recognizes and respects the rights of students self expression, therefore, the following guidelines have been established:

- A. Students have the right to express themselves by speaking, writing, wearing or displaying symbols of ethnic or cultural value or through any medium of expression, except that which the administration may feel will cause substantial disruption of the school.
- B. Students have the right to assemble in a non-disruptive manner at a time that does not interfere with regular school activities.
- C. Students have the right to distribute/possess literature, except when the school administration feels that the literature will cause, or is causing, substantial disruption of school activities. All literature shall be free of obscenities, libelous statements and personal attack and shall be within the bounds of reasonable conduct.

**Search and Seizure** - The Blevins School District reserves the right to create and maintain a climate that assures the safety of students by search and seizure: A search will be conducted when there is reasonable suspicion that a controlled substance, a dangerous weapon, stolen property or other contraband is believed to be present on the individual or in his/her locker and/or automobile.

#### **Personal Search Guidelines**

- 1. An adult witness should be present when a personal search is conducted
- 2. A pat down search of a student's person should be done by a school official of the same sex.
- 3. A search must be based on reasonable suspicion that the student has violated the law or school rules, and the scope of the search must be "reasonably related to the objective of the search and not excessively intrusive in light of the age and sex of the student and the nature of the infraction." New Jersey v. T.L.O. 469 U.S. 325. 342 (1985).

**Video Surveillance** – Cameras may be used in school buildings, on school grounds and in school vehicles. Students will be responsible for any handbook violations recorded by the cameras. (4.48)

#### **DISCIPLINE FOR CHILDREN WITH DISABILITIES**

##### **Removal of a Child with Disabilities for Ten School Days or Less**

When misconduct appears, or in the case of a child whose behavior impedes his or her learning or that of others, the Individual Educational Plan team will consider, when appropriate, strategies, including positive behavioral interventions, strategies, and supports to address that behavior.

Educational services will not be continued during the removal of a child with a disability from his or her educational placement for ten school days or less.

## **Removal of a Child with Disabilities from His or Her Current Educational Placement for More Than Ten School Days in a Given School Year**

- 1) A manifestation determination must be made.
- 2) A functional behavioral assessment will be conducted if not previously done
- 3) The school district may seek to obtain a court order to remove any student disability from school or to change the student's current educational placement if the school district believes that maintaining the student in the current educational placement is substantially likely to result in injury to the student or to others.
- 4) The school district may ask a hearing officer to move children with disabilities to an interim alternative educational setting for up to 45 days if they are substantially likely to injure themselves or others in their current placement.

## **RULES FOR GENERAL BEHAVIOR AND CONDUCT**

### **OFF-CAMPUS ACTIVITIES**

The principal must approve all off-campus activities and chaperones. Students at school sponsored off-campus events or other activities shall be governed by the rules for general behavior and conduct. Any student violating the offenses while away on any trip will be subject to the following. The parents of the student will be telephoned and they must pick up the student immediately. The sponsor of the activity will make a full report to the principal. The student will be disciplined according to the rules in this handbook.

### **EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES -- ELEMENTARY**

#### **Definitions**

"Extracurricular activities" are defined as: any school sponsored program where students from one or more schools meet, work, perform, practice under supervision outside of regular class time, or are competing for the purpose of receiving an award, rating, recognition, or criticism, or qualification for additional competition. Examples include, but are not limited to, interscholastic athletics, cheerleading, band, choral, math, or science competitions, field trips, and club activities.

"Field Trips" are when individual students or groups of students are invited to programs or events when there is no competition and the students are not interacting with each other for the purpose of planning, qualifying, or arranging for future programs or for the purpose of receiving recognition.

"Interscholastic Activities" means athletic or non-athletic/academic activities where students compete on a school vs. school basis.

"Intrascholastic Activities" means athletic or non-athletic/academic activities where students compete with students from within the same school.

#### **Extracurricular Eligibility**

The Board believes in providing opportunities for students to participate in extracurricular activities that can help enrich the student's educational experience. At the same time, the Board believes that a student's participation in extracurricular activities cannot come at the expense of his/her classroom academic achievement. Interruptions of instructional time in the classroom are to be minimal and absences from class to participate in extracurricular activities shall not exceed one per week per extracurricular activity" (tournaments or other similar events excepted with approval of the \_\_\_\_\_). All students are eligible for extracurricular activities unless specifically denied eligibility on the basis of criteria outlined in this policy.

A student may lose his/her eligibility to participate in extracurricular activities when, in the opinion of the school's administration, the student's participation in such an activity may adversely jeopardize his/her academic achievement. Students may also be denied permission to participate in extracurricular activities as a consequence of disciplinary action taken by the administration for inappropriate behavior.

Any student who refuses to sit for a State assessment or attempts to boycott a State assessment by failing to put forth a good faith effort on the assessment as determined by the assessment administrator/proctor, or whose parents do not send their student to school on the dates the assessment are administered or scheduled as makeup days shall not be permitted to participate in any non-curriculum related extracurricular activity. The student shall remain ineligible to participate until the student takes the same or a following state mandated assessment, as applicable, or completes the required remediation for the assessment the student failed to put forth a good faith effort on. The superintendent or designee may wave this paragraph's provisions when the student's failure was due to exceptional or extraordinary circumstances. Students falling under the provisions of this paragraph shall be permitted to attend curriculum related field trips occurring during the school day.

In order for students to participate in extra-curricular activities they must comply with the following guidelines:

- Students must have a "C" average or better.
- Students must have lunch/library charges paid for.
- Students cannot participate if serving out of school suspension
- Students must show positive sportsmanship qualities.

Students must have a note or a call to the office from parents/guardians in order to stay after school for ball practice, ball-games, or to go home with another student or person. Please refer to "H" for additional information.

A student must be at school for one half of the day, on the day of an activity, to participate in after school activities. The principal may grant an exception for some types of excused absences that may be beyond the control of the student.

## **EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES — SECONDARY SCHOOLS**

### **Definitions:**

“Academic Courses” are those courses for which class time is scheduled, which can be credited to meet the minimum requirements for graduation, which is taught by a teacher required to have State licensure in the course or is otherwise qualified under Arkansas statute, and has a course content guide which has been approved by the Arkansas Department of Education (ADE). Any of the courses for which concurrent high school credit is earned may be from an institution of higher education recognized by ADE. If a student passes an academic course offered on a block schedule, the course can be counted twice toward meeting the requirement for students to pass hit. (4) academic courses per semester as required by this policy.

“Extracurricular activities” are defined as: any school sponsored program where students from one or more schools meet, work, perform practice wader supervision outside of regular class time, or are competing for the purpose of receiving an award, rating, recognition, or criticism, or qualification for additional competition. Examples include, but are not limited to inter/intrascholastic athletics, cheerleading, band, choral, math, or science competitions, field trips, and club activities.

“Field Trips” are when individual students or groups of students are invited to programs or events when there is no competition and the students are not interacting with each other for the purpose of planning, qualifying, or wronging for future programs or for the purpose of receiving

“Interscholastic Activities” means athletic or non-athletic/academic activities where students compete on a school vs. school basis.

“Intrascholastic Activities” means athletic or non-athletic/academic activities where students compete with students from within the same school.

“Supplemental Improvement Program (SIP) is an additional instructional opportunity for identified students outside of their regular classroom and meets the criteria outlined in the current Arkansas Activities Association (AAA) Handbook

### **Extracurricular Eligibility**

The Board believes in providing opportunities for students to participate in extracurricular activities that can help enrich the student’s educational experience. At the same time, the Board believes that a student’s participation in extracurricular activities cannot come at the expense of his/her classroom

academic achievement. Interruptions of instructional time in the classroom are to be minimal and absences from class to participate in extracurricular activities shall not exceed one per week per extracurricular activity (tournaments excepted). Additionally, a student’s participation in, and the District’s operation of, extracurricular activities shall be subject to the following policy. All students are eligible for extracurricular activities unless specifically denied eligibility on the basis of criteria outlined in this policy

Any student who refuses to sit for a State assessment or attempts to boycott a State assessment by failing to put forth a good faith effort on the assessment as determined by the assessment administrator/proctor, or whose parents do not send their student to school on the dates the assessments are administered or scheduled as makeup days shall not be permitted to participate in any non-curriculum related extracurricular activity. The student shall remain ineligible to participate until the student takes the same or a following state mandated assessment as applicable, or completes the required. /mediation for the assessment the student failed to put forth a good faith effort on. The superintendant or designee may wave this paragraph’s provisions when the student’s failure was due to exceptional or extraordinary circumstances. Students falling under the provisions of this paragraph shall be permitted to attend curriculum related field trips occurring during the school day.

### **Interscholastic Activities**

Each school in the District shall post on its website its schedule of interscholastic activities, including sign-up, tryout, and participation deadlines, at least one semester in advance of those activities. A hard copy of the schedule shall be available upon requests

### **ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS: Junior High**

A student promoted from the sixth to the seventh grade automatically meets scholarship requirements. A student promoted from the seventh to the eighth grade automatically meets scholarship requirements for the first semester. The second semester eighth-grade student meets the scholarship requirements for junior high if he/she has successfully passed four (4) academic courses the previous semester, three (3) of which shall be in the core curriculum areas specified by ADE’s Standards for Accreditation of Arkansas Public Schools.

The first semester ninth-grade student meets the scholarship requirements for junior high if he/she has successfully passed four (4) academic courses the previous semester, three (3) of which shall be in the core curriculum areas specified by ADE’s Standards for Accreditation of Arkansas Public Schools.

The second semester ninth-grade student meets the scholarship requirements for junior high if he/she has successfully passed (4) academic courses the previous semester which count toward his/her high school graduation requirements.

Ninth-grade students must meet the requirements of the se-

nior high scholarship rule by the end of the second semester in the ninth grade in order to be eligible to participate the fall semester of their tenth-grade year.

### **ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS: Senior High**

In order to remain eligible for competitive interscholastic activity, a student must have passed (4) academic courses the previous semester and either:

- 1) Have earned a minimum Grade Point Average (GPA) of 2.0 from all academic courses the previous semester; or
- 2) If the student has passed four (4) academic courses the previous semester but does not have a 2.0 GPA the student must be enrolled and successfully participating in an SIP to maintain their competitive interscholastic extracurricular eligibility.

### **STUDENTS WITH AN INDIVIDUAL EDUCATION PROGRAM**

In order to be considered eligible to participate in competitive interscholastic activities, students with disabilities must pass at least four (4) courses per semester as required by their individual education program (IEP).

### **ARKANSAS ACTIVITIES ASSOCIATION**

In addition to the foregoing rules, the district shall abide by the rules and regulations of AAA governing interscholastic activities. AAA provides catastrophic insurance coverage for students participating in AAA governed extracurricular activities who are enrolled in school. As a matter of District policy, no student may participate in a AAA governed extracurricular activity unless he or she is enrolled in a district school, to ensure all students are eligible for AAA catastrophic insurance.

#### **Intrascholastic Activities -- AAA Governed Activities**

Students participating in intrascholastic extracurricular activities that would be governed by AAA if they were to occur between students of different schools shall meet all interscholastic activity eligibility requirements to be eligible to participate in the comparable intrascholastic activity. The District will abide by the AAA Handbook for such activities to ensure District students are not disqualified from participating in interscholastic activities.

#### **Non-AAA Governed Activities**

Unless made ineligible by District policies, all students shall be eligible to participate in non-AAA governed intrascholastic extracurricular activities. Intrascholastic activities designed for a particular grade(s) or course(s) shall require the student to be enrolled in the grade(s) or course(s).

Extra-curricular activities will be unexcused if they are not sanctioned by the Arkansas Activities Association or have been approved by the principal. Activities shall be limited in order to control interruptions of instructional time in the

classrooms and excessive absences. **No student will be allowed to participate if they owe money from the previous semester.**

### **EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITY ELIGIBILITY FOR HOME SCHOOLED STUDENTS**

Home-schooled student means a student legally enrolled in an Arkansas home school and who meets or has met the criteria for being a home-schooled student, as established by A.C.A. § 6-15-503.

Interscholastic activity means an activity between schools subject to regulations of the Arkansas Activities Association that is outside the regular curriculum of the school district, such as an athletic activity, fine arts program, or a special interest group or club.

Each school in the District shall post on its website its schedule of interscholastic activities, including sign-up, tryout, and participation deadlines, at least one semester in advance of those activities. A hard copy of the schedule shall be available upon request.

Home-schooled students whose parents or guardians are legal residents of the school district will be permitted to pursue participation in an interscholastic activity in the student's resident school zone as permitted by this policy. Although not guaranteed participation in an interscholastic activity, home-school students who meet the provisions of this policy, AAA Rules, and applicable Arkansas statutes shall have an equal opportunity to try out and participate in an interscholastic activities without discrimination.

To be eligible to try out and participate in interscholastic activities, the student or the parent of a student shall mail or hand deliver the student's request to participate to the student's school's principal before the signup, tryout or participation deadline established for traditional students. Additionally, the student shall demonstrate academic eligibility by obtaining a minimum test score of the 30th percentile or better in the previous 12 months on the Stanford Achievement Test Series, Tenth Edition; another nationally recognized norm-referenced test; or a minimum score on a test approved by the State Board of Education.

A student who meets the requirements for eligibility to participate in an interscholastic activity is required to register for no more than one course in the District's school where the student is intending to participate in an interscholastic activity.

The student shall regularly attend the class in which the student is registered beginning no later than the eleventh (11th) day of the semester in which the student's interscholastic activity participation is desired. The student must attend the practices for the interscholastic activity to the same extent as is required of traditional students.

A home-schooled student who has met the try out criteria;

and who has been selected to participate in the interscholastic activity shall meet the following criteria that also apply to traditional students enrolled in the school:

- standards of behavior and codes of conduct;
- attend the practices for the interscholastic activity to the same extent as is required of traditional students;
- required drug testing;
- permission slips, waivers, physical exams; and
- participation or activity fees.

## HOMEcomings RULES/GUIDELINES

- Each class (7th-11th) will select one maid.
- The Queen and other Maids must be a student one complete year prior to the election.
- Seniors will select 2 maids from their class. One will be queen and the other class maid. The queen will be determined by popular vote of the student body (12th grade).
- The senior boys' basketball team will select 1 maid from the senior girls' basketball team.
- The senior boys' basketball captains will present crown and flowers to queen.
- Maids and Queen must be escorted by a parent, adult relative, or approved adult during the evening presentation.
- Maids cannot serve two consecutive years; however, a maid who served during her junior year may serve her senior year.
- Each member of the Homecoming royalty must have a 2.0 GPA for the previous semester.
- Seniors may serve as Homecoming queen and Miss BHS
- Participants cannot have had OSS the current school year.
- The crown bearer and flower girl will be chosen from the kindergarten class by the homecoming sponsor, with input from the queen. Consideration shall first be given to children and grandchildren of employees of Blevins School District.

## PROM RULES

- Each junior and senior may invite one guest to the prom. This guest must be between the ages of 9<sup>th</sup> grade and 20. The guest must be in good standing with their school or community. The guest must be registered a minimum of 3 weeks prior to prom and may not be changed after that deadline. No refunds will be given for nonattendance except in extreme circumstances (death in family or illness) with approval of the sponsors and the administration of Blevins High School. Juniors must have balance paid before attending prom. Anyone attending as a guest who does not attend Blevins Schools must provide a copy of their identification as proof of age when being registered. The person inviting the guest will be responsible for his/her guest.

- Students will not leave prom to visit their vehicle and re-enter the building. Once you have left the prom, you will not be allowed to reenter.
- Alcohol and/or drug use is forbidden. If anyone is caught with either, the local authorities will be notified.
- Students attending will be dressed in formal attire. This includes for males: dress slacks, button up dress shirt, and a tie or a tuxedo. For females a formal dress or pants suit is required.

## FIELD TRIPS

Students may go on field trips with clubs, groups, or classes etc. if they have a grade point average of 2.0 or higher for the previous nine weeks grading period and if they have not been assigned to Out of School Suspension during the current semester. The principal may grant exception, if the field trip is part of the basic curriculum of the academic class. Other rules may be pre-established for elementary field trips at the discretion of the teacher and/or principal.

## OUT OF STATE TRIPS

Extra-curricular trips by any organization will need prior approval from the school board before any fund raising activities are scheduled. The request should include an itinerary, a detailed budget and the academic purpose of the trip.

## CLASSROOMS

**THIS IS IMPORTANT ...** There is no time when it is "OK" for a student to just be out of class. The entire class period is given and should be utilized for instruction. Teachers and students are expected to be in their classrooms working during class time. **Regular classroom Interruptions will be kept to a minimum.**

### Elementary

Teachers post and teach the school rules and regulations in their classrooms. The student is accountable for his or her behavior. Parent support in encouraging your child to follow these rules and regulations is necessary in order to foster student growth, development and enhance the learning atmosphere of the school. Parents will be made aware of the child's weekly behavior. Kindergarten teachers will utilize personal notes, behavior folders, progress reports, and report cards to keep parents informed of behavior performance. First – sixth grade teachers will keep parents informed on a weekly basis by utilizing the Weekly Behavior Sheets on pages 35 and 36.

K-6 teachers may, at their discretion, send a student immediately to the principal's office in the event of inappropriate behavior that has the potential to disrupt learning for students in the classroom.

## High School

Each teacher is entitled to the uninterrupted use of each class period for the instruction of pupils assigned to him or her that period. It is requested that teachers not send one of their pupils to another classroom nor request that a student be released from another class unless previously agreed on by both teachers. It is recognized that some situations will arise when a student must be absent from all or part of a class for good and sufficient reasons. However, these must be kept to a minimum. If an emergency arises which requires a student or students to remain with any teacher for a few minutes past a class bell, remember, this is taking time from the next teacher. A note of explanation signed by the teacher should accompany that student or students to their next teacher with the time they leave written on the note. **Please keep these emergencies to a minimum.**

## CORRIDOR PASS

Students leaving a classroom will be issued a corridor pass. The pass should be returned to the teacher who issued it. Students that do not have a pass in their possession will be written up under rule 37.

## NOON DETENTION POLICY

Elementary – (Grades 3-6)

Students assigned to noon detention are to bring paper, pencil and assignments with them. Blevins students will be given lunch in the classroom. Talking to or disrupting other students while in detention will not be tolerated. Such students will be assigned extra days (not to exceed 2 days) of noon detention. After ten days of noon detentions have been accumulated the student will have no more detention assignment that semester. The student will then be sent to Saturday School for each detention received or alternative consequences determined by the building administrator for each infraction.

## High School --

Noon detention will be held 12:05 – 12:35 Monday – Friday. Students will attend noon detention the day following their assignment. Report to detention in cafeteria in front of the stage, sign in, return signed blue slip, take a designated seat, and begin written class work. No sentence writing is allowed. Students are to sit quietly doing their work. **NO TALKING!** Students who talk or fail to do their assignments will be assigned an additional day. If a student is late, he/she will be assigned an additional day. If a student does not show up for detention, he/she will be sent to Saturday School. Teachers may give detention assignments to students for a variety of class or school disruptions. The teacher will write a detention slip. The student will sign the slip acknowledging he/she has received the slip. The teacher will give the blue copy to the student to be taken home, signed by a parent, and returned to the detention hall teacher when he/she arrives at noon detention. After eight days of noon detentions have been accumulated, the stu-

dent will have no more detention assignment that semester. The student will then be sent to Saturday School or alternative consequence determined by the building administrator for each infraction.

## SATURDAY SCHOOL

Saturday School will be held on campus each Saturday from 7:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. Transportation to and from Saturday School is the responsibility of the parent. The doors will be locked promptly at 7:30 a.m. and failure of attendance will result in 1 day of home suspension. After 3 Saturday Schools a parent conference is required.

## KINDERGARTEN DISCIPLINE

In order to guarantee all students in kindergarten classrooms the excellent educational climate they deserve, their teachers will utilize the following discipline plan:

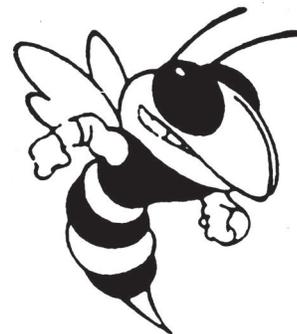
### Classroom Rules

1. Work quietly.
2. Follow directions.
3. Work and play safely.
4. Respect others' property.
5. Keep to your own space.
6. Listen to others.

### Consequences- Change of Colors

1. Blue—miss 5 minutes recess
2. Purple—miss 10 minutes recess
3. Pink—miss 15 minutes recess
4. Orange—miss 20 minutes recess
5. Red—go to principal's office

Students who behave appropriately will be positively rewarded with positive notes/phone calls home, praise, and stickers.



## 1st – 4th Grade Elementary Weekly Conduct Report

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Homeroom: \_\_\_\_\_

Conduct points for the week of \_\_\_\_\_ are \_\_\_\_\_.

Offense	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Total
<b>3 points</b>						
Not returning signed papers/homework						
Getting out of seat without permission						
Talking without permission						
Lack of materials/Leaving materials in classroom/desk						
Excessive tattling						
<b>5 points</b>						
Not following instructions/off task						
Playing in the restroom						
Not respecting others property/space						
Incomplete or missing assignments						
Class disruption (notes, noise, dancing, etc.)						
Not following hallway procedures						
<b>10 points</b>						
Arguing/verbal confrontations						
Disrespect another student						
Leaving class without permission						
<b>15 points</b>						
Disrespect to an adult						
Defacing school property						
Obscene gestures/profanity						
Throwing objects – Harmful Intent						
Horse playing at anytime						
Lying / Cheating						
Gum, Candy, etc.						
Pushing, touching, pulling on others						
<b>20 points</b>						
Bullying						
Theft of property						
Threats to adults or students (verbal or gestures)						
<b>25 points</b>						
Minor Altercation						
<b>30 points</b>						
Insubordination						
Attended detention (D) or OSS						

**\*Codes designating where discipline action occurred:**

Teacher-last name initial: Art – 2, Library – 4, Music/Computer Lab - 5, Counselor - 6, Physical Education - 7, Cafeteria - 8, Recess/Playground - 9, Principal - P, Instructional Aide - Z, Substitute - Y.

Each student starts with 100 points in conduct at the beginning of each week. A loss of 15-29 points in a day will cause the student to attend detention. The student must be present 3 days to receive a conduct grade for the week. Loss of 30 or more points will result in an office visit (swats or home suspension).

Please sign and return this sheet to school the next day.

Parent Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

(COMMENTS ON BACK)

## 5th - 6th Grade Elementary Weekly Conduct Report

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Homeroom: \_\_\_\_\_

Conduct points for the week of \_\_\_\_\_ are \_\_\_\_\_.

Offense	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Total
<b>3 points</b>						
Not returning signed papers/homework						
Getting out of seat without permission						
Talking without permission						
Tardy						
<b>5 points</b>						
Lack of materials/Leaving material in classroom/desk						
Not following instructions/off task						
Playing in the restroom						
Not respecting others' property/space						
Incomplete or missing assignments						
Class disruption (notes, noise, dancing, etc.)						
Not following hallway procedures						
<b>10 points</b>						
Dress code violation						
Arguing/Verbal confrontations						
Disrespect to other students/disruption of learning						
Leaving class without permission						
<b>15 points</b>						
Gum, candy, etc.						
Disrespect to an adult						
Defacing school property						
Obscene gestures/profanity						
Throwing objects – Harmful Intent						
Horse playing at anytime						
Lying / Cheating						
Caught with electronic device						
Pushing, touching, pulling on others						
<b>20 points</b>						
Bullying						
Theft of property						
Threats to adults or students (verbal or gestures)						
<b>25 points</b>						
Minor Altercation						
<b>30 points</b>						
Insubordination						
Attended detention (D) or OSS						

**\*Codes designating where discipline action occurred:**

Teacher-last name initial: Art – 2, Library – 4, Music/Computer Lab - 5, Counselor - 6, Physical Education - 7, Cafeteria - 8, Recess/Playground - 9, Principal - P, Instructional Aide - Z, Substitute - Y.

Each student starts with 100 points in conduct at the beginning of each week. A loss of 15-29 points in a day will cause the student to attend detention. The student must be present 3 days to receive a conduct grade for the week. Loss of 30 or more points will result in an office visit (swats or home suspension).

Please sign and return this sheet to school the next day.

Parent Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

(COMMENTS ON BACK)

## STUDENT CONDUCT

### Guidelines for Success

The successful student:

1. Is a responsible learner.
2. Is an honest learner.
3. Is a cooperative learner.
4. Is a respectful learner.
5. Is a focused learner who always will try to do his/her best.
6. Is a learner who makes good choices.

### Classroom Rules

1. Follow all school rules as written in the Student Handbook.
2. Follow classroom procedures as stated in your course outline or by your teacher.
3. Arrive in class before the tardy bell prepared with materials as directed by your teacher.
4. Keep hands, feet, and objects to yourself. Don't disturb others.
5. Follow directions and stay of task.

**If you make the wrong choices, you have chosen to accept the fair consequences.**

### Category I Offenses

Category one offenses are those that must, by state law, be reported to the Arkansas Department of Education on the Arkansas Public Schools Computer Network (APSCN). Generally, disciplinary actions for Category One Offenses will move progressively through a defined schedule at each rule violation. However, the administrator may move to a more severe consequence or the most severe consequence at any time based on the circumstances involved in the particular incident.

### Rule 01-02: Drugs and/or Alcohol

When at school, on school property, or at a school function (on or off campus), students shall not possess, use (or be in the company of those possessing and using or attempting to use) controlled substances, illegal drugs, alcoholic beverages, paraphernalia, or other materials expressly prohibited by federal, state, or local laws.

1<sup>st</sup> violation. The student will be immediately suspended and recommended for expulsion.

### Rule 03. Tobacco

Arkansas Code Ann. 6-21-609. The possession or use of tobacco or tobacco products (smoking or smokeless) while at school, on a school bus, or at a school function is prohibited.

1<sup>st</sup> violation – Corporal Punishment

2<sup>nd</sup> violation – 3 days OSS

3<sup>rd</sup> violation – 5 days OSS

4<sup>th</sup> violation – 10 days OSS

5<sup>th</sup> violation – Suspension and recommendation for expulsion

Smoking or use of tobacco or products containing tobacco in any form (including, but not limited to, cigarettes, cigars, chewing tobacco, and snuff) in or on any real property owned or leased by a District school, including school buses owned or leased by the District, is prohibited. Students who violate this policy may be subject to legal proceedings in addition to student disciplinary measures.

With the exception of recognized tobacco cessation products, this policy's prohibition includes any tobacco or nicotine delivery system or product. Specifically, the prohibition includes any product that is manufactured, distributed, marketed, or sold as e-cigarettes, e-cigars, e-pipes, or under any other name or descriptor.

### Rule 04. Truancy

A student shall not be absent from school without parent's and/or school authorities prior knowledge and consent. After arrival on campus, a student absent from his/her assigned learning station without permission from school authorities shall be considered as truant.

1<sup>st</sup> violation - Five (5) days home suspension

Each subsequent offense will result in five (5) days home suspension

### Rule 05. Student Assault

Assault and/or Battery by a student on another student will not be tolerated.

Assault is a threat to harm another person physically, an unsuccessful attempt to do so-as with "blows", or a violent attack (as with words, profanities, etc.) in an attempt to promote or incite physical violence. Battery is the beating or striking of another person or the other use of force on another person.

1<sup>st</sup> violation - 3 days home suspension

2<sup>nd</sup> violation – 5 days home suspension

3<sup>rd</sup> violation – Suspension and recommendation for expulsion

### Rule 06. Staff Assault

Arkansas Code Ann. 6-18-502

A student is prohibited from striking, hitting, kicking, shoving, or and physical act/s that can inflict injury on any school employee. A student is prohibited from making threat/s of physical harm or violence to any school employee or the public in general.

1<sup>st</sup> violation – Suspension and recommendation for expulsion

**ACT 207 of 1997**  
**BATTERY OF SCHOOL EMPLOYEES**

A person commits battery in the second degree if he/she causes physical injury to another person. Battery in the second degree is a class D felony. Any student who commits battery will be expelled and charges will be filed.

**Insult or Abuse of Teachers**

It is unlawful, during regular school hours, and in a place where a public school employee is required to be in the course of his or her duties, for any person to address a public school employee using language which, in its common acceptance, is calculated to:

- (A) Cause a breach of the peace;
- (B) Materially and substantially interfere with the operation of the school; or
- (C) Arouse the person to whom it is addressed to anger, to the extent likely to cause imminent retaliation.

A person who violates this section shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and upon conviction be liable for a fine of not less than one hundred dollars (\$100) nor more than one thousand five hundred dollars (\$1,500).

1<sup>st</sup> Violation – 5 days home suspension

2<sup>nd</sup> Violation – 10 days home suspension and recommendation for expulsion

**Rule 07-11. Possession by Students of any Firearm or other Weapon**

Arkansas Code Ann. 6-18-502

A student on campus or attending school sponsored functions shall not possess, handle, or transport any (7) knife (razor, ice pick etc.), (8) pistol, (9) rifle, (10) shotgun, (11) club, or any other object that can reasonably be considered a weapon or dangerous instrument.

Threatening other students or school personnel with a weapon of any kind will result in suspension and a recommendation of expulsion.

**Rule 07 and 11 (non-threatening)**

1<sup>st</sup> violation –.3 days home suspension

2<sup>nd</sup> violation – 5 days home suspension

3<sup>rd</sup> violation – Suspension, recommendation for expulsion and confiscation of weapon.

**Rule 07 – 11 (threatening)**

1<sup>st</sup> violation – Suspension and recommendation for expulsion

**Rule 12. Membership in Gangs, Secret Societies, or Other Groups**

Act 1108 of 1997

Gangs, secret societies, or other groups, whether organized in the community or in other settings, are prohibited on the school grounds and at any school-sponsored activity. Gang related activity, whether genuine or a pretense that is identified by school officials will result in a consequence. Gang-related activities include, but are not limited to such activities as wearing apparel associated with gangs, displaying gang insignia, “throwing signs” or other gestures or language (however expressed) associated with gangs, intimidation, and threats. Violation of this rule may result in a verbal reprimand to the placement in the alternative school.

**Rule 13. Vandalism**

A student shall not cause or attempt to cause damage to school property. Any student who shall destroy or injure any school building, or any school property by writing, cutting, painting, or pasting thereon shall be subject to a fine in accordance with state law. The Blevins School District is entitled to recover damages from the student(s) destroying school property. Parents of any minor student under the age of 18 will be liable for damages caused by said minor. Arkansas Code Ann 6-21-604

1<sup>st</sup> violation – Full restitution for damages and 3 days home suspension

2<sup>nd</sup> violation – Full restitution for damages and 5 days home suspension

3<sup>rd</sup> violation – Full restitution for damages, suspension and recommendation for expulsion

**Rule 14. Insubordination**

A student shall not be insubordinate toward a teacher or school employee. Insubordination includes, but is not limited to blatant disregard of reasonable directions or commands.

**Elementary**

1<sup>st</sup> violation – Corporal Punishment or Saturday School

2<sup>nd</sup> violation – 3-5 days home suspension

3<sup>rd</sup> violation – Suspension and recommendation for expulsion

**High School**

1<sup>st</sup> violation –.3 days home suspension

2<sup>nd</sup> violation – 5 days home suspension

3<sup>rd</sup> violation – Suspension and recommendation for expulsion

## **Rule 15. Disorderly Conduct**

A student shall not engage in conduct that seriously disrupts or interferes with, or is likely to disrupt or interfere with instruction, or any school function, activity, or program. Disorderly conduct includes, but is not limited to the use of violent, abusive, obscene, or profane language or gestures directed at another person or to the public in general, resistance to authority, and failure to identify one's self, etc.

### **Elementary**

1<sup>st</sup> violation – Corporal Punishment or Saturday School

2<sup>nd</sup> violation – 3-5 days home suspension

3<sup>rd</sup> violation – Suspension and recommendation for expulsion

### **High School**

1<sup>st</sup> violation – 3 days home suspension

2<sup>nd</sup> violation – 5 days home suspension

3<sup>rd</sup> violation – Suspension and recommendation for expulsion

## **Rule 16. Destruction of Property**

A student shall not damage or attempt to damage school, school employee, or student property. The Blevins School District, school employee, or student is entitled to recover damages from the student(s) that damage school, employee, or student property.

1<sup>st</sup> violation – Full restitution for damages and 3 day home suspension

2<sup>nd</sup> violation – Full restitution for damages and 5 day home suspension

3<sup>rd</sup> violation – Full restitution for damages, 10 day home suspension, and recommendation for expulsion

## **Category II Offenses**

Discipline infractions may range from a minimum of a verbal reprimand to a maximum of expulsion. The parent/guardian will be notified depending on the severity of the offense.

For category two offenses the administrator may choose from the following possible consequences.

1. Warning
2. 1-3 days noon detention
3. Saturday School
4. Paddling
5. Academic Interventions
6. 3 days home suspension
7. 5 days home suspension

8. 10 days home suspension

9. Suspension and recommendation for expulsion

## **Rule 30. Academic Dishonesty**

Cheating on tests, copying the work of another student, or taking copies of tests or keys. For all offenses involving academic assessments, the student will receive a grade of zero on the assessment.

## **Rule 31. Lack of Cooperation with School Personnel (General Misbehavior)**

All students will follow reasonable directions, instructions or commands of the superintendent, principal, teachers and all other authorized school personnel. (Lack of Cooperation may include, but is not limited to talking, sleeping, not following directions, lack of class materials, horseplay, chewing gum, etc.) The administrator can write up blatant lack of cooperation as rule 14.

## **Rule 32. Minor Altercations**

Engaging in a physical struggle having the potential of producing bodily harm is prohibited. All participants in an altercation will be disciplined according to the degree of involvement of each student.

## **Rule 33. Harassment**

Behavior or actions that violate a person's right to privacy.

1. Annoyance – "to pick at or tease" on a continual basis.
2. Communications – non-solicited oral or written communication offensive to the recipient.
3. Sexual – to violate another person by using sexually explicit language or gestures.

## **Rule 34. Possession of Inappropriate Materials**

Students should not be in possession of any materials detrimental or disruptive to the educational climate, including but not limited to laser pointers, pornographic materials, playing cards, dice, and trading cards on school campus. Violation of this rule will also result in the item being confiscated and will not be returned without a parent conference.

## **Rule 35. Gambling**

Playing games of chance for fun, money, or valuables will not be permitted.

## **Rule 36. Profanity**

Students shall not use abusive, vulgar, profane, prejudice or offensive language or gestures at any time while on campus or at school functions.

### **Rule 37. Hall Passes**

A student out of class during the class period shall have his/her teacher's hall pass and the pass must be visible.

### **Rule 38. Behavior Not Covered**

Blevins Public School reserves the right to pursue disciplinary or legal action for behavior which is subversive to good order and discipline in the school, even though such behavior is not covered specifically in this handbook.

### **Rule 39. Bullying**

The Blevins School District will not tolerate any behavior that is classified under the definition of bullying and will take steps needed to eliminate such behavior. School employees, volunteers, and students are encouraged to report any instances of bullying without fear of consequences. To the extent possible, complaints will be treated in a confidential manner. Bullying is defined as any written or verbal expression or physical act or gesture, or a pattern thereof, that is intended to cause distress or fear upon one or more students. Bullying behavior will generally be established when an individual has endured a pattern of offensive behavior or when a single serious act is committed. Bullying also includes unacceptable behavior which is electronically transmitted. What is or isn't bullying will depend on the surrounding circumstances. Students or adults, who knowingly fabricate allegations and falsely accuse a student of being a bully, will be subject to disciplinary action. Cyberbullying a school employee is a Class A misdemeanor.

### **Rule 40. Skipping Class**

Students are responsible for being in class unless excused by the teacher of that period, or the principal.

### **Rule 41. Public Display of Affection**

Kissing, hugging, holding hands, walking with arms around others or with bodies intentionally touching each other in a suggestive manner etc. is prohibited at school or at school functions.

### **Rule 42. Using Verbally Abusive Language or "Fighting Words"**

The use of inflammatory or verbally abusive language or gestures that urge others to commit acts of force and/or violence is prohibited.

### **Rule 43. Fireworks**

Fireworks represent a hazard to the health and welfare of the student body. The possession and/or use of fireworks on school property is prohibited.

### **Rule 44. Theft and Extortion**

A student shall not cause, or attempt to cause damage or steal, or attempt to steal the property of another student or any other person. Nor shall a student obtain or attempt to obtain something of value from another person by either physical force or threats.

### **Rule 45. Loitering (Arkansas Code Ann. 5-71-213)**

Lingering on the grounds of a school or within 100 feet of the school without permission of school administrator is prohibited. No suspended and/or expelled student is allowed on school district property for any purpose while serving the suspension/expulsion.

### **Rule 46. Forgery or Falsification of Information**

Falsifying parents, teachers, or any school official signatures is prohibited. The falsifying of information given to school officials or on school records is prohibited.

### **Rule 47. Paging or Electronic Communication Device**

Students' use of personal electronic devices during the instructional day can be disruptive to the learning environment. The use or possession of beepers, MP3 players, i-Pods, or other electronic communication devices on school campus is allowed before and after school, between classes, and during lunch as long as the device is used appropriately. This means that students are on time to class, do not use cell phones to harass or to bully, and in general do not use the device in any way that would disrupt the learning environment for themselves or others. This is a privilege and may be revoked.

1<sup>st</sup> violation – confiscation of device (returned to parent, 1 week)

2<sup>nd</sup> violation – confiscation of device (rest of semester)

3<sup>rd</sup> violation – confiscation of device (rest of year)

Each subsequent violation will be the same consequence as 3<sup>rd</sup> violation.

(Device will be returned to the student's parent or guardian only)

### **Rule 48. Abuse of Library and/or Resource Materials**

It is a violation of school policy and state law for any person to remove library materials, without authorization, from the premises wherein such materials are maintained, retains possession of library materials without authorization, or for any person to willfully mutilate library materials. Full restitution for damages and Discipline may range from a minimum of a verbal reprimand to a maximum of expulsion.

### **Rule 49. Violation of Parking and/or Driving Regulations**

Student vehicular parking is provided in the parking lot by the gym. Students driving to school should follow these instructions:

1. All student drivers will be required to verify liability insurance and a valid driver's license.
2. Obey all traffic laws and regulations.
3. Leave cars parked from the time of arrival until school is dismissed, or until you leave school.
4. Students are not allowed to sit in parked cars or be in the parking lot before school starts, during lunch break, or at any other time during the school day.

1<sup>st</sup> violation – driving privileges suspended for 5 school days

2<sup>nd</sup> violation – driving privileges will be suspended for the remainder of the semester

### **Rule 50. Tardiness**

Habitual tardiness and distraction of students entering class late will not be tolerated. Students are to be in their seats when the tardy bell rings.

**Teachers will keep a record of student tardiness in their classroom grade book.**

The number of tardies per classroom will start over second semester.

1<sup>st</sup> Tardy – Warning

2<sup>nd</sup> Tardy – Lunch Detention

3<sup>rd</sup> Tardy – Saturday School

### **Rule 51. Fighting**

Fighting between students is prohibited. All students involved in the fight will be disciplined according to the degree of involvement of each student.

### **Rule 52. False Alarm**

Students shall not turn in an alarm of a fire, bomb threat, or other emergency without a lawful purpose.

### **Rule 53. Sexual Misconduct**

To deliberately show the sex organs in a public place, "moon-ing", engaging in or attempt to engage in a sexual act with another person or to touch in a sexually offensive manner on school district property or at a school related activity is prohibited.

### **Rule 54. Possession or Use of Explosives**

The possession, use or threat to use any explosives or other such devices capable of inflicting bodily harm is prohibited.

### **Rule 55. Arson**

A student shall not willfully or deliberately burn or attempt to burn school property.

### **Rule 56. Inciting to Riot**

Participating in an act or conduct which results in a riot or which urges others to commit acts of force and/or violence or participation in a gang fight or similar disturbance at school or at school related activities are prohibited.

### **Rule 57. Dress Code**

It is the responsibility of the Blevins School Board to provide an educational environment conducive to learning. With this in mind, the board adopts a dress code, which meets the following criteria:

- Assures the basic rights of individuals granted under the Constitution of the United States
- Is applicable from kindergarten through the twelfth year of school
- Meets the requirements and guidelines provided by Title IX (sex discrimination)
- Promotes an educational atmosphere conducive to wholesome learning
- To serve the public interest in requiring the educators of our children to allocate their time primarily to the educational process

Students generally conduct themselves in a manner similar to the way in which they dress and groom. Parents have the obligation and, within certain bounds, the right to determine their children's dress, however, these guidelines must be followed:

1. Dress must not interfere with the educational process or with the rights of others.
2. Dress must comply with the health and safety codes of the State of Arkansas.
3. Attire must not be destructive to school property (proper shoes for gym wear, etc.)
4. For health reasons, shoes must be worn. (No house shoes)
5. Head wear (hats, bandanas, stocking caps, etc.) or hair rollers are prohibited on campus outside of your vehicle (Boys and Girls).
6. Sunglasses cannot be worn in the building unless prescribed for such.
7. Bare midriffs (the shirt and pants must overlap at all times), see-through garments, white undergarment type T-shirts, bareback, halter tops, low-cut blouses and pants,

strapless tops or strapless dresses, and tank tops are prohibited.

8. The bottom hem of skirts and dresses must be no more than the width of a dollar bill from the top of the knee (when the student is standing upright) without regard to what the student is wearing underneath. Outer garments made of lycra, spandex, jersey, nylon hose material or form-fitting material is prohibited.
9. Obscene, profane language or provocative pictures on clothing or jewelry are prohibited. Clothing, jewelry, or any part of a student's attire with any threatening words or symbols may not be worn. Any clothing, accessories or paraphernalia that causes a disruption, or has the potential of causing a disruption, or if the principal or teacher thinks it has the potential to cause a disruption, is prohibited. Any advertising or reference to gangs, the use of drugs, racial prejudice, alcohol, or tobacco is prohibited.
10. Belts when worn must be buckled. The waistband of pants must be worn properly appropriately above the hips or at the waist. Overalls must be buckled, the straps worn over the shoulders, and all the waist buttons buttoned.
11. The bottom hem of all shorts must be no more than the length of a dollar bill from the bend of the back of the knee.
12. Any hanging object (metal or other) considered a weapon may not be worn by a student.
13. No holes in pants above the knee.
14. Sagging pants are prohibited. (Arkansas Act. 835)

Parents will be notified and inappropriate clothing changed. **Discipline infractions may range from a minimum of a verbal reprimand to a maximum of expulsion**

### **Rule 58. School Bus Transportation**

Blevins Public Schools provide school bus transportation for students to and from school. This is a privilege, not a right, and may be forfeited when a student cannot follow the rules for safe transportation. Bus routes and stops are planned and established by the administration. Safety, efficiency, economy, and proper allocation of resources are some of the considerations which must be evaluated in determining bus policies. The following rules have been established in order to insure the safety of all students who ride buses:

1. Be at the stop at the scheduled time. Stand back about ten feet and wait till the doors open before moving toward the bus.
2. Remain in a safe place and behave in an orderly way while waiting for the bus.
3. Use only the bus and bus stop assigned.
4. Obey the driver at all times. Do not distract the driver while the bus is in operation. Be courteous and respectful, the driver is responsible for the safety of all students on the bus. Act 814 of 1977 makes it unlawful to threaten, curse, or use abusive language to a school bus driver in

the presence of students.

5. Remain seated, facing the front, while the bus is in motion.
6. Keep head, arms, legs, etc., inside the bus.
7. Talk quietly and make no unnecessary noise.
8. Keep your bus clean; throw litter in the trash container when entering or leaving the bus.
9. Students who must cross the road in front of the bus should wait for the driver to signal, then walk ten feet in front of the bus. Never walk behind the bus.
10. Safety devices are put on the bus for the protection of students. Do not tamper with door latches, fire extinguishers, reflectors, etc.
11. No balloons on the school bus.
12. No glass containers are allowed on the school bus.
13. No animals are allowed on the school bus.
14. A note or a call to the office by 2:00 pm from parents/guardians to change the regular transportation of the child is necessary before a child can ride a different bus or get on or off at another stop.

Violation of the above rules may result in a change of seats, suspension of bus riding privileges or will be written up as a rule 31 violation depending on the frequency and severity of the offense.

### **Rule 59. Playground Behavior -- Elementary**

Students will be expected to observe the following rules when on the playground:

1. Follow the directions of all school personnel.
2. Play in the assigned areas.
3. Use play equipment properly.
4. Keep hands and feet to oneself.
5. Do not throw harmful objects such as rocks, sticks, pinecones, etc...
6. Karate, kicking, wrestling, "play fighting", are prohibited.
7. Football of any kind is prohibited
8. Put your trash in the trashcan.
9. Balls should only be kicked in the field, not under the trees.
10. The basketball court will alternate boys and girls.

### **Rule 60.**

**No Food or Drink in the classrooms or outside the cafeteria.**

**DUE PROCESS FOR SUSPENSION**

The principal may suspend students who are unwilling to behave in an acceptable manner for a period of up to ten days. A suspension is a short-term disciplinary action in which the student is not in school but may retain credit for the semester. While suspended, the student may not come on campus for any reason other than a conference with school officials. The absence is unexcused.

The suspension procedure is as follows:

1. The principal or designee shall inform the student, either verbally or in writing, of the infraction and allow the student to respond.
2. If the student denies the charge, the principal shall explain any evidence and permit the student to present his/her view of the infraction.
3. When the principal considers a suspension is proper, he/she shall send the student home with a suspension notice, and shall mail a suspension notice to parents explaining the reason and length of the suspension. The notice will indicate whether a parent-student-principal conference is required before the student can re-enter school.
4. The student or parents may request a hearing before the superintendent. This hearing must be within five days; an extension of the suspension may be necessary. The superintendent shall have the authority to revoke, terminate, or otherwise modify the suspension and will notify the principal and parents of his/her actions within five days of receipt of the principal's report.
5. A suspended student will be re-admitted to school after

being suspended for ten school days including the day the suspension was imposed, even if the appeal process has not been completed.

**DUE PROCESS FOR EXPULSION**

Expulsion is a long-term disciplinary action in which the student loses credit for the term. The school board has the authority to expel a student. When the principal considers the student's conduct such that the welfare of other students is threatened or disrupted, he/she may recommend to the board that the student be expelled. The expulsion procedure is as follows:

1. The principal shall inform the superintendent of the charge and the decision to recommend expulsion.
2. If the superintendent agrees, he/she shall schedule a hearing before the school board.
3. Within ten days of the incident that caused the recommendation for expulsion, the superintendent or designee shall give written notice to the parent if the student is a minor or to the student if he/she is eighteen. The notice will also state the reasons for the recommendation of expulsion. If the parent/ guardian retains an attorney to appear at the hearing, prior notice of 24 hours must be in



writing to the school board.

- 4. The school board may expel a student for the remainder of the semester or the school year with loss of credit.

**GRIEVANCE PROCEDURE AS REQUIRED BY TITLE IX, AND SECTION 104**

The Blevins School District agrees to abide by the provisions of Title IX, Title VI, and Section 504 which says, "No person in the United States shall, on the basis of sex, race or handicap be excluded from participation in, be denied benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any education program or activity receiving federal financial assistance."

The purpose of this procedure is to provide a means whereby any employee or student who feels that he or she has been subjected to unfair, discriminatory, or abusive treatment may secure a hearing without delay and be assured of a prompt, orderly and fair response to the grievance or appeal.

- Step #1 The complaint must be presented in written form, within five (5) working days, the complaint to the principal's office, designated as the school grievance officer.
- Step #2 The responsible person has a working week (five days) in which to investigate and respond in written form.
- Step #3 If not satisfied, the complainant may appeal

within five (5) working days to the superintendent of school.

- Step #4 Response by the superintendent will be given within five (5) working days.
- Step #5 If not satisfied, the complainant may appeal to the school board president within five (5) working days. The school board president will address the issue at the next regularly scheduled board meeting.
- Step #6 Response by the school board will be given within five (5) working days.
- Step #7 If the complainant is not satisfied with the local school board, then depending upon the nature of the alleged discriminatory action, an appeal will be made to the appropriate agency.
- Step #8 A complaint or grievance concerning compliance with Title VI (race), Title IX (sex), and section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (handicap) may be submitted to:

Officer for Civil Rights, U.S. Office of Education  
 120 Main Tower Building  
 Dallas, TX 75202

The following persons will serve as coordinator:

- 1. Title VI (prohibits discrimination on the basis of race) - Superintendent
- 2. Title IX (prohibits discrimination on the basis of sex) - Superintendent



3. Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (prohibits discrimination on the basis of a handicap) – LEA Supervisor
4. Education Equity Guidelines – High School Counselor