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BOARD OF EDUCATION

Mr. Tony Prushinski, President
Mr. Ken James, Vice President
Mr. Frank Shepanski, Treasurer
Mrs. Megan Tennesen, Secretary
Mr. Mark Cardone
Mrs. Wendy Graves
Mr. Mark O'Connor
Mr. David Hornlein
Mr. Leonard Olzinski
Attorney Vito DeLuca, Solicitor

ADMINISTRATION

Dr. Ronald Grevera, Superintendent
Mrs Meghan McMahon, Special Education Director
Ms. Amy Lee Scibek, High School Principal
Mr. Brandon Collins, High School Assistant Principal
Mr. Ronald Bruza, Education Center Principal
Mrs. Jessica Fletcher, Kennedy Early Childhood Center
Mrs. Valerie Bartle, Elementary Center Principal
Albert B. Melone Company, Business Consultants

COORDINATE SERVICES

Mrs. Lydia Brill, School Psychologist
Mr. Justin Gabel, Technology Coordinator
Mr. Neal McMahon, Director of Buildings and Grounds
Mrs. Ann Marie Shult, Guidance Counselor
Ms. Sara Kneal, Guidance Counselor
Mr. Bill Hischak, Guidance Counselor
Mr. Lou Kluck, Cafeteria General Manager
Mrs. Amanda Bruza, School Nurse
Mr. Ken Bartuska, Athletic Director
Ms. Cindy Peralta-Nin, College and Career Guidance

OFFICE STAFF

Mrs. Joanna Kempa, Administrative Assistant
Mrs. Laura Weidow, Secretary
Mrs. Jennifer Nestorick, Special Education
Mr. Chris Wedge, School Resource Officer

FACULTY

Erica Barrera	8th Grade Math/Algebra
John Beggs	6th Grade Math
James Rinaggio	Music
Richard Budnick	8th Grade English
Lindsay Connolly	Learning Support
Tonya Cumberland	7th Grade English
Jennifer Daniels	6th Grade Social Studies/Head Teacher
Joshua Duke	8th Grade Reading
Paula Fine	Wilson Reading
Jesse Grobelny	7th Grade Geography
Carol Hromisin	7th Reading
Kirk Jones	6th Grade English
Lisa Kapral	6th Grade Reading
Ann Marie Shultz	Guidance Counselor
Kyle Stranton	Art
Megan Lewis	Special Education
Ed Lukowski	Computer Lab
Lindsey Quinn	Physical Education/Heath
Megan Marsh	Special Education
Miranda Neely	7th Grade Science
Josh Olzinski	Life Skills
Denise Swartz	7th Grade Math
Amanda Schreader	8th Grade Science (Gifted Teacher)
Amanda Wydra	6th Grade Science
Brianna Wyberski	Learning Support
Denine Zielinski	8th Grade Civics

FIELD TRIPS/CLASS TRIPS

- One out-of-school suspension during the school year
or
- Three (3) or more days in-school suspensions during the school year
or
- Four (4) or more after-school detentions during the school year
or
- Suspension of bus privileges for 4 or more days during the school year
or
- Truancy status resulting from failure to comply with school policy regarding attendance.

On the date of the scheduled field trip, the student may remain at home in the care and custody of the parent or guardian (otherwise, the student will be assigned to an alternative classroom for the school day).

The above loss of privileges may also apply to student attendance at, or participation in, school programs and assemblies.

Field Trip Chaperones are required to be a PTA member and must sign up in person at the PTA meeting. In the event we have too many chaperones, the PTA point system will be in effect

NON-DISCRIMINATION POLICY

It is the policy of the Greater Nanticoke Area School District not to discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, sex, age, conduct, or disability in administering its educational and vocational programs or employment as required by Title VI and Title IX, Section 504 and the Americans with Disabilities Act.

For information regarding civil rights and grievance procedures contact:

Mrs Meghan McMahon
Directors of Special Education
mcmahonm@gnasd.com
600 East Union St
Nanticoke, PA 18634
Telephone: (570) 735-1701
Or

Dr. Ronald Grevera, Superintendent of Schools
Administrative Complex
427 Kosciuszko Street
Nanticoke, PA 18634-2690
Telephone: (570) 735-1270

THE BUCKLEY AMENDMENT

The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974 - called the Buckley Amendment - provides for cutting of U.S. Office of Education (OE) funding to institutions that do not comply with the standards prescribed in the Act. The essence of those standards is that:

Parents of a child who is under age 18 and has never attended an educational institution beyond the high school level must be allowed to inspect the child's school records.

Students on reaching age 18 or attending an institution beyond the high school level, called eligible students in the regulations, must be allowed to review their own school or college records, and any other individuals must obtain permission to inspect any records.

Schools and colleges may not release information about students or let anyone else inspect their records - with certain exceptions listed in the statute - unless the parent or eligible student has given written consent.

INTRODUCTION

Dear Parents, Guardians and Trojan Community,

It is with great pride and pleasure that I write this letter of introduction to you as the Principal of the Greater Nanticoke Area Educational Center. I am privileged to have the opportunity to lead my alma mater in its rich tradition of education! I have been committed to the field of education for more than thirteen years. I have worked with a variety of students' ranging from Elementary through High School. I am excited and enthusiastic to bring my skills as an educational leader, varsity football coach, and a veteran of Operation Iraqi Freedom II, to Greater Nanticoke Area. I pledge to work with you as a partner in education to warrant your child's success in the classroom, as well as, in life.

With the administration, teachers and staff, I will work endlessly to continue the legacy of success established by GNA, by building solid relationships with parents, students, and the community. We will focus on character education, Common Core skills and standards, the use of data to drive instruction, and to provide consistent implementation of the curriculum in a rigorous manner, so that we can continue to increase all of the students' achievement. All of us at the Greater Nanticoke Area Educational Center are eager and excited to begin what promises to be the best learning endeavor. This year is going to be incredible as we continue to provide academic experiences for our students that are rigorous, relevant, and help them build relationships while making real-world connections.

As your Principal, it is imperative to me that everyone who steps through our doors: teachers, students, parents, and community members are excited to be here! This attitude empowers us to meet the challenges of academic excellence in a positive, fun, and nurturing environment. I have an open-door policy and welcome your input. Please feel free to call or email me at any time throughout the year.

I am excited to work as a team, to develop each student in the Greater Nanticoke Area to become a positive member of today's society.

Best Regards,

Mr. Ronald Bruza Jr.

GNA Educational Principal

bruzar@gnasd.com

MISSION STATEMENT of GNA SCHOOL DISTRICT

The School District of Greater Nanticoke Area, in an active partnership with families and the community, will work to prepare our students for the challenges of the future by having an integrated curriculum that will inspire each student to become a lifelong learner in a global community.

GOALS

1. To encourage students to develop respect for themselves, fellow students, adults, and property, both public and private.
2. To encourage students to accept responsibility for their actions and further develop this sense of responsibility toward themselves and others.
3. To incorporate efficient lines of communication among administrators, students, staff, home, and community.
4. To foster an atmosphere of cooperation between parents and teachers and the building administration.
5. To create a supportive environment which will enhance the development of a positive self-esteem and a sense of self-worth in all students.
6. To create a curriculum that meets Pennsylvania standards for education and is flexible enough to allow students to meet with some degree of success on a daily basis.
7. To afford students the opportunity to learn how to process information so they can make well-informed decisions.
8. To recognize the vast differences that exist among 6th and 7th grade students in regard to social, emotional, physical and academic development; and to provide avenues to accommodate and reward these differences.

9. To encourage students to identify and exhibit exemplary citizenship qualities.
10. To instill in the students an appreciation of related arts so that they may be developed into life-long special interests.

ACCEPTABLE USE POLICY

Signing for this document constitutes an agreement to comply with the 2023-2024 GNASD Acceptable Use Policy which can be found at:

<https://www.gnasd.com/departments/technology /useful documents>

If you have no Internet access, a hard copy can be obtained by sending in a note.

ATTENDANCE POLICY

ATTENDANCE – “Attendance” is the presence of a student on days school is in session. “Absence” is the failure of a student to attend school on those days, half days and hours school is in session. Attendance shall be required of all students enrolled in the schools during the days and hours that school is in session, except when the absence is “excused” as set forth below.

A. Policy Statement

The Board of Directors of the Greater Nanticoke Area School District requires that school-aged students enrolled in the schools of this District attend school regularly in accordance with the laws of the state. The educational program offered by this District is predicated upon the presence of the student and requires continuity of instruction and classroom participation. The Board believes there is an educational nexus between classroom presence and achievement and that class attendance is relevant to the pupils’ overall performance, achievement and academic success. It is the policy of the Board that pupils who are “truant” or missed class due to unexcused or illegal absences will receive a “0” for the class participation for the days which were actually missed by the pupil.

Truant shall mean having incurred three (3) or more school days of unexcused absences during the current school year by a child subject to compulsory school attendance (18 and under).

Habitually truant shall mean absence for more than six school days or their equivalent following the first notice of truancy.

Unexcused absence shall mean an absence from school which is not permitted and for which an approved explanation has not been submitted within 3 days and in the manner prescribed by the governing body. An out-of-school suspension may not be considered an unexcused absence.

B. Excused Absence

An “excused absence” includes the absence of a student for any of the reason set forth in the paragraphs below. Within three (3) school days from when a student returns to school after an absence, he/she must present a written note (K-7 homeroom teacher, High School, office) giving the student’s full name grade, listing the dates of the absence and detailing the reason(s) for the absence. The parent or guardian must sign and date the note and indicate the home phone number. Upon receipt of the required written excuse in the mandatory timeframe, the absence will be recorded as a “legal absence.” Building Principal may use discretion to extend the 3 day timeframe for submitting excuses for extenuating circumstances, on a case by case basis.

The types of “legal absences” are as follows:

1. *Illness – If a student becomes ill during the school day, the student must obtain a pass from the teacher to see the nurse. If necessary, a parent will be contacted by the nurse or administrator and the student is given written permission to be excused to go home. The nurse must inform the attendance office of the illness.*
If a student is unable to attend school due to illness, the student shall submit to the District a written excuse from either his/her parent or licensed physician within three (3) school days after the absence. Failure to submit a written excuse within this timeframe shall result in the absence being recorded as illegal or unexcused.
If a student accumulates more than ten (10) absences due to illness during one school year, the school administration shall require the student to provide a medical statement or excuse from a licensed physician for every subsequent absence due to illness. Failure to provide the requested medical excuse shall result in such absence being classified as unexcused and/or illegal depending upon the age of the student.
2. *Death in the family.*
3. *Religious holidays and religious instruction (with religious instruction limited to a total of not more than 36 hours per school year).*
4. *Impassable roads.*
5. *Emergency – school administrators will determine whether a specific circumstance qualifies as an “emergency” on a case-by-case basis.*
6. *Delay or absence of school bus.*
7. *Quarantine.*
8. *Family Educational trip/tour/high school shadow - Special permission is required for students to take family educational trips during the school year. The student must turn into the office the excuse from the parent requesting the leave at least two (2) weeks prior to the trip. The trip request form is available in the main office and counselors’ office. The principal will sign the completed form when the student’s records (attendance, disciplinary and academic) have been reviewed. Students who have a history of attendance issues, discipline issues and/or/ who are in academic jeopardy may not receive approval from the respective building administrator to take a family trip. The school administration shall only approve one family trip per student per year. Any subsequent family trips must be approved by the Assistant Superintendent or Superintendent. Family trips that are not preapproved by the school principal shall result in the student’s absence being recorded as illegal.*
9. *Court appearance.*
10. **Dental and medical appointments – Students who wish to leave the school for dental or medical appointments shall submit a note from the parent and/or an appointment card from the doctor to the school office prior to the appointment. Students/parents are asked to schedule medical appointments after school as much as possible. The student must obtain written proof from the doctor/dentist that he/she appeared at the appointment, which must be returned to the Attendance Office upon the student’s return to school, or the absence from school will be considered UNEXCUSED or ILLEGAL, depending on the age of the student.**

11. *Home tutored instruction – The parent must secure a form from the building principal for the student's doctor to complete. The form must be returned to the building administrator in charge of attendance. All home tutored assignments, books, materials and return of materials must be coordinated through the appropriate counselor.*
12. *Weather emergency – if the Superintendent orders the schools closed, parents are not required to end a written excuse for their child's absence on that day. On days where the Superintendent has not closed the schools in the district but parents think conditions in their specific area are hazardous, they should keep their children home from school. In such cases, absences will be excused when verified by notes from parents that the absences are due to hazardous weather conditions, provided the Superintendent and his/her designees will not allow this provision to become an excuse for unjustified irregular attendance and have the discretion to refuse excuses of this nature if they believe evidence exists to show the weather was not hazardous on a specific day.*
13. ** College visitation.*
14. ** Junior/Senior excusal for interviews – When students have a written invitation or appointment to participate in a job interview, college admission, nurses' training, trade or technical school as well as other post high school plans, they may be excused for a total of three (3) days during their Junior/Senior year. The student is to obtain a permission slip from the appropriate guidance counselor and have this completed before the day he/she is to be excused. After the appropriate counselor gives permission, the counselor sends a copy of the same to the attendance secretary. For early morning appointments, the request from the parent may be brought the day prior to the appointment.*
** High School Only*

Excused absences are not to be considered perfect attendance. The only exceptions to this policy are: school related field trips, weather emergencies, sports, and absence from school for religious instruction. No other exceptions are made.

The following reasons for absences are **NOT** legal and shall **NOT** count as "excused" absences: personal business (work/hair appointments/shopping), oversleeping, missing the bus, car problems, hunting, babysitting siblings or others, senior skip day, general excuses (such as "out of town", "at an appointment", or "family emergency"). Building administrators will contact parents to gain further explanation of general excuses.

C. Home tutored instruction

The parent must secure a form from the building principal for the student's doctor to complete. The form must be returned to the building administrator in charge of attendance. All home tutored assignments, books, materials and return of materials must be coordinated through the appropriate counselor.

D. Weather emergency

If the Superintendent orders the schools closed, parents are not required to end a written excuse for their child's absence on that day. On days where the Superintendent has not closed the schools in the district but parents think conditions in their specific area are hazardous, they should keep their children home from school. In such cases, absences will be excused when verified by notes from parents that the absences are due to

hazardous weather conditions, provided the Superintendent and his/her designees

will not allow this provision to become an excuse for unjustified irregular attendance and have the discretion to refuse excuses of this nature if they believe evidence exists to show the weather was not hazardous on a specific day.

C. Illegal Absence

An “illegal absence” is an absence from school for all students of compulsory school age for reasons other than those defined as “legally excused.” The only reasons that a student may “legally” miss school are set forth in this section of the handbook. “Compulsory school age” refers to the period of a child’s life from the time the child enters school as a “beginner” which may be no later than at the age of eight (6) years until the age of seventeen (18) or graduation from high school, whichever occurs first.

According to the Pennsylvania Supreme Court in Commonwealth v. Kerstetter, 2014 PA LEXIS 1500 (Pa., June 16, 2014), although parents are not required to enroll their child in kindergarten once the election to enroll a child in school (including kindergarten) is made, the child is subject to the School Code’s compulsory attendance requirements.

A student who accumulates ten (10) illegal absences during one school year will no longer be eligible to participate in and /or attend all extracurricular activities and clubs, including but not limited to; field trips, participating in all athletics and other extracurricular activities, attending (as a spectator) all athletics and other extracurricular activities, dances, etc. However, after a period of improved attendance, the school Principal has the discretion to reinstate a student’s privileges to participate in and/or attend extracurricular activities and clubs.

UNACCEPTABLE REASONS FOR STUDENT ABSENCES

Reasons NOT acceptable for being absent from school and are considered trancies or unexcused absences during the regular school year. A truancy occurs if a student does the following:

1. Going to work with parent or other family member.
2. Going to the beach, lake, river, mountains or desert.
3. Going to a concert.
4. Getting ready for a date.
5. Babysitting, taking care of other family members.
6. Under the influence of alcohol or drugs.
7. Joyriding or partying.
8. Personal problems.
9. Repairing car or household items.
10. Waiting for service or repair people to arrive.
11. Shopping.
12. Camping.
13. Attending a sporting event.
14. Any other reason not included in “Acceptable Reason for Excused Student Absences.”
15. Bus not available/missing bus.
16. Participating in a student demonstration off campus.

D. Truancy

Chronic illegal absence or their equivalent (illegal tardy minutes or illegal minutes of class cuts) constitute “truancy” and will be referred to the Magistrate for violation of compulsory attendance laws.

In addition to any interventions and behavioral modifications utilized by the school district who have acquired illegal absences or their equivalent, compulsory aged students must comply with the compulsory education/truancy provisions of the Pennsylvania School Code. The following procedures shall be followed in accordance with mandatory Pennsylvania law:

1. First Notice — a First Notice shall be served on the student's parent(s)/guardian as soon as a student has accumulated three (3) days, or their equivalent, of illegal absences. It remains a First Notice until three (3) calendar days have elapsed after legal notice has been served on the parent(s)/guardian.
2. Second Notice — the next illegal absence after the First Notice is closed becomes a second offense and the appropriate administrator will serve a Second Notice on the student's parent(s)/guardian. Upon serving the Second Notice on the student's parent(s)/guardian, charges will be filed with the Magistrate.
3. Hearing before the Magistrate — after charges are filed with the Magistrate, the student's parent(s)/guardian will receive notice of a hearing before the Magistrate. Both the truant child and the parent(s)/guardian must appear at the hearing. If the parent(s)/guardian show that they took reasonable steps to ensure the attendance of the child, they will not be convicted of a summary offense.
 - a) Upon conviction of a summary offense for failure to comply with compulsory attendance laws, the truant student's parent(s) / guardian will be sentenced to pay a fine, not to exceed three hundred dollars (\$300.00), and must pay court costs or be sentenced to complete a parenting education program.
 - b) If the parent(s)/guardian are not convicted, and the child continues to be truant and has reached the age of thirteen (13), and has been convicted of violating the compulsory attendance laws:
 - i. *the child can be fined up to \$300.00 or be assigned to an adjudication alternative program; and*
 - ii. *the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation (PennDOT) will suspend the child's driving privileges for 90 days.*
 - iii. *If the child is convicted of a second or subsequent violation, PennDOT will suspend the child's driving privileges for six months.*
 - iv. *If the child convicted of a violation of compulsory attendance laws is unlicensed, that child will be ineligible to apply for a learner's permit or driver's license for 90 days after a first offense, or for six months after a second or subsequent offense. If the child is under sixteen years of age when convicted, suspension of operating privileges will commence upon the child's sixteenth birthday.*

Attendance subsequent to Magistrate hearings – If students are illegally absent again after a hearing before a Magistrate, the District Administration shall again file charges (another Second Notice) with the Magistrate for the subsequent illegal absences.

E. Unexcused Absence (for students 18 years or older only):

An “unexcused absence” is the absence of a student who is beyond compulsory age (18 years or older) who leaves school during school hours without school authorization or absence from school for reasons other than those defined as legally excused as set forth in this section of this handbook.

Students who are beyond compulsory education age are not subject to the truancy provisions of the Pennsylvania Public School Code. However, consistent with the District's policy that attendance in class is directly related to a student's performance, achievement and ultimate success, a student's unexcused absence/s shall trigger the following interventions and behavioral modifications:

1. First Unexcused Absence - Administrative Detention. Parents will be notified. A "0" will be given in all classes in which a student has an unexcused absence.
2. Second Unexcused Absence - will be two consecutive one-hour Administrative Detentions. The school administrator shall meet with the student to review the consequences for continued unexcused absences. Parents shall be notified of and invited to attend this conference. A "0" will be given in classes in which a student has an unexcused absence.
3. Third and Subsequent Unexcused Absences - will be three consecutive one-hour Administrative Detentions / ISS. The school administrator shall meet with the student to review again with the student the consequences for continued unexcused absences, and review the previously signed attendance contract. Parents shall be notified of and invited to attend these conferences. A "0" will be given in classes in which a student has an unexcused absence.

Letters sent to parents:

• 3 day unexcused (truant) ~ Letter sent to parent.

~Absences are unexcused if a parent note/ Dr. note is not received within 3 days.

6 day unexcused (habitually truant)

~ 2nd Letter sent to parents informing them of a scheduled SAIP meeting.

~If SAIP held previous then citation filed, initiating magistrate district hearing at the school.

10 day letter sent after 10 accumulated absences (excused/unexcused)-informational

~If all 10 days are excused, a doctor's note is required for any additional absences.

F. Tardiness

Tardiness to school interferes with a student's learning just as if that student is absent from school.

Chronic tardiness is unacceptable both in school and in the workplace.

Students arriving after 7:20 am must report to the principal's office for a late pass. **After (7) lates a parent must accompany the student to school.**

Unexcused/Illegal tardies may, when added together, constitute the equivalent of an unexcused/illegal absence from a day(s) of school, which triggers internal District interventions and/or truancy prosecution procedures.

Grades 6 – 8 - A student who is tardy to school after the bell rings for homeroom (7:20am) must report directly to the Security Office where a tardy/excuse form will be completed and given to her/him. This form must be presented to all teachers by the student.

1. **A student who is late four (4) times will receive an after school detention. Chronic unexcused tardiness cannot and will not be condoned. A student who is late for school more than (7) times without an acceptable excuse must be accompanied by a parent/guardian.**
2. **Parents will be notified by letter when students accumulate seven (7) unexcused lates. Letters must be signed by the parent/guardian and returned to the principal's office within three (3) days. If said letter is not returned within this time period, the parent/guardian must accompany the student to school.**
3. **Students who accumulate eight (8) unexcused lates will be referred to the magistrate for legal action and receive a double detention.**
4. **Student who accumulate 12 lates receive one day of restrictive movement**

5. **Students who accumulate 16 lates will receive an out-of-school suspension, and a second magistrate referral.**
6. **Students are not to be counted tardy whenever a bus arrives late.**

Excused Tardiness

- Court appearance (certificate required)
- Medical appointment (doctor's office note required)
- Family emergency (parental contact required)
- School function

Unexcused Tardiness

- Oversleeping
- Missing the school bus
- Personal errands
- Any other reason not classified as excused.

Lateness, as well as absences, is recorded daily in the attendance office. Arriving late, which is any time after 7:33 am, may result in detention. The only exception will be when the bus arrives late. Car problems, oversleeping, and inexcusable personal reasons will be unacceptable. Continual tardiness may result in legal action.

Once you are tardy three times to school, you will be charged with $\frac{1}{2}$ day of an illegal absence. Each additional time you are tardy beyond the three days will count as $\frac{1}{2}$ day of absence, either lawful or unlawful. **Once a student accumulates 8 unexcused lates, they will be charged with 1 day of truancy and will be referred to the district magistrate. You are also required to be to class on time. If you are tardy to class, this will also count towards the accumulation of illegal days.**

LOSS OF CLASS/COURSE CREDIT FOR UNEXCUSED ABSENCES

1. A student may lose credit for a particular class or course if he/she misses more than nine (9) class periods per semester due to unexcused absences.
2. After a student misses a particular class or course for the fifth (5th) time, the teacher/administration shall contact the parent, guardian, or person in parental relation to the student.
3. Visits to the Nurse's Office **MAY NOT BE CONSIDERED EXCUSED ABSENCES.** Repeated visits to the Nurse's Office will be reviewed by the administration.

G. Early Dismissals

Students who need to leave school early or leave the high school building are required to bring a note from a parent or guardian. All notes must be handed in to homeroom teacher, which will need to be brought to the high school office by 8:00am the morning of the day requested. No student will be

permitted to leave the building without documentation. The following must be indicated on each request:

1. Name and grade of student
2. Date of requested dismissal
3. Time of requested dismissal
4. Parent/Guardian signature and phone number
5. Reason for request

Early dismissals are excused for the following:

1. Physician's appointment (verification from physician required)
2. Court appearances (verification required)
3. Death in the immediate family
4. Religious observances
5. School related activities (i.e. field trips, academic competitions, athletics, etc.)
6. Other exceptionally urgent reasons that are authorized by the High School Principal

Early dismissals will only be excused for the above reasons. Other, unexcused early dismissals, will be counted as unexcused and will count against the students attendance as periods of the day missed and therefore be considered as a part of the day absent.

H. Cyber School Attendance

Students enrolled in courses through the Greater Nanticoke Area Service program in accordance with the following requirements will be considered in attendance for purposes of this policy and compulsory education requirements. Student attendance in Cyber Service courses will be monitored by the Cyber Service Administrator, guidance counselors and teacher(s) using an Internet based system. To be considered in attendance during the school year, a student enrolled in the Cyber Service program must actively participate in on-line instruction not less than 2.5 hours per week per course. A student will not be granted credit for any semester course if absences from that course total more than seven (7) hours per quarter or for any full year courses that total more than twenty-eight (28) hours for the year. A student is not considered absent from class if she/he has logged into cyber service program and remained active during the minimum period required.

Except to the extent require by an individualized education program, Cyber service instruction will not be provided by the school district prior to the beginning of or subsequent to the end of the school year as annually approved by the Board of School Directors.

Students enrolled full-time in the Cyber Service program must be actively engaged in their on-line courses a minimum of 2.5 hours to qualify for participation in extracurricular activities or practices on that day.

I. Miscellaneous Provisions Relating To Attendance

1. **LEAVING SCHOOL WITHOUT PERMISSION/CUTTING CLASS** – a student must have written permission by the parent/guardian describing a legal reason to be absent from school as set forth in this section of the handbook. He/she is not to leave the building or an assigned class for any reason. Under no circumstances should a student call home and ask his/her parents to come and take him/her home. When necessary, such calls should be made by the school nurse or the appropriate administrator. If the student has forgotten his/her written permission, an administrator may call the parent documenting permission received by phone. **Failure to comply with this policy shall result in the student being assigned an illegal or unexcused absence for the time missed from school and/or class. Students may be assigned disciplinary consequences for violation of this policy. A “0” will be given in classes which a student has cut or missed without a legal excuse.**
2. **HOMEWORK AND ASSIGNMENTS FOR DAYS OF LEGAL ABSENCES** – When a student is absent (excused), a homework assignment request must be made by parents through the school administrator. At least one day (24 hours) prior notice should be given for instructors to gather all materials requested. Parents may pick up assignments in the office during regular school hours. For each excused absence, the student will have one (1) day to complete assigned school work.
3. **PARTICIPATION IN SCHOOL ACTIVITIES AND SCHOOL DANCES** – **Any student missing any portion of a school day without an excuse setting forth a legally permitted reason for the absence (set forth in this section of the handbook) WILL NOT BE PERMITTED to participate in any school activity that day. STUDENTS ARE ALSO INELIGIBLE TO ATTEND A SCHOOL DANCE IF THEY HAVE HAD ANY SUSPENSIONS IN THE MONTH (30 CALENDAR DAYS) PRIOR TO THE DATE OF THE DANCE.**
4. **ATTENDANCE FOR STUDENTS ON HOME TUTORING (Homebound)**
Compulsory school attendance (truancy) rules apply to students on home tutoring. This means a student's failure to participate in three (3) hours of home tutoring without a legitimate excuse for those absences will equate to three (3) days of illegal absence, triggering truancy prosecution.

ACCIDENTS

All accidents must be reported to the teacher of the class who in turn notifies the school nurse who takes appropriate action after consultation with the principal. An Accident Report Form should then be completed by the teacher and placed on file in the principal's office within 24 hours.

ASSEMBLY

Assemblies will be scheduled on the basis of need. Students report to the assembly area promptly and must sit only in those seats assigned to them. **All students in the Greater Nanticoke Area Educational Center are expected to display good manners and respect for others during assembly programs.** Whistling, stomping of feet, or other manifestations of poor manners will not be tolerated. School district personnel have the right to assign specific seats for their accountable students at their discretion, if necessary. *Students found guilty of displaying poor manners will be asked to leave the assembly area and will forfeit their rights to attend future assemblies.*

BACKPACK USAGE

To clear up the confusion, here are things you need to know ahead of the school year:

Which students are required to use clear backpacks?

Any student in grades 3-12 will be required to use a clear backpack.

Are mesh backpacks allowed?

No, students are allowed to use clear backpacks only.

Can backpacks have mesh pockets?

Yes, mesh side pockets are allowed on clear backpacks.

Are transparent colored backpacks allowed?

No, colored backpacks aren't allowed even if they're see-through. Only fully clear backpacks.

Are stripes allowed to be on clear backpacks?

No, stripes in any location are not allowed on backpacks.

Can clear backpacks have colored straps?

Yes, colored straps are allowed.

Are company trademarked logos allowed on the front of the backpack?

Large logos that obstruct the backpack are not allowed but small logos are allowed.

Will athletic bags and instrument cases be allowed on campus even though they're not clear?

Yes but these bags must be stored as soon as the student arrives at school. Athletic bags and instrument cases must be placed in wrestling room (athletic bag) or band room (instrument case).

What size do clear backpacks have to be?

There is no size specification for backpacks.

Do lunch bags need to be clear?

No.

Can backpacks be used during the day?

NO. Backpacks must be left in their lockers during the school day.

Can sports bags be brought to school?

Yes. But must be stored in the cafe closet

BEHAVIOR

Students attending the Greater Nanticoke Area Educational Center are expected at all times to act as young ladies and gentlemen.

Students who are requested by a teacher to leave the classroom for disciplinary reasons must report to the principal's office immediately with **a written statement from the teacher** concerning the infraction. The infraction will also be placed in Skyward.

If a student's behavior is considered to be flagrantly disrespectful of the classroom teacher and/or school officials, he/she will be suspended from classes and will remain suspended until his/her parents or guardians visit the school to meet with the principal or his designee.

The above guidelines for proper conduct are also applicable for students at all athletic and social events sponsored by the school district.

LOUD, ABUSIVE, PROFANE LANGUAGE AND/OR BEHAVIOR

It is the policy to prevent disruptions to school district operations; school sponsored functions, and the instructional process. Thus, all persons, including but not limited to, students, parents, employees, visitors, and members of the general public are prohibited from the use of loud, foul, profane, and abusive language, whether spoken or written, or for behavior portrayed in any manner in the school building or upon school grounds which is intended, or is reasonably viewed by school officials, as being disruptive or causing annoyance, harassment, or inconvenience to others.

All persons are therefore warned that violation of this policy may result in removal from school district property by appropriate school district authorities and be subject to a citation. Students and employees may be subject to disciplinary procedures in accordance with school district policies and the laws of Pennsylvania. Members of the public may be subject to removal from district property and may be charged with trespassing for failure to promptly vacate the property when directed to do so by school district officers or agents. In all cases, violators may be subject to appropriate laws of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

BULLYING POLICY

Bullying

Bullying means an intentional electronic, written, verbal, or physical act or series of acts directed at another student or students, which occurs in a school and/or school sponsored event, and is severe, persistent, repetitive or pervasive and has the effect of doing any of the following:

- (1) Substantial interference with a student's education.
- (2) Creation of a threatening school environment.
- (3) Substantial disruption of the orderly operation of the school.

Students are directed to discuss complaints with a teacher or administrator. Students may file an anonymous report on-line on the district website or through Safe2Say. The principal will investigate complaints of bullying/cyberbullying promptly, and corrective action shall be taken using progressive discipline if the allegations are verified. A student who violates this policy shall be subject to appropriate disciplinary action consistent with the Code of Student Conduct.

Cyberbullying

Cyberbullying shall mean using digital communication capabilities on any electronic device to bully others by:

- a. Sending or posting cruel messages or images
- b. Threatening others
- c. Excluding or attempting to exclude others from activities or organizations.
- d. Starting or passing on rumors about others or the school system.
- e. Harassing or intimidating others.
- f. Sending angry, rude, or vulgar messages directed at a person or persons privately or to an online group.
- g. Sending or posting harmful, untrue or cruel statements about a person to others
- h. Pretending to be someone else and sending or posting material that makes that person look bad or places that person in potential danger.
- i. Sending or posting material about a person that contains sensitive, private, or embarrassing information, including forwarding private messages or images.
- j. Engaging in tricks to solicit embarrassing information that is then made public.

Cyberbullying will be addressed through progressive actions/discipline by the school when it occurs in a school setting and/or school sponsored event and is severe, persistent, repetitive or pervasive

An anonymous report on-line on the district website or through Safe2Say can be completed if the cyberbullying disrupts the school, makes a threat against a teacher or other student, or amounts to severe harassment.

Cyberbullying that is occurring outside of the school be reported to local authorities.

BUS REGULATIONS/CONDUCT

School Bus Discipline Rules

School Bus Discipline Rules Student behavior while waiting for the school bus or while riding the bus must be appropriate to assure the safety of all students. Students who have committed acts of misbehavior are subject to the following penalties.

Each offense shall apply to the appropriate level to determine the consequences (warning, suspensions, or loss of bus privileges). Students may also lose bus privileges for the rest of the school year by accumulating five (5) conduct reports that have been deemed offenses.

Suspensions shall include all a.m. and p.m. bus transportation, including field trips, extracurricular activities, etc. ***Parents/Guardians are responsible for student transportation during the suspension, in order to avoid truancy procedures.***

Level I Violations –

1. Rude, discourteous, annoying behavior.
2. Shouting.
3. Littering.
4. Spitting.
5. Tripping/Pushing.
6. Profane language.
7. Eating or drinking.
8. Opening windows against driver's orders.
9. Arms or heads out of windows.
10. Refusing to identify him/herself to the bus driver
11. Intentional boarding on an incorrect bus.
12. Other similar offenses deemed by the appropriate authority to merit the following penalties or other safety violations.

First Offense: A warning is given and parents/guardians shall be notified.

Second Offense: Suspension of riding privileges for three (3) to five (5) days.

Third Offense: Suspension of riding privileges for ten (10) days. **Fourth Offense** Suspension of riding privileges for twenty-five & Beyond: (25) days.

Level II Violations –

1. Harassment/Threats to other students.
2. Disrespect or abusive behavior.
3. Fighting.
4. Physical abuse.
5. Vandalizing the bus.
6. Throwing objects in the bus.
7. Throwing objects out of the windows.
8. Displaying items of an injurious or objectionable nature. Pol. 218, 233
9. Other similar offenses deemed by the appropriate authority to merit the following penalties or other safety violations. Additionally, appropriate charges may be filed and suspensions shall also apply as indicated in the discipline code.

First Offense: Suspension of riding privileges for five (5) days.

Second Offense: Suspension of riding privileges for fifteen (15) days.

Third Offense: Suspension of riding privileges for thirty (30) days.

Fourth Offense: Suspension of riding privileges for remainder of school year.

Level III Violations –

1. Hitting, pushing or threatening any district vehicle operator, employee and/or contracted personnel.
2. Throwing objects at the driver.

3. Lighting of flammables.
4. Opening the exit doors on the bus, except as authorized in an emergency.
5. Indecent exposure. Pol. 218, 233
6. Other similar offenses of safety violations deemed by the appropriate authority to merit the following penalties. Additionally, appropriate filing of charges and suspensions shall also apply as indicated in the discipline code.

First Offense: Immediate suspension of riding privileges for thirty (30) school days and filing of appropriate criminal charges if violations of the PA Crimes Code occur.

Second Offense: Immediate suspension of riding privileges for the remainder of the school year, and filing of appropriate criminal charges if violations of the PA Crimes Code occur. Names of students and the nature of the misconduct shall be reported in writing on the proper form by the bus driver.

Acts of misbehavior which occur during the morning trip shall be reported to the Director of Transportation the same day the alleged misbehavior occurred. Alleged misconduct occurring during the afternoon bus trip shall be reported the following morning, unless immediate attention to the matter is deemed necessary. Every effort shall be made to affect the disciplinary procedure within a twenty-four (24) hour period. However, a student brought to school by a school bus shall be returned home by bus prior to the beginning of any suspension of his/her riding privileges, unless a second offense under Level III applies or the student is deemed dangerous to other students or the driver.

The enforcement of the misconduct disciplinary responses regarding bus behavior is under the jurisdiction of the building principal and his/her designee.

For security and safety reasons, students must ride their assigned bus. Students qualifying for district transportation will be transported only from their assigned home bus stop to school and back. Students are not permitted to transfer to other stops and/or routes. Students are not permitted to ride or change buses to go to a friend's house. Drivers cannot accept notes for changes from parent(s) or guardians(s). The note must be brought into the school in advance and approved by the principal or the transportation director. The student will then be issued a bus pass.

Each driver has a roster, and he/she will not permit other students to ride the bus without a pass provided by the transportation director or principal. Parent(s) or guardian(s) may request in

writing that a student be reassigned to a different stop and/or route. All requests must be submitted 1 or 2 days in advance to the Transportation Officer for approval. Each request shall be reviewed by the appropriate school district administrator and may be granted in accordance with the following criteria:

1. The change is permanent for the remainder of the school year
2. The change is not permanent, but due to a medical condition that can be verified by a doctor's note
3. The route does not have to be changed or extended
4. The stop exists on the route
5. The vehicle capacity will not exceed the legal limits for the vehicle.

During the school year it may be necessary to make adjustments. The transportation office will make every attempt to write a memorandum or contact parents of each student involved in any change.

Parents are encouraged to treat bus drivers with respect and dignity and should encourage their children to do the same. Bus drivers **cannot** change bus routes or stops. Only the transportation director can do this after consultation with the contractor and the approval of the school's board of director

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STUDENTS ARE NOT PERMITTED TO RIDE OR CHANGE BUSES TO GO TO A FRIEND'S HOUSE. Drivers cannot accept notes for changes from parent(s) or guardian(s). They must be brought into the school in advance and approved by the principal or the transportation director. The student will then be issued a bus pass. Each driver has a roster and they will not permit other students to ride the bus without a pass provided by the transportation director or principal.

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2. The change is not permanent, but due to a medical condition that can be verified by a doctor's note.
3. The route does not have to be changed or extended.
4. The stop exists on the route.
5. The vehicle capacity will not exceed the legal limits for the vehicle.

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Parents are asked to treat bus drivers with respect and dignity and should encourage their children to do the same. Bus drivers **cannot** change bus routes or stops. Only the transportation director can do this after consultation with the contractor and the approval of the school board of directors.

We are striving to provide a safe means of transportation to and from school for your child and would like your inclusion and cooperation in attaining and maintaining this effort.

CAFETERIA

The Greater Nanticoke Area Educational cafeteria is so designed as to permit all students to utilize its facilities. **Therefore, unless otherwise directed, it is required that all students eat their lunch in the cafeteria whether or not they buy their lunch.**

All lunches must be eaten in the cafeteria and under no circumstances should food be taken from the cafeteria. Neither food nor any beverage is permitted in the hallway or in the classrooms at any time.

Cafeteria Procedures

1. Students will report directly to the cafeteria for their lunch periods.
2. Students will be directed to form a single file serving line by the cafeteria supervisors. Students will be allowed through the serving line just one time.
3. Cutting in line during the serving of lunch will not be tolerated!
4. Students should properly discard trash and return trays to the appropriate cafeteria area.
5. All food must be consumed within the cafeteria. Food is not permitted to be taken from the cafeteria.
6. Students are not permitted to leave the cafeteria without permission.
7. Student conversation is appropriate in the cafeteria. Screaming, yelling, or other loud noises **will not be tolerated.**
8. Students are expected to inspect their eating area upon arrival and immediately report any condition in need of attention to a cafeteria supervisor. Conditions not reported at the beginning of the lunch period become the responsibility of the students eating that period. When it is impossible to determine the specific individual responsible for a condition in need of attention, all students seated in the area will share responsibility.
9. Students are not permitted to bring glass containers into the cafeteria.

10. Students who throw food or any object in the cafeteria will be considered guilty of assault or disorderly conduct, and will be cited

11. Students are to abide by the guidelines and regulations of the cafeteria they are assigned to.
12. All students must remain seated in the last five minutes of the lunch period. Students are not to stand in or around the cafeteria doorways during this time.

Inappropriate behavior in the cafeteria may result in assigned seating for the disruptive student as designated by the cafeteria faculty supervisor.

Students are not permitted in the gym, locker rooms, band room area, industrial technology area, or auditorium either during the lunch periods or prior to the homeroom period. Unauthorized visits to these areas will result in disciplinary action.

NEGATIVE BALANCES

A charge is allowed if money is lost or forgotten - it is a short term loan and should be paid back the next day.

The cafeteria balance is not to exceed \$10.00. If the cafeteria bill is not paid at the end of the school year, the balance will carry over to the next school year. Students should bring a lunch until balanced is paid.

There will be no charges allowed on the ala carte line - if a negative balance is on your account, you cannot purchase ala carte or extra items - only a lunch if you have the cash to purchase it in full.

If you have a negative balance on your account, you will receive a free lunch if entitled - no extras or ala carte items allowed.

A person is not allowed to purchase a lunch or snacks for another person who is not in line, especially one who is not allowed to purchase it themselves.

CELL PHONES / ELECTRONIC DEVICES

The use of music, movies, photographing, recording, communication devices, and/or game playing electronic devices is permitted in school prior to 7:05. Cell phone usage is permitted prior to 7:05 and after 1:50. Use of all electronic devices is not permitted during instructional times, including study hall, to ensure the integrity and non-disruption of instruction throughout the entire day regardless of a student's location in the building. During instructional time, cell phones must be powered off and left in their lockers.. We will promote 21st Century skill development because technology is certainly becoming an integral part of information sharing and instructional technology. This will be done using only school issued technology.

Inappropriate use and/or use of these devices at inappropriate times will result in confiscation and delivery of the device to the office.

- ***The first offense: The device will be returned to the student at the end of the day and parents will be notified. Students will receive a Lunch Detention.***

- ***Second offense: will result in an after school detention and return to student at the end of detention.***
- ***Third Offense: will result in additional detentions, and a parent/guardian must report to the school to pick up, after the detentions are served.***
- ***Fourth Offense: will result in In School Suspension, and a parent/guardian must report to the school to pick up the device.***
- ***Fifth Offense: will result in an out of school suspension, and a parent/guardian must report to the school to pick up the device.***
- ***Habitual offenders: (4+) will lose the privilege of having the device(s) in their possession anywhere in school. Failure to hand over the phone when requested will result in a referral for major insubordination Level IV infractions. With administration discretion may result in a GNA Cyber placement.***

The taking, storing, disseminating, transferring, viewing or sharing of obscene, pornographic, lewd, or otherwise illegal or inappropriate image or photographs, whether by electronic data transfer or other means, including but not limited to texting and emailing is prohibited. The term “inappropriate” shall refer to any image or photograph, the dissemination of which could or does result in substantial disruption to the functioning of the school.

Except under circumstances specifically prohibited and listed above, student use of communication devices while being transported using school district operated and/or sponsored transportation shall be allowed so long as the device is on “silent mode”, used with headphones or inaudible in order to text message, play games, privately play music (i.e., with earphones) or for other similar purposes. No other use of a cell phone or communication device will be permitted, including the taking of photographs and/or for audio and/or video recording and/or other use specifically prohibited and listed above. When use of a communication device is permitted, all ringers or audible devices must be turned off or disabled. Should students have any questions regarding the appropriateness of use, they must first seek guidance/permission from the school’s principal.

In addition to the list of prohibited uses above, the use of any communication device is prohibited in locker rooms, health suites, lavatories, and/or any other area where an individual would have a reasonable expectation of privacy. Furthermore, students shall not use the audio recording function of any electronic device at school or at any given school function unless given express permission in advance from both i., a teacher or administrator, and ii., the individuals who are being recorded. Also, students shall not use the camera function of any electronic device at school or at any given school function unless given express permission in advance from both i., a teacher or administrator, and ii., the individuals who are being recorded.

Each of the above prohibitions remains in effect during any emergency drill or actual emergency. Furthermore, any student using a cell phone or other electronic or personal communication device while on school district property or while using school district operated and/or sponsored transportation during an emergency may have the device confiscated by school district personnel.

Students have sole responsibility under all circumstances whatsoever for the loss, destruction, misuse, or theft of any electronic or personal communication device that is brought to school at any time or to any school-sponsored activity. The District assumes no responsibility for personal electronic devices.

Video Recording and/or Sharing from an Electric Device

Using an electric device by parents, guardians, students, and visitors, to film, record, or photo within the limits of the Educational Center Building at anytime. Using a cell phone or electric device to film a physical or minor altercation, inappropriate school behavior, faculty, staff, or students, or any level of a disciplinary infraction, and sharing it to social media and/or electrically, will result in a disciplinary action.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

Students are required to notify the principal's office of any changes in basic student information. This includes changes of address (two proofs of residency is required), telephone, and guardianship. This information will keep office records current and accurate.

CHANGING CLASSES

Students are to pass in an orderly fashion; use the shortest route in passing to class. Three (3) minutes passing time is allowed between classes. Students are not allowed to stop at their lockers in between classes.

CLASSES AND STUDY HALLS

Students must enter their classroom before the late bell rings. Any student who has been detained by a faculty member should request a written pass to present to the next period teacher.

It is the student's responsibility to be prepared for each class or study hall by having the proper books, notebooks, or other equipment. Students may not have or wear coats, hats, scarves, blankets, head wraps, bohos, slippers, slides, ear pods, etc. in the school building.

Talking, interrupting, or walking to the sharpener without permission are not only distracting but rude and discourteous. Students in shop, home economics, or physical education classes must avoid any rowdiness or horseplay in order to prevent accidents.

Study halls are scheduled so that a student may have the time while in school to study, use the library, or to complete make-up work or tests. Study halls are not intended as free time to converse with other students. Talking will distract those who must concentrate on their work. Students who may have their assignments complete are encouraged to occupy their time constructively by reading a book or periodical.

COMMUNICATIONS

The Greater Nanticoke Area Educational Center uses Skyward Communications System is in operation 24 hours a day, including weekends and holidays. This system will provide information concerning curriculum announcements, athletic activities, transportation information, school cancellations and delays, and Guidance Department news.

This system allows a parent to leave a message for any staff member concerning their son's/daughter's classroom performance.

The number to call is 570 735-2770

The Greater Nanticoke Area School District also maintains a homepage on the internet:

www.gnasd.com

You can link to your child's teachers through this homepage to inquire about homework, progress, or information regarding their classes.

COMMUNICATIONS/TELEPHONE

The Skyward Communication System is an automated phone system used to inform parents of school closings, delays, early dismissals, absenteeism, tardiness, and other school events. An informational paper will be sent home at the beginning of the school year for parents to list all the pertinent phone numbers to be called to receive this information. Please remember that these calls may be made early in the morning, during the school day, or later in the evening.

DIRECTIVES

Students must pay careful attention to any directive announced over the public address system or WGNA and are responsible for all information disseminated through any school media.

DISCIPLINE

Discipline is the training that corrects, molds, or perfects the mental faculties or moral character. Its aim is to rehabilitate the student. As much as possible, disciplinary measures are positive and preventative. When all such measures have failed, other measures are instituted. *The entire Discipline Policy and its response structure to student misconduct can be found under the 'Discipline Policy' heading.* Appropriate consequences will occur and each situation will be fully investigated and evaluated on an individual basis.

DRESS CODE

The Board recognizes that each student's mode of dress and grooming is a manifestation of personal style and individual preference.

The Board will not interfere with the rights of students and their parents to make decisions regarding appearance, except when their choices affect the health and safety of others. School officials can limit your expression to prevent major disruptions to classes and school activities.

The following items are not allowed:

- No pajamas/lounge pants
- Only clear backpacks
- No purses larger the 2" by 5"
- No Binders
- No BOHO face/head wraps

- Purses worn as backpacks are prohibited
- No fanning packs, attaches, or messenger bags
- No spiked collars, dog collars, wallet chains
- Only clear pencil boxes or bags
- No torn or slashed jeans above mid-thigh
- No spandex of any kind.
- No external body suits of any type
- No Costumes
- No half shirts or cutoff shirts, midriff, halter tops, crop tops, all clothing must not expose the naval, or cleavage.
- Nothing that will reveal undergarments or excessive skin
- No clothing depicting drug, alcohol, or tobacco messages.
- No violent messages or insignia related to gangs, racist or hate groups, or foul language.
- No messages with implications of sexual nature.
- No tank tops, muscle shirts, spaghetti straps, tube tops, or halter tops.
- No Do-rags, bandanas, hoods, head wraps, skull caps, shower caps
- No head bands
- No flip flops, slides, or beach thongs.
- No hats, stocking caps/hats,ropes, slippers, or blankets
- Any other clothing promoting promiscuity deemed by the principal to be a classroom distraction and disruption to the educational process shall not be permitted.
- Hooded sweatshirts are allowed but students are **not permitted to wear the hood up in school, and must be put in their locker during the school day.**

All backpacks, coats, hats/caps, hoodies, and cell phones must be kept in the students' lockers

The following items are allowed

- Tee shirts, sweatshirts, polo shirts, turtlenecks, sweaters, jerseys. Must have sleeves.
- Shorts are allowed to be worn, but they are to be of reasonable length. Short shorts are not allowed, and shorts should be to the middle of the thigh in length.
- Jeans must be clean, not torn or slashed.
- Clothing should be of an acceptable size not more than 2 sizes too large or too small. **No undergarments should be visible at any time. Pants/shorts must be worn at the waist.**
- All clothing should be made of material that is not sheer or see through.
- All clothing should be clean.
- All skirts must reach the middle of the thigh in length.
- Hooded sweatshirts are allowed but students are **not permitted to wear the hood up in school, and must be placed in their locker during the school day. .**

School officials can limit your expression to prevent major disruptions to classes and school activities.

Noncompliance will be considered a violation of the school policy. The following progressive discipline policy will be followed for dress code violations:

First Violation – Parent will be called and a change of clothing will be brought to the school by the parent. Student will be issued a lunch detention.

Second Violation – Parent will be called to bring the student a change of clothes and an after school detention will be issued to the student.

Third Violation – Parent will be called to bring the student a change of clothes and an in school suspension or out-of-school suspension will be issued to the student.

Fourth Violation- Parent will be notified, the student will receive a 3 day out-school-suspension.

Fifth Violation- Will result in a Level V infraction major insubordination and may result in a GNA Cyber placement.

Subsequent Violations may result in the student being excluded from school. These absences will be considered unexcused and will result in prosecution in the court system for violation of school attendance laws.

The GNA School Board and Administration encourage all students to abide by this dress code policy. Failure to comply may result in the implementation of a student uniform policy requiring students to dress in a school uniform.

EXEMPTIONS:

Parents or legal guardians who object to the policy based on religious or medical grounds must present to the Building Principal a signed letter detailing the reason for the objection. The parent or legal guardian and the Building Principal will meet to discuss the exemption.

NOTE: *The above dress code may be amended at any time at the discretion of the Greater Nanticoke Area School Board.*

Any garment worn by students that appears to be inappropriate for school will require a change. Parents will be called and required to come to school with a change of clothes. To avoid a loss of class time and embarrassment for the child, parents should carefully select the appropriate clothing.

EMPLOYMENT CERTIFICATE (Working Papers)

1. You must bring a valid ID such as birth certificate, driver's license, learners permit, passport or PA ID to the principal's office to obtain a working application.
2. You must have this working application signed by a parent/guardian and return it to principal's office.
3. You will then receive your working permit.

EMERGENCY CARDS

Emergency cards must be filled out and handed in. It is imperative that these cards be kept current. Please contact the school if information needs to be changed.

END OF DAY/ DISMISSAL

Educational Center students that walk or are picked up by a parent/guardian exit the front of the building (Union Street). Bus Riders will exit the rear of the building towards the flagpole circle. Failure to comply will result in a disciplinary action.

Procedures regarding FID (Flexible Instructional Days)

The Greater Nanticoke Area School District has been approved by the Pennsylvania Department of Education to utilize Flexible Instructional Days also known as FID Days. The district has five days to utilize in the event of inclement weather or an emergency situation. FID Days will be announced by the District Superintendent or designee via skylert, district website, and various television stations. When a Flexible Instructional Day (FID Day) is declared by the superintendent, students are expected to complete work posted on classroom Dojo or Google Classroom. In order to receive credit and attendance, students must work on their assignments during the FID Day. In the event the student does not have web access, students will participate by traditional paper and pencil assignments and be required to turn in their assignments upon return to school. If students do not participate, they will be marked absent for the day and they will not receive credit. If students are absent before the FID Day, students will be able to receive credit as long as they turn in the assignment within the same amount of day's they are absent. Additionally, students may be required to participate in the FID Day period by period through Google Classroom and Zoom based on the emergency.

FIRE & EMERGENCY EVACUATION DRILLS

Fire drills are necessary for the safety of the students and faculty. Fire drill information is posted in each room. At all times special instructions may be announced over the public address system.

Students will follow designated exit instructions, keep in single file, walk - not run, refrain from talking, and proceed to a distance approximately 100 feet from the point of exit.

The teacher should be the last one out of the room, should take the gradebook and keys, should close the door, and remain with his/her group.

When the all clear is sounded, all will return to their classrooms in the same orderly fashion.

Fire drills are very important and serious exercises which may save your life. You are expected to act accordingly.

Emergency and bus evacuation drills are conducted at various intervals throughout the year.

FUNERALS

In the event of the death of a classmate, class officers will represent the class at the funeral. They will be marked present for attendance purposes.

GIFTS AND PARTIES

Students are not to collect money for gifts for teachers or other staff members or students, or hold parties or similar activities during the school day without the permission of the principal.

GRADING SYSTEM

The grading system is explained to each and every student by the faculty. **Parents are to note that class participation, attendance, assignment completion, and attitude in class are considered along with test scores.**

GUIDANCE

A comprehensive program of counseling services including information concerning course offerings, promotions, graduation requirements, employment opportunities, post high school education, financial aid, and special programs are available to all students and parents.

All students are encouraged to meet frequently with their individual counselors. Students must make an appointment to visit the guidance office and must obtain their guidance pass in the morning before the student late bell. ***Upon entering the guidance office, all individuals will register with the guidance office secretary. Failure to do so will result in loss of privileges.***

Except in cases of an emergency nature, students without a proper pass will not be allowed to visit the guidance office and may be subject to disciplinary action.

Parents wishing to consult with the counselors may make an appointment by calling (570) 735-7755.

HOMEWORK

Every student is expected to spend a reasonable amount of time after school hours for home study whenever necessary.

Copies of the **GRADING POLICY** and **HOMEWORK POLICY** are on file in the principal's office.

HONOR ROLL

Honor levels will be distributed to all students after the school year has begun.

ILLNESS

1. It is **mandatory** for all students to have his/her parents fill out a Medical Emergency Card at the beginning of each school year and submit this card to the school nurse. **Students will not be given a medical excuse to leave school if this medical card is not on file.**

2. If a student becomes ill during the school day, he/she should report to the school nurse after obtaining a nurse's pass from the classroom teacher. If the school nurse is not present, then the student will report to the principal's office.
3. If it becomes necessary to send the student home, transportation becomes the responsibility of the parents. In an emergency, the principal's office will make arrangements for transportation.
4. A student may not be sent home unless someone is available at home to care for him/her.
5. It is unlawful for school personnel to administer medication in any form.
6. The Greater Nanticoke Area School District **WILL NOT** dispense Tylenol, aspirin, Tums, Pepto Bismol, or any such medication. If you want your son/daughter to have access to these medications, please send the items in a container marked with the student's name and homeroom and he/she should deliver them to the nurse's office upon entering the building. **A WRITTEN PERMISSION TO DISPENSE NOTE MUST ACCOMPANY THE MEDICATION AND THE NOTE MUST BE DATED AND SIGNED BY THE PARENT OR GUARDIAN WITH THE CHILD'S NAME AND HOMEROOM ON THE NOTE.**
7. All students will be checked periodically for lice by our nursing staff. Reported cases and their classmates will be monitored on a regular basis. Students identified as having lice will be excluded from school. It is the parent's responsibility to provide transportation for immediate exclusion. If a parent is unable to provide transportation, a taxi will transport the child home at the expense of the parent. **IN ORDER TO RETURN TO SCHOOL, ALL LICE AND NITS MUST BE REMOVED FROM THE CHILD'S HAIR. AFTER TREATMENT,** a child may return to school the next day to be checked by the school nurse, who is the only person authorized to issue an admit slip for the school and the bus. Upon receipt of the admit slip, the student should return to the office and present the slip to the principal. In order for students to be legally excused, all cases of head lice must be verified by a school district nurse. If this procedure is not followed, the absence will be deemed unexcused and will be referred to the district magistrate. If a child does not return after 3 days to be checked by the school nurse, the absences will be deemed illegal and referred immediately to the magistrate.
8. *According to the Department of Health, all students must be immunized with the following:*
 - 3 Doses of DPT or DT vaccine
 - 3 Doses of Polio vaccine 2 Doses of Measles, Mumps, and Rubella Vaccine
 - Tetanus and Diptheria booster
 - 3 doses of Hepatitis B
 - 2 doses of varicella (chickenpox)

It is the responsibility of the parents/guardians to inform the nurse when their child receives these immunizations.

INSURANCE

At the beginning of each school term, all students are given the opportunity to purchase a personal insurance policy at a relatively slight cost. All students are urged to avail themselves of this financial protection. Students who intend to participate in sports are encouraged to subscribe to the insurance program.

INTERSCHOLASTIC ATHLETICS

The Greater Nanticoke Area School District provides a broad offering of competitive athletics. Any boy or girl has an opportunity to participate each season provided he or she is physically fit and is willing to work hard, practice diligently, and follow the rules and regulations of the interscholastic program.

Regulations

Some of the regulations concerning students in the athletic program are:

1. All participants must be covered by insurance. Students are eligible for participation in interscholastic activities only after proof of family health insurance coverage is provided to the school district.
2. Each student must be carefully examined by the school physician and his or her condition must be pronounced satisfactory.
3. A certificate of consent signed by a parent or guardian must be filed with the high school Principal.
4. Any student who has been absent from school 20 days in a semester becomes ineligible to participate until he has attended school for sixty days.
5. A student absent from school for a full day or the afternoon session without proper permission from the Principal will not be allowed to practice or to compete in an athletic contest that day.
6. Students who are sent home ill any time of the school day cannot return for athletic events or practices.
7. All athletes must travel to and from athletic contests with the squad unless permission is granted by the coach to do otherwise.
8. An athlete must maintain a passing grade in four (4) or more full-credit subjects or the equivalent to remain eligible.

The eligibility list will be compiled each week. When a student is declared ineligible, the student may not practice or dress for any games, or participate in any activities or field trips for a period of one week. Teachers will consistently notify students of incomplete work or failing grades. All students declared academically ineligible will remain ineligible for a period of one week beginning on the Monday after notification and continuing until the following Sunday. Students will not regain their eligibility status until the Monday after they are in compliance with eligibility standards.

The Greater Nanticoke Area School District abides by all rules and regulations as set forth by the Pennsylvania Interscholastic Athletic Association, (P.I.A.A.).

LOCKERS

Each student is given a locker. They are responsible for keeping their books and other items in their assigned locker only.

Students are **NOT** permitted to go to their lockers between class periods. Students that are late to class for using lockers between classes will be liable to disciplinary action. In emergency situations, at the discretion of the teacher, the student must use a hall pass and carry it with her/him to use their locker. Students are permitted to go to their lockers before homeroom, before and after lunch, and at the end of the day. Students may also use lockers when retrieving or returning gym clothes associated with their scheduled gym class.

Loitering near the lockers will not be tolerated as this can only result in being late for class. The locker serves a very distinct function and each student must learn to use it profitably and guard its security. The individual lockers in our school are designed for the storage of books and clothing. In order to ensure the utmost privacy and in order that materials left in the lockers may be absolutely safe, lockers must be locked at all times.

It is highly desirable that the security provided is emphasized. Therefore, the following procedures are suggested for general purposes:

- a. Students are encouraged to seek help from personnel assigned to supervise lockers if they experience difficulty with locker combinations.
- b. Students are reminded that combinations must be dialed precisely as given and that the handle must be lifted in order to open the locker door.
- c. Every caution of possible theft concerning use of combinations must be considered by the student.
- d. **Students are prohibited to share lockers. If it is found that students are sharing lockers, a disciplinary action will be given and locker privileges will be revoked.**
- e. Students are responsible for all items that are contained in their lockers.
- f. All locker combinations are changed during the summer months.
- g. Students are not permitted to use padlocks on the lockers.
- h. The school district is not responsible for items lost or stolen from lockers.

School lockers are the property of the school district. The school extends the privilege of locker use to students for legitimate purposes only. School authorities or officials authorized by the principal may search the student's locker without prior warning in seeking contraband or illegal materials. School authorities are charged with the safety of all students under their supervision because of the doctrine "in loco parentis." Such materials may be used as evidence against the student in disciplinary, juvenile, or criminal proceedings.

LOST AND FOUND

Inquiries concerning lost and found items may be made in the principal's office or the office of the director of buildings and grounds.

METAL DETECTOR USAGE

USE AND OPERATION OF HANDHELD METAL DETECTORS AND PORTABLE METAL DETECTION SYSTEM

It is the policy of the Greater Nanticoke Area School District to be committed to ensuring that every student and staff member are provided a safe environment in which to teach and learn. Therefore, the District has enacted the use of handheld metal detectors and portable metal detection systems to assist and aid in the safety of our students and staff. Adults, visitors, students and staff are reminded that bringing a weapon to school will not be tolerated by the District at any time.

Training:

Prior to the initiation of handheld metal detectors and the portable metal detection system all personnel who will be conducting the scans will be trained in the calibration, operation, and maintenance of the equipment.

HANDHELD METAL DETECTORS

Purpose

The purpose of using a handheld metal detector is to increase security in our District buildings and to aid in protecting the students and staff.

Handheld metal detectors will only be used at the following times:

1. To search a student when "reasonable suspicion" has been determined that the student may be in possession of contraband. .
2. When a parent consent form has been signed as part of a behavior contract.
3. Randomly select a classroom and scan every person in the room. Keep a log of classrooms scanned.
4. Randomly scan students while in school buildings, on school buses, on school on school grounds or school sponsored events.
5. Scan student's sport bags, lunch bags, purses, musical instrument cases, lockers, desks, (book bag and backpack in elementary schools), or any item capable of concealing a weapon.

Exceptions

Students who should NOT be scanned for medical reasons shall contact the Principal of the school. It is the responsibility of the student to notify the District of any exceptions to the use and operation of hand held metal detectors.

Operation of Handheld Metal Detectors

The person operating the hand metal detector shall always operate this equipment in a professional manner and shall remain observant and committed to task.

The person shall be careful not to be distracted by the student being searched or by other activity in the area. The person shall stand in an area where he/she can approach the subject of the search from four sides.

The person shall test the metal detector on a known metal object prior to beginning each search of a person. This is to verify that the equipment is working and to notify the subject of the search that the equipment is working.

It is not recommended that the scanning process take place in a private room or area. To avoid possible misconduct, accusations of misconduct, or a confrontation with a visitor or student who does end up actually having a weapon, all of the weapon detection programs functions should be performed in view of everybody else. The exception is the unusual circumstance wherein a person is suspected of hiding some type of contraband in a private area of their body. At this point the Principal, Director of Police Operations and the School Resource Officer shall be notified.

PORTABLE METAL DETECTION SYSTEM

Purpose

The purpose of the Administrative Entry Search program is to prevent weapons and illegal contraband from being brought into the buildings of the Greater Nanticoke Area School District. It is designed to deter violence and serious physical injury in District buildings by inhibiting the access of persons in possession of weapons and/or other contraband into school facilities.

Procedures

Any individual who enters a Greater Nanticoke Area School District building is subject to an administrative entry search. An administrative entry search requires all persons subject to the search to be scanned with a walk-thru metal detection system. ***The search can be conducted randomly.***

The search procedure may include all individuals entering a school building during the regular school day and when school is not in session. ***The procedure will not be used to single out any particular individuals, or any profile for a search.***

Any person who refuses to cooperate in the scanning process will be referred promptly to the principal, if a student, or his/her designee for appropriate action. Any other person who refuses to cooperate in the scanning process will be denied entry into the building and receive a disciplinary infraction.

Walk-thru Metal Detectors will be used in all Greater Nanticoke Area School District buildings whenever available. ***All visitors and students are subject to the search.***

Operation of Portable Metal Detectors

ADULTS/VISITORS/STUDENTS/STAFF will be asked to remove all metal object (s) from their person and place them in a tray that is provided for their convenience.

When a person walks through the metal detector and the alarm sounds, he/she shall be instructed to remove all metal objects from his/her person and shall be instructed to walk through the metal detector again. If the alarm does not sound the articles which have been removed will be examined, then returned to the person, and the individual will be allowed to pass into the secure area.

Persons should never be allowed to enter the secure area until they can walk through the metal detector without sounding the alarm or until some form of secondary search using a handheld metal detector can identify the item causing the alarm.

Enforcement

Any illegal, unauthorized, contraband, weapons or other articles found on adults/visitors/students or in adult's/visitor's/student's belongings shall be seized for evidence in disciplinary, juvenile or criminal proceedings. Seized items will be turned over to the school resource officer to begin a chain of evidence.

In cases when there is reasonable suspicion that a weapon may be present, the school resource officer shall be present at the time of the screening.

Searches are conducted for district's purposes and not for the primary purpose of gathering evidence or instituting criminal proceedings; however, if a weapon is found, the school resource officer shall be notified and the student or visitor with a weapon shall face disciplinary action and or criminal charges.

Signs shall be posted notifying students and visitors that they are subject to unannounced electronic screenings for weapons. The person using the metal detector may be of either gender, regardless of the gender of the person subject to the electronic screening for weapons.

In conjunction with using the metal detectors, school personnel may inspect the contents of any backpack, bookbag, purse, or parcel for the limited purpose of determining whether a weapon is concealed therein.

If individuals being screened activate the detector and they refuse to reveal the metal object, the school resource officer shall be notified.

If a weapon is discovered, the school resource officer shall be notified immediately, and the weapon shall be held by the school official who discovers it until the school resource officer arrives at the scene.

Random Screenings – Random metal detector screenings are an effective and necessary means of detecting and deterring the possession of weapons, and preventing its consequences, principally, student violence, from occurring on school premises. **Random Screenings** are screenings that are not conducted on a regularly scheduled basis and are not necessitated by particularized safety concerns or special events. The Superintendent or his/her designee, the building administrator or school security may authorize metal detector screenings on randomly chosen days during a specified period of the day using school personnel and, if available, the school police officer assigned to the school and/or roving units to operate the metal detectors available to their school (any combination of walk-through units and/or handheld wands), or using a task force comprised of school personnel or safety and security personnel.

As needed screenings- The Superintendent or his/her designee, the security supervisor or the building administrator may authorize metal detector screenings on days chosen to address particular safety

concerns such as recent violence in the neighborhood or on days on which special events such as athletic competitions or dignitary visits are held, using school personnel and, if available, a school police officer assigned to the school, to operate the metal detectors available to their school (any combination of walk-through units and/or handheld wands), or using a task force comprised of school personnel and/or safety and security personnel.

Daily screenings- the Superintendent or his/her designee, the school resource officer or the building administrator may authorize daily metal detector screening using school personnel and, if available, a school police officer assigned to the school, to operate the metal detectors available to their school (any combination of walk-through units and /or handheld wands) when the Superintendent or designee, the building principal or security supervisor determines that the school requires such daily screenings.

PASSES

Students will be issued a student hall pass each marking period that is required to leave their classroom. These passes allow for students to leave class up to 50 times in a marking period. Once all spaces on these passes have been used or a student has lost their student hall pass, they will not be allowed to leave the classroom. Replacement passes or additional student hall passes may be issued at the discretion of school administration. Extra passes will incur a cost of 50¢ each.

Students will provide the pass to their teacher for permission to leave the classroom and must be filled out upon departure and return to class. Student hall passes are to be visible at all times when moving throughout the school and must be provided to school staff upon request. Students are only allowed to use their hall pass to go to the specified destination. Unauthorized stops will lead to disciplinary action.

Different colored passes will be issued to identify where the student is assigned to go. (Example: Nurse, Guidance Counselor, Office, Lav) if a student is not in the area in which the pass is designated, it will result in a disciplinary action and be considered defiant trespassing.

Office passes are to be issued to students that are called down to the office or guidance.

Students that are summoned to the office should not have an entry posted to their student hall pass. The school office will issue a special pass on return to class.

Only one male student and one female student should be out of a class or study hall at any one time.

Students are **NOT** allowed in the faculty lounges, faculty copier room, or faculty lavatories at any time. Passes cannot be issued to these locations.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Students must wear physical education attire as required by their physical education teachers. This attire is to be worn in physical education areas only.

Do not place valuables in the physical education locker rooms.

All medical notes for physical education **MUST** be presented *at the beginning of the marking period* (except in emergency cases) for consideration and approval.

PROGRESS REPORTS

Mid quarter progress reports are posted on Skyward to the parents of students . Parents should discuss the report with the student each time the reports are issued.

If a teacher conference is desired, parents are requested to call the guidance office for an appointment at (570) 735-2770.

REPORT CARDS

Report cards are posted to skyward at intervals of nine (9) weeks during the school year.

Report cards indicate the progress and achievement of the student in school. Parents should discuss the report with the student each time the reports are issued.

No paper report cards will be issued unless a formal request is submitted to the main office.

Parents should contact the Educational Center Main office to request Skyward access or paper copy of the report card.

Parents should also note the number of days absent and the comments listed on the report. If a teacher conference is desired, parents are requested to call the guidance office for an appointment, (570) 735-2770 or contact the teacher directly using the Skyward communications system.

RESTRICTED MOVEMENT

Students who are chronically late, who cut class, or are in unauthorized areas of the building may be placed on restricted movement. This is especially true for students who leave the cafeteria area and wander into unauthorized areas of the school (classroom, hallways, locker rooms, teacher rooms, gym, etc.).

Students whose name appears on this list are restricted to classrooms and are not permitted to leave with a student hall pass except in cases of extreme emergency. In such an instance, the office is to be notified immediately and an escort will be arranged for the student. Students who are on restricted hall movement must carry a restricted hall movement pass at all times. The principals' office will issue the restricted hall movement pass to the student.

SCHOOL CITIZENSHIP

It is important that students realize that every regulation regarding student behavior is for their benefit and protection. When disciplinary action is warranted, it will be administered impartially and objectively by the principal or his designee. **All students will be treated with respect by all school personnel. Students in turn must do the same.**

SCHOOL PROPERTY

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

SECURITY

The health and welfare of students is of prime concern. Following student arrival, all doors will be locked. Video monitoring is located at the main entrance of the building. The main entrance is the only entrance that is to be used after 7:55 am. All visitors are to report to the Principal's Office.

SKYWARD FAMILY & STUDENT ACCESS

The Greater Nanticoke Area School District utilizes the Skyward Educational management System to track student attendance, grades, discipline, and other educationally relevant information. Parents and/or students are required to access this information by obtaining an account. Parents requesting an account for the first time or having difficulties with their account should contact the high school office for assistance (570) 735-2770.

A link to the Skyward Family Access page is posted on the School District and High School websites.

STUDENT ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

The Pennsylvania Department of Education developed and mandates a Student Assistance program (SAP) for all schools to assist students and their families with behavioral concerns. The high school SAP team consists of specially trained teachers, guidance counselors, administrators, and service agency liaisons to identify and intervene with student behaviors that are placing them at risk. These may include academic and attendance concerns as well as social, emotional, and substance abuse issues.

Referrals for student evaluation can be made by students, parents, teachers, and coaches by obtaining the proper paperwork from the Guidance Office. Confidentiality is maintained by the team at all times.

STUDENT IDENTIFICATION (ID) BADGES

The Greater Nanticoke Area School District uses an Identification (ID) Badge System for Students Grades 3-12. ***The Student Identification (ID) Badge must be visible and worn at all times. Students are not allowed to alter, deface or otherwise change the appearance of their identification (ID) badge.*** The importance for the student identification (ID) System:

- The Identification (ID) badge is an additional safety measure for our staff and students.
- The Identification (ID) badge, at a glance, allows district personnel, students, teachers, bus drivers, school resource officers, and administration who are “prohibited” to be within our school buildings, and on the Greater Nanticoke Area Campus.
- In case of an emergency it is a quick way for emergency personnel to identify our students.
- The Identification (ID) badge helps to identify where students belong, to provide a safe and orderly environment to foster student learning.
- The Identification (ID) badge will assist in the security of everyone on campus.
- The Identification (ID) Badge will provide the school with an efficient way to manage our computerized library and cafeteria systems, improving services to students.
- Finally, besides enhancing school safety, badges can create a feeling of unity among students.
- The Identification (ID) badge will help Greater Nanticoke Area students prepare for the world where real-world identification is often needed.

Disciplinary Policy and procedures of non-compliance for Student Identification (ID) Badges

<u>Level One</u> Student reports that he/she forgot their ID card	<u>Level Two</u> Student has a counterfeit ID or ID belonging to another student.	<u>Level Three</u> Student refuses to wear ID card
First Offense- warning is recorded, a temporary ID issued, and parents are notified. Second Offense- Out of school suspension and counts towards a pre-expulsion.	First Offense- Suspension and parent is notified Continued Offenses- according to the discipline policy and all count towards pre-expulsion.	A Parent meeting will be held and students may be placed in the Greater Nanticoke Area School District Cyber.

***ALL DISCIPLINE IS AT THE DISCRETION OF THE ADMINISTRATION**

TITLE I MATH

Revised June 2023

All schools in the district are school-wide Title I programs. Students will be provided Math Support services as needed through Title I funds. Need will be determined by district assessment criteria.

SCHOOL-PARENT COMPACT

The Educational Center, and the parents of the students participating in activities, services, and programs funded by Title I, Part A of the Elementary and Secondary Act (ESEA) (participating children), agree that this compact outlines how the parents, the entire school staff, and the students will share the responsibility for improved student academic achievement and the means by which the school and parents will build and develop a partnership that will help children achieve the State's high standards.

The school-parent compact is in effect during the school year 2023-2024.

School Responsibilities

The Educational Center will:

1. Provide high-quality curriculum and instruction in a supportive and effective learning environment that enables the participating children to meet the State's student academic achievement standards as follows:

The Greater Nanticoke Area School District provides instruction aligned with the Pennsylvania Standards. This curriculum is delivered by teachers designed as "Highly Qualified" by the United States Department of Education. All instruction provided is driven by individual student needs and based on "real time" student data. Our staff strives to provide a healthy, safe learning environment where every child succeeds.

2. Hold parent-teacher conferences (at least annually district wide) during which this compact will be discussed as it relates to the individual child's achievement. Specifically, those conferences will be held:

November 16, 2023 from 1:00-6:00 PM. Additionally, teachers are available for conferences upon request.

3. Provide parents with frequent reports on their child's progress. Specifically, the school will provide reports as follows: Parents will receive quarterly report cards and progress reports.

4. Provide parents reasonable access to staff. Specifically, staff will be available for consultation with parents as follows:

November 16, 2023 for conferences and upon request.

5. Provide parents opportunities to volunteer and participate in their child's class, and to observe classroom activities, as follows:

School concerts, plays, honors/award assemblies, and also to specific classroom events, Title I committee.

Parent Responsibilities

We, as parents, will support our children's learning in the following ways:

- Monitoring attendance.
- Read to children nightly.
- Making sure that homework is completed.
- Monitoring the amount of television their children watch.
- Participating, as appropriate, in decisions, relating to my children's education.
- Promoting positive use of my child's extracurricular time.
- Staying informed about my child's education and communicating with the school by promptly reading all notices from the school or the school district either received by my child or by mail and responding as appropriate.
- Serving to the extent possible, on policy advisory groups, such as being the Title I, Part A parent representative on the school's School Improvement Team, the Title I, Policy

Advisory Committee, the District wide Policy Advisory Council, the State's Committee of Practitioners, the School Support Team or other school advisory or policy groups.

We, as students, will share the responsibility to improve our academic achievement and achieve the State's high standards. Specifically, we will:

- Do my homework every day and ask for help when I need to.
- Read with my parents every day outside of school time.
- Give to my parents or the adult who is responsible for my welfare all notices and information received by me from my school every day.

The Educational Center will:

1. Involve parents in the planning, review, and improvement of the school's parental involvement policy, in an organized, ongoing, and timely way.
2. Involve parents in the joint development of any school wide program plan, in an organized, ongoing, and timely way.
3. Hold an annual meeting to inform parents of the school's participation in Title I, Part A programs, and to explain the Title I, Part A requirements, and the right of parents to be involved in Title I, Part A programs. The school will convene the meeting at a convenient time to parents, and will offer a flexible number of additional parental involvement meetings, such as in the morning or evening, so that as many parents as possible are able to attend. The school will invite to this meeting all parents of children participating in Title I, Part A programs (participating students), and will encourage them to attend.
4. Provide information to parents of participating students in an understandable and uniform format, including alternative formats upon the request of parents with disabilities, and, to the extent practicable, in a language that parents can understand.
5. Provide to the parents of participating children information in a timely manner about Title I, Part A programs that includes a description and explanation of the school's curriculum, the forms of academic assessment used to measure children's progress, and the proficiency levels students are expected to meet.
6. On the request of parents, provide opportunities for regular meetings for parents to formulate suggestions, and to participate, as appropriate, in decisions about the education of their children. The school will respond to any suggestions as soon as practicably possible.
7. Provide to each parent an individual student report about the performance of their child on the State assessment in at least math, language arts and reading.
8. Provide each parent timely notice when their child has been assigned or has been taught for four (4) or more consecutive weeks by a teacher who is not highly qualified within the meaning or the term in section 200.56 of the Title I Final Regulations (67 Fed. Reg. 71710, December 2, 2002).

Title I Complaint Process

For students attending a school in the Greater Nanticoke Area School District

Introduction

Every Child Succeeds Act (ESSA) legislation requires Local Educational Agencies (LEAs) to adopt written procedures for “receiving and resolving any complaint alleging violations of the law in administration of programs.” In accordance with this legislative requirement, the Greater Nanticoke Area School District follows these procedures:

Definition - A “complaint” is a written, signed statement filed by an individual or an organization. It must include:

- a. A statement that PDE or the Greater Nanticoke Area School District has violated a requirement of federal statute or regulations which apply to programs under the Every Child Succeeds Act (ESSA).
- b. The facts on which the statement is based.
- c. Information on any discussions, meetings or correspondence with PDE or the district regarding the complaint.

Local Complaint Procedures

1. Referral - Complaints against the Greater Nanticoke Area School District will be received in writing by the Federal Programs Coordinator.
2. Acknowledgement – The Federal Programs Coordinator will acknowledge receipt of the complaint in writing.
3. Investigation – The Federal Programs Coordinator will investigate the complaint and attempt to resolve the complaint informally. If an informal resolution satisfactory to the complainant is reached no further investigation or action by the District is required. If the problem cannot be informally resolved, it will be referred to the Superintendent or designee of the Greater Nanticoke Area School District.
4. Opportunity to Present Evidence – The Superintendent or designee may, in his or her discretion, provide the opportunity for the complainant and/or the complainant's representative to present evidence. Such a presentation may include the opportunity for each side to question parties to the dispute and any of their witnesses.
5. Report and Recommended Resolution – Once the Superintendent, or his or her designee, has finished further investigation and taking of evidence, he or she will prepare a final report with a recommendation for resolving the complaint. The final report will give the name of the party bringing the complaint, the nature of the complaint, a summary of the investigation, the recommended resolution, and the reasons for the recommendation. The Superintendent or designee will issue the report to the complainant, complainant's representative, Federal Programs Coordinator, Public School Building Principal and building Principal of the Non Public School, if the complaint is filed with the Non Public sector.
6. Right to Appeal – In appropriate cases, the complainant may appeal from the recommended resolution to the Secretary of the Education of the Commonwealth.
7. Follow-Up – The Federal Programs Coordinator will ensure that the resolution of the complaint is implemented.
8. Time Limit – The period between School District's receipt of a complaint and its resolution within the district shall not exceed sixty (60) calendar days.

Filing a Complaint

Complaints should be addressed as follows:

Federal Programs Coordinator Greater Nanticoke Area School District
Superintendent Greater Nanticoke Area School District
OR

Susan McCrone, Chief
Division of Federal Programs
Pennsylvania Department of Education
333 Market Street, 7th Floor Harrisburg, PA 17126-0333

**For students living in the Greater Nanticoke Area School District, but attending a
non-public school**

Introduction

Every Child Succeeds Act (ESSA) legislation requires Local Educational Agencies (LEAs) to adopt written procedures for “receiving and resolving any complaint alleging violations of the law in administration of programs.” In accordance with this legislative requirement, the Greater Nanticoke Area School District follows these procedures:

Definition - A “complaint” is a written, signed statement filed by an individual or an organization. It must include:

- a. A statement that PDE or the Greater Nanticoke Area School District has violated a requirement of federal statute or regulations which apply to programs under the Every Child Succeeds Act (ESSA).
- b. The facts on which the statement is based.
- c. Information on any discussions, meetings or correspondence with PDE or the district regarding the complaint.

Local Complaint Procedures

1. Referral - Complaints against the Greater Nanticoke Area School District will be received in writing by the Federal Programs Coordinator.
2. Acknowledgement – The Federal Programs Coordinator will acknowledge receipt of the complaint in writing.
3. Investigation – The Federal Programs Coordinator will investigate the complaint and attempt to resolve the complaint informally. If an informal resolution satisfactory to the complainant is reached no further investigation or action by the District is required. If the problem cannot be informally resolved, it will be referred to the Superintendent or designee of the Greater Nanticoke Area School District.
4. Opportunity to Present Evidence – The Superintendent or designee may, in his or her discretion, provide the opportunity for the complainant and/or the complainant's representative to present evidence. Such a presentation may include the opportunity for each side to question parties to the dispute and any of their witnesses.
5. Report and Recommended Resolution – Once the Superintendent, or his or her designee, has finished further investigation and taking of evidence, he or she will prepare a final report with a recommendation for resolving the complaint. The final report will give the name of the

party bringing the complaint, the nature of the complaint, a summary of the investigation, the recommended resolution, and the reasons for the recommendation. The Superintendent or designee will issue the report to the complainant, complainant's representative, Federal Programs Coordinator, Public School Building Principal and building Principal of the Non Public School, if the complaint is filed with the Non Public sector.

6. Right to Appeal – In appropriate cases, the complainant may appeal from the recommended resolution to the Secretary of the Education of the Commonwealth.

7. Follow-Up – The Federal Programs Coordinator will ensure that the resolution of the complaint is implemented.

8. Time Limit – The period between School District's receipt of a complaint and its resolution within the district shall not exceed sixty (60) calendar days.

Filing a Complaint

Complaints should be addressed as follows:

Federal Programs Coordinator Greater Nanticoke Area School District

Superintendent Greater Nanticoke Area School District

OR

Susan McCrone, Chief

Division of Federal Programs Pennsylvania Department of Education

333 Market Street, 7th Floor

Harrisburg, PA 17126-0333

Revised June, 2023

Title I Parent and Family Engagement GNA Educational Center

1. GNA Elementary Center will involve parents in the planning, review and improvement of the school's Parent and Family Policy by the following activities:

- a. Sharing policy at Back to School Night
- b. Policy is located in Student Handbooks distributed annually
- c. Sharing policy and Parent Compact at September PTA meeting
- d. Sharing policy and Parent Compact at Title I Family Nights
- e. Parent Surveys distributed annually
- f. Meeting during the end of the year Parent Advisory Board Meeting

2. GNA Elementary Center will hold annual meetings to inform parents of the school's participation in the Title I program and to explain the requirements of the program, and their right to be involved in the following:

- a. Rights and explanation of the Title I program at annual Back to School Night
- b. Rights and explanation of the Title I program at September PTA meeting
- c. Families that cannot attend the Back to School Night will receive an orientation folder of information including Title I program information. Parents are encouraged to reach out to Title I staff for more information.

3. GNA Elementary Center will utilize Title I funds to pay reasonable and necessary expenses associated with parent involved activities if necessary by:

- a. Providing meals during Family Nights
 - b. Providing Free academic materials for parents to utilize with their children
4. The families at GNA Elementary Center will be involved in joint development, planning, review and improvement of the School-Wide Title I program by:
- a. Offering suggestions with Reading and Math Specialist during Parent/Teacher Conferences
 - b. Offering suggestions for program adjustments by completing annual surveys sent to families in the Spring
 - c. Parent Advisory Representative(s) offer input through Parent Advisory Board Meetings throughout the school year
5. GNA Elementary Center will provide parents of participating children with timely information about the Title I program including:
- a. Entrance contact to families
 - b. Invitations/Skyalert calls/Flyers are reminders for Family Nights
 - c. Title I Website
 - d. Teacher Conferences
 - e. Progress Reports
6. GNA Elementary Center will provide parents of participating children with a description and explanation of the curriculum in use at the school, the forms of academic assessment used to measure student progress, and the proficiency levels students are expected to meet by presenting parents with the information at:
- a. Back to School Night
 - b. Parent/Teacher Conferences
 - c. Family Nights
 - d. GNA Elementary Center Website- Title I Link
7. GNA Elementary Center will provide assistance to parents' understanding of the State's academic common core content standards, student's achievement standards, local academic assessments and how to monitor a child's progress and work with teachers to improve the achievement of their children. Assistance will be provided by:
- a. Annual Family Nights
 - b. Parent/Teacher Conferences
 - c. RTII Process
 - d. GNA Elementary Center Title I Staff Websites
8. GNA Elementary Center will provide, if requested by parents, opportunities for regular meetings to formulate suggestions and to participate, as appropriate in decisions relating to the education of their children, and respond to any suggestions as soon as practicably possible by:
- a. Parent/Teacher Conferences
 - b. Conference with Title I staff member
 - c. Child Study Team Meeting
 - d. RTII
9. GNA Elementary Center developed jointly, with parents, a school-parent compact which outlines how parents, the entire staff and students share in the responsibility for improved student achievement:

- a. Parent Compact Letter read and distributed at Back to School Night
 - b. Parent Compact Letter read at September PTA meeting
 - c. Parent Compact Letter distributed in handbook annually to students and families
 - d. Review compact at Parent Advisory Board meetings
10. GNA Elementary Center describes how the school provides materials and training to help parents work with their children's achievement, such as literacy and math training and using technology, as appropriate to foster parent involvement by:
- a. Title I Family Nights
 - b. By appointment with Title I staff
 - c. Parent/Teacher Conferences
 - d. Child Study Team Meetings
11. GNA Elementary Center will educate staff, with assistance from families, in how to communicate with families to coordinate programs and build ties between family and school:
- a. Distribute information to staff through building and grade level meetings
 - b. Appropriate Professional Development Sessions
 - c. Review Teacher Communication Log
12. GNA Elementary Center will coordinate and integrate parent involvement programs that encourage family participation in education:
- a. Family Nights
 - b. Parent/Teacher Conferences
 - c. Monthly Home & School Connection Newsletters
13. GNA Elementary will ensure that information relayed to families will be provided in a language format families can understand:
- a. Translation of documents as appropriate
 - b. Providing printed or digital documents
 - c. Collaboration with ESL Teacher
14. GNA Elementary Center will provide opportunities for the informed participation of families including those of limited English proficiency:
- a. Collaboration with ESL Teacher
 - b. Document translation as appropriate
 - c. Information sent to all families

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August 28th, 2023

Dear Parent,

Your child's school receives Title I funding and is included under the regulations of the "Every Student Succeeds Act" (ESSA) that was signed into law by President Obama in 2015. ESSA requires:

- Increased accountability for states and school districts.
- Greater choice for parents, especially those in low performing schools.
- Greater flexibility for state and local education agencies in the use of federal funding.

- Under ESSA, parents have a right to request professional qualifications of their children's teacher(s) or paraprofessional(s). This letter is to inform you of your right to ask for the following information about your children's classroom teachers or paraprofessionals:
 - Whether Pennsylvania has licensed the teacher for the grade and subject he or she teaches.
 - Whether the teacher is teaching under emergency or other professional status through which Pennsylvania licensing criteria have been waived.
 - The teacher's baccalaureate degree major and whether the teacher has any advanced degrees, and if so, the subject of the degrees.
 - Whether the child is provided services by paraprofessionals, and if so, their qualifications.

If you would like to receive specific information about your child's teacher or paraprofessional, please contact your building principal.

Our district is fully committed to the success of your child. We appreciate your partnership in our efforts to provide the best education for your child.

Sincerely,
GNASD Office of the Superintendent

TELEPHONES

Students may come to the Principal's Office to use the telephone to contact their parents in an emergency situation.

While we realize many students have cell phones - their usage is prohibited during school hours. All cell phones **MUST BE TURNED OFF DURING THE SCHOOL DAY**. If a cell phone is visible to school personnel, it will be confiscated and disciplinary actions will be assigned.

TEXTBOOKS

1. Students are responsible for books assigned to them for the current school year.
2. Every book will be numbered and issued by the subject teacher.
3. All books regardless of condition must be covered by the student.
4. Books must be returned at the end of the school year in the same condition as received. **Books and materials must be handed in before the student takes the final examination of each course.**
5. Books lost or damaged must be paid for in full before a student receives credit for the year's work. This also applies to library books.
6. Students must return exactly the same books which were assigned to them. Unnumbered books will not be accepted.

VANDALISM

Students found guilty of deliberately defacing school property must pay for the damage incurred and/or face suspension from school. Section 177 of the Pennsylvania School Code explicitly states that a person found guilty of defacing school property is liable to a fine.

VISITORS

All visitors are required to register at the Security Office. Parents are encouraged to meet with teachers and administrators and should call to arrange a time that is mutually agreeable. Visitors who fail to register at the security office or follow school policy will be required to leave school property or be guilty of **ILLEGAL TRESPASS**. *Parents are required to be escorted once they have obtained a visitor pass from the security office. Visitors are prohibited to film, photograph, record, school personnel, staff, faculty, students, and the facility for any reason at any time.*

WELLNESS POLICY

The Greater Nanticoke Area School District recognizes that student wellness and proper nutrition are related to students' physical well-being, growth, development, and readiness to learn. The Board is committed to providing a school environment that promotes student wellness, proper nutrition, nutrition education, and regular physical activity as part of the total learning experience. In a healthy school environment, students will learn about and participate in positive dietary and lifestyle practices that can improve student achievement.

To ensure the health and well-being of all students, the Board establishes that the district shall provide to students:

- A comprehensive nutrition program consistent with federal and state requirements.
- Access at reasonable cost to foods and beverages that meet established nutritional guidelines.
- Physical education courses and opportunities for developmentally appropriate physical activity during the school day.
- Curriculum and programs for grades K-12 that are designed to educate students about proper nutrition and lifelong physical activity, in accordance with State Board of Education curriculum regulations and academic standards.

The Superintendent shall be responsible to monitor district schools, programs, and curriculum to ensure compliance with this policy, related policies and established guidelines or administrative regulations.

- Each building principal or designee shall report to the Superintendent regarding compliance in his/her school.
- Staff members responsible for programs related to school wellness shall report to the Superintendent regarding the status of such programs.

The Superintendent shall annually report to the Board on the district's compliance with law and policies related to students wellness. The report may include:

- Assessment of school environment regarding student wellness issues.
- Evaluation of food services program.
- Review of all foods and beverages sold in schools for compliance with established nutrition guidelines.
- Recommendations for policy and/or program revisions.
- Suggestions for improvement in specific areas.

An assurance that district guidelines for reimbursable meals are not less restrictive than regulations and guidelines issued for schools in accordance with federal law and shall be provided annually by the superintendent.

Wellness Committee

The Board shall support a Wellness Committee composed of at least one (1) of the following: School Board member, district administrator, district food service representative, student, parent/guardian, member of the public. The committee may also contain:

- teachers
- school nurse
- coaches
- health professionals
- representative of local or county agencies
- representative of community organizations

The Wellness Committee shall serve as an advisory committee regarding student health issues and shall be responsible for developing a Student Wellness Policy that complies with law to recommend to the Board for adoption.

- The Wellness Committee may examine related research and laws, assess student needs and the current school environment, review existing Board policies and administrative regulations, and raise

awareness about school health issues. The Wellness Committee may make policy recommendations to the Board related to other health issues necessary to promote student wellness.

- The Wellness Committee shall provide periodic reports to the Superintendent or designee regarding the status of its work, as required.

Nutrition Education

- The goal of nutrition education is to teach, encourage and support healthy eating by students. Promoting student health and nutrition enhances readiness for learning and increases student achievement.
- Nutrition education will be provided within the sequential, comprehensive health education program in accordance with the State Board of Education curriculum regulations and the academic standards for Health, Safety, and Physical Education, and Family and Consumer Sciences.
- Nutrition education lessons and activities shall be age-appropriate.
- Nutrition education shall be integrated into other subjects to complement but not replace academic standards bases on nutrition education.
- Consistent nutrition messages shall be disseminated throughout the district, schools, classrooms, cafeteria, homes, community, and media.

Physical Activity

- District schools shall strive to provide opportunities for developmentally appropriate physical activity during the school day for all students.
- District schools shall contribute to the effort to provide students opportunities to accumulate at least sixty (60) minutes of age appropriate physical activity on all or most days of the week. That time will include physical activity outside the school environment, such as outdoor play at home, sports, etc.
- Age appropriate physical activity opportunities, such as recess; before and after school; during lunch; clubs; intermural and interscholastic athletics, shall be provided to meet the needs and interests of all students, in addition to planned physical education.
- Extended periods of student inactivity, two (2) hours or more, shall be discouraged.
- Physical activity breaks shall be provided for elementary students during classroom hours.
- After-school programs shall provide developmentally appropriate physical activity for participating children.
- Physical activity shall not be used as a form of punishment.

Physical Education

- Quality physical education instruction that promotes lifelong physical activity and provides instruction in the skills and knowledge necessary for lifelong participation shall be provided.
- Physical education classes shall be the means through which all students learn, practice and are assessed on developmentally appropriate skills and knowledge necessary for lifelong, health enhancing physical activity.
- A varied and comprehensive curriculum that leads to students becoming and remaining physically active for a lifetime shall be provided in the physical education program.
- A sequential physical education program consistent with State Board of Education curriculum regulations and Health, Safety, and Physical Education academic standards shall be developed and implemented.
- Safe and adequate equipment, facilities and resources shall be provided for physical education courses.

- Physical education shall be taught by certified health and physical education teachers.
- Appropriate professional development shall be provided for physical education staff.
- Physical activity shall not be used as a form of punishment.

Other School Board Activities

- District schools shall provide adequate space for eating and serving school meals.
- Students shall be provided a clean and safe meal environment.
- Students shall be provided adequate time to eat: ten (10) minutes sit down time for breakfast; twenty (20) minutes sit down time for lunch.
- Meals provided shall be scheduled at appropriate hours.
- Drinking water shall be available at all meal periods and throughout the school day.
- Students shall have access to hand washing or sanitizing before meals and snacks.
- Access to the food service operation shall be limited to authorized staff.
- Food shall not be used in the schools as a reward or punishment.
- The district shall provide appropriate training to all staff on the components of the Student Wellness Policy.
- Goals of the Student Wellness Policy shall be considered in planning all school based activities.
- Fundraising projects submitted for approval shall be supportive of healthy eating and student wellness.
- Administrators, teachers, food service personnel, students, parents/ guardians, and community members shall be encouraged to serve as positive role models through district programs, communications and outreach efforts.
- The district shall support the efforts of parents/guardians to provide a healthy diet and daily physical activity for children by communicating relevant information through various methods.
- Excludes modifications included in Individualized Education Plans (IEP) or Behavior Intervention Plans (BIP).

Nutrition Guidelines

All foods available in district schools during the school day shall be offered to students with consideration for promoting student health and reducing childhood obesity.

Food provided throughout the National School Lunch or School Breakfast Programs shall comply with federal nutrition standards under the School Meals Initiative.

Competitive foods are defined as foods offered at school other than through the National School Lunch or School Breakfast Programs and include a la carte foods, snacks and beverages, vending food, snacks and beverages; school store food, snacks and beverages; fundraisers; classroom parties; holiday celebrations; and food from home.

- All competitive foods available to students in district schools shall comply with the Nutritional Standards for Competitive Foods in Pennsylvania Schools. The nutritional standards shall be implemented as a ONE (1) year plan.

Safe Routes to School

The district shall cooperate with local municipalities, public safety

agency, police departments, and community organizations to develop and maintain safe routes to school.

WITHDRAWAL

A student may withdraw from the active rolls of the Greater Nanticoke Area High School only with the principal's permission. A withdrawal form must be completed and all textbooks/educational materials must be returned in good condition before the student is officially removed from the school membership roll. **If all accounts are not clear, students who transfer to another school will be unable to get a transcript of their credits from the Greater Nanticoke Area High School.**

DISCIPLINE POLICY

Philosophy

Discipline is the training that corrects, molds, or perfects the mental faculties or moral character. Its aim is to rehabilitate the student. Discipline should be used to modify behavior, establish and maintain respect for duly constituted authority, promote human growth, and develop ideals, interests, and habits leading to self-government and good citizenship. As much as possible, disciplinary measures should not be designed to result in scholastic failure. Procedures including personal counseling should be utilized; and when these have failed to rehabilitate the student, other alternatives should be instituted. Expulsion would be instituted in rare cases involving serious disciplinary infractions which are detrimental to the individual or to the health, safety, morals, or welfare of others.

Suspensions will be as short in duration as is possible to achieve a resolution of the problem.

Expulsion is an action taken only by the Board of Education in appropriate circumstances.

Guidelines on Discipline

Discipline in school is essential to assure an orderly environment in which each person may live and learn to his/her full capabilities in harmony with others. Ideal discipline is self-directed and self-controlled; however, when self-control falters and self-discipline fails, disciplinary forces outside the individual must be imposed to protect the rights of others.

All members of the educational community share the responsibility for good discipline in our schools. Parents must be the first to foster self-discipline within the child at home. The school can provide the setting for this training to be carried further, while enabling all students to have the right to pursue their own educational needs without unnecessary disruption by others.

More specifically, **parents have the responsibility** to:

- Send the child to school as required by state laws.

- Make sure that the child's attendance at school is regular and punctual and that all absences are properly excused.
- Be sure the child is free of communicable disease and is in as good health as possible in order to ensure effective classroom performance.
- Guide the child from the earliest years to develop socially acceptable behavior, to exercise self-control and to be accountable for his or her actions.
- Teach the child, by word and example, respect for the law, for the authority of the school and for the rights and property of others.
- Know the rules of the school and the consequences for violation of the rules.
- Help the child to develop an interest in learning and exploring a variety of fields of knowledge.
- Become acquainted with the school, its staff, curriculum and activities. Attend parent-teacher conferences and school functions.

Students also share the responsibility for good discipline in schools. Associated with the right to a free public education, students also have the responsibility to:

- Attend school regularly and punctually.
 - Take advantage of the academic opportunities offered at school and make a conscientious effort in classroom work.
 - Assist faculty and administrators in developing a climate in school that is conducive to wholesome learning and living.
 - Know and respect the rights of teachers, administrators, and other students.
 - Express ideas and opinions in a respectful manner so as not to offend or slander others.
 - Support and participate in school activities.
 - Be aware of all rules and regulations for student behavior and conduct themselves in accord with them.
 - Be willing to volunteer information in matters relating to the health, safety, and welfare of the school community and the protection of school property.
-
- Dress and groom themselves so as to meet fair standards of safety and health, and so as not to cause substantial disruption to the educational process.
 - Assume that, until a rule is waived, altered, or repealed, it is in full effect.
 - Be aware of and comply with state and local laws.
 - Exercise proper care when using public facilities and equipment.
 - Make all necessary arrangements for making up work when absent from school.
 - Avoid inaccuracies and indecent or obscene language in student newspapers and publications.
 - Strive for mutually respectful relationships with teachers, administrators, and peers.

Corporal Punishment

(a) Corporal punishment is defined as physically punishing a student for an infraction of the discipline policy. Use of corporal punishment is prohibited.

(b) Teachers and school authorities may use reasonable force under the following circumstances:

- (1) To quell a disturbance.
- (2) To obtain possession of weapons or other dangerous objects.
- (3) For the purpose of self-defense.
- (4) For the protection of persons or property.

SCHOOL HEALTH PROGRAM

Pennsylvania school law mandates specific health screenings for each student at specific grade levels. Please review the following

- All students are required to undergo height and weight screenings.
- All students are required to undergo vision screenings.
- All students in 7th grade are required to undergo hearing screenings.
- All students in 7th grade are required to undergo a dental examination
- All students in 6th and 7th grade are required to undergo a scoliosis screening.
- All students in 6th grade must participate in a physical examination.

*Dental examinations, scoliosis screenings, and physical examinations are offered by the school district. If you choose to utilize your own physician, you must provide the school with the results; the school district will not be responsible to reimburse for the cost of the private exam.

SCHOOL IMMUNIZATIONS

For attendance in all grades, children need the following immunizations:

- 4 doses of DTP (1 dose on or after the 4th birthday)
- 4 doses of polio (1 dose on or after the 4th birthday and at least 6 months after the previous dose given)
- 2 doses of MMR
- 3 doses of hepatitis B
- 2 doses of varicella (chickenpox)
- 1 dose of Tdap (upon entry into 7th grade)
- 1 dose of MCV (upon entry into 7th grade)

*These requirements allow for the following exemptions: medical reason, religious belief, or philosophical/strong moral or ethical conviction. Even if your child is exempt from immunizations, he or she may be excluded from school during an outbreak of vaccine preventable disease.

DRUG AND ALCOHOL POLICY

Definition of Terms

Drugs - shall include alcohol or any malt beverage inclusive of wine coolers; designer drug(s), any over-the-counter drug not authorized by parent or school nurse, anabolic steroids; any drug from any of the four (4) classes of drugs - hallucinogens, narcotics, amphetamines, barbiturates; any volatile solvents or inhalants such as but not limited to glue, varnish remover, etc., any chemical manufactured in a clandestine laboratory such as but not limited to amyl and butyl nitrate, tobacco and tobacco products such as cigarettes, chew/snuff, vapes, electronic cigarettes, etc.

Note: Any above defined drugs and drug use in particular is prohibited on school grounds, at school sponsored functions, and while students are representing the school.

Examples of drugs covered under this policy:

Inhalants: Nitrous Oxide (Laughing Gas, Whippets, CO2 Cartridge); Amyl Nitrate (Locker Room, Rash, Poppers, Snappers); Butyl Nitrate (Bullet, Climax); Chlorohydrocarbons (aerosol paint cans, cleaning fluid); Hydrocarbons (aerosol propellants, gasoline, glue)

Stimulants: Cocaine, Crack Cocaine, Amphetamines (capsules, pills, tablets); Methamphetamines; Additional Stimulants (Preludin, Didrex, Tenuate, etc.)

Depressants: Barbiturates, Tranquilizers, Alcohol

Hallucinogens: Marijuana, PCP, LSD, Mescaline, Peyote, Psilocybin

Narcotics: Heroin, Methadone, Codeine, Morphine, Meperidine, Opium, Other Narcotics (Percodan, Darvon, Percocet, Talwin, Lomotil, Fentanyl)

DISTRIBUTION - to deliver, sell, pass, share, or give away any drug and/or alcohol, as defined by this policy, from one student to another.

POSSESSION - possesses or holds or has within control any alcohol or drug defined by this policy. It should be noted that students found with alcohol/drugs in school lockers, student possessions, desks, student automobiles are in direct violation of this drug policy and will be charged with possession.

DRUG PARAPHERNALIA - any equipment, products, and materials of any kind which are used, intended for use, or designated for use in planting, propagating, cultivating, growing, harvesting, manufacturing, compounding, converting, producing, processing, preparing, testing, analyzing, packaging, repackaging, storing, containing, concealing, injecting, ingesting, inhaling, or otherwise introducing into the body of a controlled substance in violation of the Controlled Substance Act. Drug Paraphernalia items include but are not limited to: Roach Clips, Rolling Papers, Amyl Nitrate (Rush, Locker Room, Jock), Butyl Nitrate (Bullet, Toilet Water), Hypodermic Syringes, Cocaine Spoons, Water Pipes, Marijuana Pipes, Crack Pipes, Drug Conversion Kits, Medicine Dropper, and Razor Blade, vapes, electronic cigarettes.

SCHOOL JURISDICTION - the school property, its surroundings, and all school-related events, such as proms, class trips, football games, etc.

The following guidelines will be followed by all professional employees of the district in any incident where the possession, use or consumption is suspected:

1. Refer the student to the school nurse or principal.
2. The school nurse shall notify the school principal if she has reason to believe that the student is under the influence of drugs and/or alcohol.
3. The principal shall notify in the following order:
 - a. Parents or guardians, requesting their immediate presence in the school
 - b. Local juvenile officers or state police
 - c. Supervisor of Pupil Services or guidance counselor
 - d. If the condition of the student is considered serious enough (loss of consciousness, etc.), an ambulance must be summoned to transport the student to the hospital.
4. The student will be remanded to the custody of his parents and excluded from school pending a parental conference.

Following this conference the procedure includes the following items:

- a. In order to be readmitted to school, the student and parent must provide a doctor's verification that the student is physically able to attend and a medical explanation for the cause of concern is required.
 - b. Parents will be required to seek help for the student through the available social service agencies.
 - c. Parents must have verification that the student is receiving drug and alcohol assistance.
 - d. The student will be referred to the Nanticoke Area Student Assistance Team.*
5. Anyone caught distributing or selling drugs or encouraging drug usage in a drug free school zone will be referred to local authorities for a disciplinary response under Pennsylvania Act. 31.

* These items must be completed during the maximum ten (10) school day suspension period. If such an incident occurs a second time, an automatic full suspension of ten (10) school days will take place followed by a hearing before the Board of Education as indicated in Level IV of the Student Misconduct/Disciplinary Response Structure Guidelines.

SCHOOL SEARCH & SEIZURE OF STUDENTS RELATED TO REASONABLE SUSPICION

It is the policy of the Greater Nanticoke Area School District that public school officials can conduct a search of a specific individual school student and his/her belongings, without a warrant, as long as: (1) **REASONABLE SUSPICION** exists to believe that a student is violating the law or rules of the school; and (2) the SCOPE of the conducted search is reasonably related to the circumstances justifying the search in the first place. ***A student's failure to permit searches and seizures as provided in this policy will be considered grounds for disciplinary action, and possible expulsion.***

REASONABLE SUSPICION - In what is called a "Landmark Case," New Jersey vs. T.L.O., the United States Supreme Court decided that school officials only require reasonable suspicion to search a student. The courts have concluded that school officials are exempt from the normal

dictates of the fourth Amendment (Unreasonable Searches) by virtue of the special nature of their authority over school children. Teachers and school administrators act in loco parentis and, therefore, are acting as a parent/guardian, not the state, and, therefore, are not subject to the restrictions of the Fourth Amendment. Reasonable Suspicion means more than mere suspicion. School authorities must apply an objective test in determining whether 84 reasonable suspicion exists. Reasonable suspicion should be based on one or more of the following.

- 1. eyewitness testimony***
- 2. information obtained through an informant or through reliable statements which incriminate the student***
- 3. any other independent evidence which gives rise to a reasonable conclusion that the student has engaged in a violation of school policy***
- 4. the exigency to make the search without delay***

1. Personal Searches

A student's person and/or personal effects (e.g. purse, book bag, etc.) may be searched whenever a school authority has reasonable suspicion to believe that the student is in possession of illegal or unauthorized materials. If a pat down search of a student's person is conducted, it will be conducted in private by a school official of the same sex and with an adult witness present. If extreme emergency conditions require a more intrusive search of a student's person, such a search may only be conducted in private by a school official of the same sex, with an adult witness of the same sex present, and only upon prior approval of the principal or one of his superiors, unless the health or safety of students will be endangered by the delay which might be caused by following these procedures.

- **Body Searches:**
 - Strip searches invade the most private sphere of students and their bodies. In order to comply with *New Jersey vs. T.L.O.*, a strip search should be performed only under the most extreme circumstances. It should be based on ample, reliable evidence of immediately dangerous drugs or weapons, and must be consistent with the student's age and sex. Even under those circumstances, a prudent school official should seek justifying evidence that almost or in fact meets the "probable cause" standard of the Fourth Amendment as applied to non-students. School personnel should NEVER conduct a visual or manual body cavity search involving the visual examination or touching of the student's anal and genital areas. This is a police matter and should be handled by appropriate officials exclusively.

2. Locker Searches

Student lockers are school property and remain at all times under the control of the school; however, students are expected to assume full responsibility for the security of their lockers. Periodic general inspections of lockers may be conducted by school authorities for any reason at any time without notice, without student consent, and without a search warrant.

3. Automobile Searches

Students are permitted to park on school premises as a matter of privilege, not of right. The school retains authority to conduct routine patrols of student parking lots and inspection of the exteriors of student automobiles on school property. The interiors of student vehicles may be inspected whenever a school authority has reasonable suspicion to believe that illegal or unauthorized materials are contained inside. Such patrols and inspections may be conducted without notice, without student consent, and without a search warrant.

4. Use of Canines

The administration is authorized to utilize canines whose reliability and accuracy for sniffing out contraband has been established to aid in the search for contraband in school owned property and automobiles parked on school property. Canines shall not be used to search students unless school officials have established independently that there is reasonable cause to believe the student possesses contraband on his or her person. The canines must be accompanied by a qualified and authorized trainer who will be responsible for the dog's actions. An indication by the dog that contraband is present on school property or an automobile shall be reasonable cause for a further search by school officials.

5. **Seizure of Illegal Materials**

If a properly conducted search yields illegal or contraband materials, such findings shall be turned over to proper legal authorities for ultimate disposition.

6. **Possession of Weapon on School Property**

(a) Definition - Notwithstanding the definition of "weapon" in section 907, according to the PA Crimes Code (relating to possessing instruments of crime), "weapon" for purpose of this section shall include, but not limited to any knife, cutting instrument, cutting tool, nunchuck stick, firearm, shotgun, rifle, and any other tool, instrument, or implement capable of inflicting serious bodily injury.

(b) Offense Defined - A person commits a misdemeanor of the first degree if he possesses a weapon in the buildings of, on the grounds of, or in any conveyance providing transportation to or from any elementary or secondary publicly-funded educational institution, any elementary or secondary private school licensed by the Department of Education or any elementary or secondary parochial school.

(c) Defense - It shall be a defense that the weapon is possessed and used in conjunction with a lawful supervised school activity or course and is possessed for other lawful purpose.

7. **Use of Surveillance Cameras on School Buses and/or School Buildings and Grounds**

The installation of surveillance cameras on school buses and within school buildings or on school property has been approved in order to monitor and record student behavior. Appropriate school district or bus company officials will review video tapes when they receive reports of questionable behavior or actions that endanger the safety of passengers or non-passengers and persons within school buildings or on school grounds. Behavior that relates to vandalism or destruction of private or school property would also warrant use of the video recordings. If the recorded information demonstrates that serious misbehavior has occurred, officials will institute appropriate disciplinary action as stated in the Student Misconduct/Disciplinary Response Structure Guidelines. Evidence collected with these cameras can and will be used to prosecute individuals guilty of improper behavior.

SPECIAL EDUCATION PROGRAMS AND SERVICES

In accordance with State and Federal Law, the Greater Nanticoke Area provides supports and services for students who qualify for and are in need of special education services.

The Greater Nanticoke Area School District provides the following special education services through the district and contracted services for exceptional/eligible students: speech and

language support, occupational therapy, physical therapy, psychological counseling, gifted support, learning support, emotional support, autistic support, and life skills. These services will be provided to eligible/exceptional children who are identified through a Multi-Disciplinary Evaluation (MDE). A referral for an MDE can be made by the Child Study Team, parent/guardian, teachers, or guidance counselors. If found eligible and in need of special education services, the student will be provided with an Individualized Education Plan (IEP) and a meeting will be held with the parents and appropriate school personnel.

In cooperation with the Luzerne Intermediate Unit 18, the Greater Nanticoke Area School District provides the following services: deaf or hearing-impaired support, blind or visually impaired support, and multiple disabilities support.

For more information on Special Education Services please visit our website. **To contact the Directors of Student Services/Special Education, please call 570-735-7781 or email: mcmahonm@gnasd.com**

SUSPENSION & EXPULSION POLICY

One of the most important lessons education should teach is discipline. While it does not appear as a subject, it underlies the whole educational structure. It is the training that develops self-control, character, orderliness, and efficiency. It is the key to good conduct and proper considerations for the rights of other people.

With an understanding of the purposes of discipline in a school, the students may help form a correct attitude toward it and not only do their part making their school an effective place of learning, but develop the habits of self-restraint which will make them better persons.

Purposes

1. To encourage all students to act in a socially acceptable manner.
2. To discourage actions which interfere with classroom control, the educational process, or the orderly operation of the school.

Suspension from school may be affected by temporary suspension or full suspension. Expulsion is the last alternative, inasmuch as it results in the child's permanent removal from school.

Upon return from any suspension from school, a parent/guardian may be asked to accompany the student back to school. If a parent/guardian does not accompany him/ her, that student will not be admitted to school and will be considered truant. The Greater Nanticoke Area School District will not accept responsibility for said truant student. If feasible, the student will be placed on in-school suspension until a parent/guardian visit is completed.

1. **Temporary Suspension** shall mean exclusion from school for an offense for a period of up to three days, by the principal, without a hearing, in accordance with the policies of the Board of Education.

2. **Full Suspension** shall mean exclusion from school for an offense for a period of up to ten (10) school days. An informal hearing before the principal is offered to the student and the student's parents, in accordance with policies established by the Board of Education.
3. **Expulsion** shall mean exclusion from school for an offense for a period exceeding ten school days and may result in permanent expulsion from the school rolls. The student will be afforded a formal hearing in a manner designated by the Board of Education.

No student may receive a temporary suspension unless the student and parent or guardian have been informed of the reasons for the suspension and have been given an opportunity to respond before the suspension becomes effective.

The parents and the Superintendent of the District shall be notified immediately when a student is suspended.

The parents shall be notified by phone and in writing when the student is suspended. Parents who are not available by phone and who do not contact the school upon receipt of the written communication, must bring the suspended child back to school upon completion of the suspension.

The maximum period a student may be suspended for an offense shall not exceed ten (10) school days. A temporary suspension may be followed by a full suspension for the same offense, provided that the ten (10) school days limitation is not exceeded. Temporary or full suspensions may not be accumulated or made to run consecutively beyond this ten (10) day limitation.

All full suspensions require a prior informal hearing. All expulsions require a prior formal hearing.

The guidance counselor and other appropriate personnel shall see all students who are suspended the second time. Guidance contact shall be recorded in the counselor's log.

Students may not attend or participate in extra-curricular activities while under suspension for a 24-hour period from the time of the suspension.

Any student suspended three (3) times will lose privileges to attend school dances including the prom, and will not be allowed to participate in any school sports or other school sponsored activities. The length of these consequences is at the discretion of the administration.

Any student suspended five (5) times during their senior year will not be permitted to participate in commencement.

STUDENT DETENTION HALL POLICY

The administrator in charge of discipline may, if necessary, detain a student for disciplinary reasons after school hours.

The following should be observed when detaining a student:

1. Students are to be given up to forty-eight (48) hours' notice concerning detention to arrange for transportation.
2. If the disciplinarian feels that one period is not sufficient, then another period of detention can be assigned to the student.
3. Students are never to be left alone during their detention. They must always be supervised by the detention hall teacher.
4. **Each student assigned to detention hall will report with textbooks of the major disciplines. The student must have evidence of a completed assignment at the end of the detention hall.**
5. Occasionally a pupil requests to be excused from his/her detention for that particular day. Sometimes, due to family situations and emergencies it is best that the student's request be honored. However, it is suggested that the disciplinarian call the pupil's parents if in doubt. ***Outside job-related responsibilities are not a reason for excusal from detention.***
6. 3 Unexcused absences from detention will result in one day of in school suspension. Each unexcused absence will be rescheduled only twice, at which time the student will have accumulated three illegal absences.
7. Students cannot change the assigned detention on the day it is scheduled. Teachers will assign the detention far enough in advance (at least forty-eight hours) that there will be plenty of time to change their schedules.
8. Students cannot change their detention due to extracurricular activities. This means detentions will not be spread out to allow students to attend practices or games. If a student skips their detention and attends the extracurricular activity further discipline will be taken which could include suspension of the extracurricular activity.

DETENTION RULES

Times for detention sessions:

P.M. - 2:00 - 3:00

Lunch

The amount of time you are late or are out of the room (going to the bathroom, etc.) must be made up before you leave.

- Students who are not in the assigned room by 2:00 will be counted as skipping detention.
- Students must bring a book/school work to detention.
- No talking.
- No drinks.
- No headphones.
- No cell phones.
- Only students who are scheduled to have detention are allowed in the room.
- If a student does not follow these rules he/she will be assigned another detention or a suspension.
- Failure to attend your assigned detention may result in a suspension, and/or truancy fine.

- Detentions will not be rescheduled because of school related obligations (examples - sport/band practice, club meetings, etc.), or not having a ride home. (There is enough time between notification of a detention and the scheduled date to arrange a ride home).
- Detentions may be rescheduled for the following reasons: Dr. Appointments, etc.

ALL EXCUSES WILL BE VERIFIED!

STUDENT MISCONDUCT & DISCIPLINARY RESPONSE STRUCTURE

INTRODUCTION

The following levels of misconduct have been established as a guide to determine suitable consequences for inappropriate behavior. Each situation is assessed and evaluated on an individual basis that falls within the parameters of the discipline policy. All students will be treated fairly and justly. It is also the right of the Greater Nanticoke Area School District to amend the disciplinary code on an as needed basis. The school board prohibits any act that interferes with a student's rights to an education and a teacher's rights to teach without any unwarranted interference by a student.

Level I

Level I Disciplinary Infraction: Acts that constitute a violation of the established school policy as stated in the Student Handbook

- Tardiness to class/School (three times)
- Excessive/Inappropriate display of affection
- Classroom disruption or school disturbance
- Degrading or abusive language
- Intent to deceive
- Leaving Class without permission
- Dress code Violation
- Technology Violation
- Abetting and aiding
- Using lockers at undesignated times (1st offense)

Level I Disciplinary Actions: *Level I infractions will result in a parent phone call, 1-3 days of detention and/ or loss of student privileges. Repeat of level I infractions within the same discipline incident will result in a level II disciplinary action.*

Level II

Level II Infractions:

Degrading remarks related to gender, race, religion, sex, or ethnicity
Forging excuses or passes
Profane or obscene language, materials, or gestures
Truancy - Leaving the building without permission
Cutting class
Deceptive behavior and lying to school officials in the course of an investigation
Unsafe act which threatens safety and welfare of others (horse play,)
Threats to other students
Tardiness (after 5 days)
Misconduct in school cafeteria
Defiant trespass
Disrespect to teacher, hall monitor and all other school personnel
Using cell phones or electronic devices to photograph or record during the school day or school transportation
Cell phone or electronic device to film or take pictures of a physical, minor altercation, inappropriate school behavior, or any level of a discipline infraction, and sharing it by any means.
Sharing of lockers
Share of an individual electronic devices (Example ChromeBook)
Unauthorized use of electronic devices (i.e. cell phones, Ipods, Ipad, Computers, google, chrome books, smart watches, etc)
Inappropriate use of social media (photo/video posted or taken during the school or bus)
Minor insubordination (work refusal, not reporting to lunch detention, out of seat, etc)
Abetting and aiding

Level II Disciplinary Actions: Level II infractions will result in 1-3 of detention, In-School-Suspension, Out-Of-School Suspension and/or loss of student privileges. Citation issued under the criminal code. Multiple infractions of Level II violation will result in a Level III Disciplinary Action.

Level III

Level III Infractions:

Verbal/written threats, aggression or insubordination toward school district personnel
Failure to report to the office upon request
Failure to provide identification upon request (student ID)
Distribution of explicit materials cell phone or electric device to film a physical or minor altercation, inappropriate school behavior, or any level of a discipline infraction, and sharing it to social media and/or electrically
Targeting other students (Threats)
Late to school/class six or more times
Cutting detention
Cutting class

Unexcused absences from school
Cheating and academic dishonesty (Student will receive a zero for the assignment)
Forgery of documents/excuses
Offensive and disrespectful language or gestures (may also result in fines and court costs)
Reasonable suspicion of use of tobacco, vapes, flairs, or e-cigarettes on school property
Unauthorized possession of another person's property
Inappropriate Conduct (slap boxing, shadow boxing, scoop dunking)
Major insubordination/disruption of the Educational Process
Abetting and aiding

Level III Disciplinary Actions: Level III infractions will result in 3-5 days of In-School Suspension, or Out-of-School Suspension, and/or citation, and/or loss of student privileges. Students suspended for more than 3 days will be afforded an informal hearing with the building principal. Multiple infractions will result in level IV disciplinary action.

Level IV

Level IV Disciplinary Actions:

Fighting/Physical Altercation
Bullying
Hazing
Insubordination (disrespect to teacher/staff & blatant defiance to teacher/staff-profanity)
Disorderly conduct/inappropriate conduct including after school/or extracurricular activities
Defacing school property/vandalism
Possession/consumption/distribution/use of tobacco/alcohol on school grounds, a bus, and/or school sponsored events (Counseling will be mandated)
Possession/use of sexually explicit/suggestive materials-including clothing
Cutting class
Inappropriate use of social media (photo/Video posted or taken during school or bus)
Abetting and aiding

Level IV infractions will result in a 5-10 days Out-of-school suspensions, citation, and possible referral to the Superintendent and/or School Board for consideration of expulsion and/or alternative placement. Students suspended for more than 3 days will be afforded an informal hearing with the building principal. Level IV infractions will result tobacco/vaping/alcohol policy will be automatically referred to the district magistrate and be required to attend counseling. Multiple infractions will result in level V disciplinary action.

Level V

Level V Disciplinary infractions:

Arson

Assault on student/Faculty/Staff
Violation of Pennsylvania Penal Codes
Bomb Threats
Possession/use/transfer of dangerous weapons
Sex Offenses
Physical violence against school district personnel
Possession/use/transfer of drugs and or/drug paraphernalia and/or alcohol
Aiding or risking a catastrophe
Possession and/or distribution of a controlled substance
Possession and/or distribution of any narcotic
Possession and/or distribution of any prescription or non-prescription medication
Stealing/Theft
Abetting and aiding
Student Refusal to Consent to Search

Level V infractions will result in a 10 days Out-of-school suspensions, citation, and possible referral to the Superintendent and/or School Board for consideration of expulsion and/or alternative placement. Students suspended for more than 3 days will be afforded an informal hearing with the building principal. Level V infractions will result in referral to law enforcement and/or the district magistrate. * Any student in a position of Level V Disciplinary Response will not be allowed to participate in any grade level extra-curricular project or activity.

The School Board approved Discipline Policy will be presented and explained thoroughly to the student body at the beginning of each school year by the proper administrative authority. A copy of this Discipline Policy will be made accessible to all parties concerned.

It must be agreed to that the School Board, Administration, Teachers, and others Involved follow the prescribed guidelines of this policy.

Consistency is the key factor. It must be adhered to by all involved.

Serious violations of established policy on a lower level may require a higher level disciplinary response, however, a higher level disciplinary response cannot be used for a minor infraction. In doing so, we will have an effective policy which will be beneficial to the Greater Nanticoke Area School District.

The provisions of this policy apply to all students except to the extent that a provision is inconsistent with either 22 PA Code Chapter 14 or 342. The provisions of those chapters of the Pennsylvania State Law take precedence over District Policy in those cases where policy and the Code contain inconsistent provisions.

One of the sanctions for misbehavior is withdrawal of permission to participate in field trips. The student will remain in the care and custody of the parent(s)/school that day. Another sanction of misbehavior is the exclusion from attendance and/or participation in special programs.

CRIMINAL CODE DISORDERLY CONDUCT

1. The purpose of this alternative administrative action is to insure a safe, orderly, and healthy educational environment.
2. The definition for disorderly conduct as found in Criminal Code Title 18, Section 5503, will be used by administrative staff.
3. In order to provide a safe, orderly, and healthy environment the Greater Nanticoke Area School District prohibits disorderly conduct in areas defined in Section 5503 in school buildings, on school grounds, on school buses, and in any classroom, hallway or instructional area. The prior will also apply to students in school buildings when they are in use for public assemblies, parent/teacher conferences, adult education classes, auditorium, gymnasium, or other rooms in use for student presentations, athletics, etc.
4. The administration may file disorderly conduct charges, a summary offense through magisterial court of not more than three hundred dollars (\$300.00). These charges are in addition to other alternative actions as defined in this policy. The school police officer will issue the citation at the time of the offense.
5. Section 5503. Disorderly Conduct (1972, Dec. 6, P.L. 1482, No 334, 1, effective June 6, 1973).
 - a. **Offense Defined.** A person is guilty of disorderly conduct if, with intent to cause public inconvenience, annoyance, or alarm, or recklessly creating a risk therefore, he:
 - (1) engages in fighting or threatening, or in violent or tumultuous behavior;
 - (2) makes unreasonable noise;
 - (3) uses obscene language, or makes an obscene gesture; or
 - (4) creates a hazardous or physically offensive condition by any act which serves no legitimate purpose of the actor.
 - b. **Grading.** An offense under this section is a misdemeanor of the third degree if the intent of the actor is to cause substantial harm or serious inconvenience, or if he persists in disorderly conduct after reasonable warning or request to desist. Otherwise disorderly conduct is a summary offense.
 - c. **Definition.** As used in this section the word "public" means affecting or likely to affect persons in a place to which the public or a substantial group has access; among the places included are highways, transport facilities, schools, prisons, apartment houses, places of business or amusement, any neighborhood, or any premises which are open to the public.
6. Officers of the law may be summoned in order to conduct an investigation of alleged criminal conduct on or near the school premises, during a school sponsored activity, or at other times when necessary to maintain the educational environment. They may be summoned for the purpose of maintaining or restoring order when the presence of such officers is necessary to prevent actual or threatened injury to persons or property. Administrators have the responsibility and the authority to determine when the assistance of law enforcement officers is necessary within their respective jurisdictions.

2023-2024 School Calendar

GREATER NANTICOKE AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT



427 Kosciuszko Street
Nanticoke, Pa 18634
570-735-7781
gnasd.com

Aug 28-29	Teacher In-Service Day
Aug 30	First Day of School for Students
Sept. 4	Labor Day No School
Sept. 22	Teacher In-Service Day
Oct. 9	Columbus Day No School
Oct. 20	1/2 Day Student 1/2 Act 80 Day
Oct. 31	1/2 Day Student 1/2 Act 80 Day
Nov. 3	End of the 1st Semester
Nov 10	Observe Veterans Day No School
Nov 13	Parent /Teacher Conference
Nov 13	No School Students /Teacher In-Service
Nov. 22	1/2 Day Students/Staff
Nov 23-27	Thanksgiving Break
Dec 4-15	Keystone Testing
Dec. 21	1/2 Day Students/Staff
Dec 22-30 Jan 1	Winter Break
Jan 12	1/2 Day Student 1/2 Act 80 Day
Jan 15	Martin Luther King, Jr. Day No School
Jan. 23	End of the 2nd Semester
Feb 16	1/2 Day Student 1/2 Act 80 Day
Feb 19	Presidents' Day
Mar 27	End of the 2nd Semester
Mar 27-29 Apr 1	Spring Break
Apr. 19	1/2 Day Student 1/2 Act 80 Day
Apr. 24-26	PSSA Testing
May 1-10	PSSA Testing
May 3	Prom /Full Act 80 Day
May 13-24	Keystone Testing
May 27	Memorial Day
June 4	Last Day of School /Graduation

Snow Makeup Days
Jan. 15th, Feb. 19th, Mar 28, Apr 1st, June 5, 6, 7 etc.

Category of Events	
	Teachers In Service
	Act 80 day no school Students
	No School Students/Staff
	1/2 Students/Staff
	End of the Semester
	Keystone Testing
	PSSA Testing

July 2023						
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June 2024						
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