



**Mason Senior High School  
&  
Mason Virtual Academy**

**Student Handbook  
2021/2022**

*\*Approved by the Mason Board of Education on August 19, 2021*

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# Mason Consolidated Schools

## Mason Senior High School/MAVA

### Student/Parent Handbook

### 2021-2022 School Year

*Welcome to the Mason Consolidated School system. We are pleased to have you as a student and will do our best to help make your experience as productive and successful as you wish to make it.*

#### **BOARD OF EDUCATION**

Mr. Bruce Stieben – President  
 Dr. Ben Smith – Vice-President  
 Mrs. Chandra Fowler- Treasurer  
 Mrs. Janice Skaggs - Secretary  
 Mrs. Pat Larrow – Trustee  
 Mrs. Jamie Otting– Trustee  
 Mr. Michael Grodi-Trustee

#### **ADMINISTRATION**

Ms. Kelli Tuller, Superintendent of Schools ..... 734-848-9304  
 Mr. Brandon Bates, High School Principal ..... 734-848-9353  
 Mr. Benjamin Russow, Middle School Principal ..... 734-848-9393  
 Mrs. Debra McCain, Central Elementary Principal ..... 734-848-9402

#### NOTICE OF NONDISCRIMINATION

It is the policy of the Mason Consolidated School District that no discriminatory practices based on gender, race, religion, color, age, national origin, disability, height, weight or any other status covered by federal, state or local law be allowed in providing instructional opportunities, programs, services, job placement assistance, employment or in policies governing student conduct and attendance. Any person suspecting a discriminatory practice should contact the Superintendent of Schools at the Mason Consolidated School District, 2400 Mason Eagles Drive, Erie, MI 48133 or call (734) 848-9304.

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AYUDE A ELIMINAR LAS BARRERAS DEL IDIOMA

Estamos tratando de identificar estudiantes que hablan otro idioma en sus hogares además del inglés. Si Ud. es el padre o guardián del niño(a) – si el niño(a) no están inscritos en el programa bilingüe – por favor de enviar el nombre de su niño(a) y el nombre de la escuela que asiste: Superintendent of Schools, Mason Consolidated Schools, 2400 Mason Eagles Drive, Erie.

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## VISION OF MASON CONSOLIDATED SCHOOLS

- **District Vision Statement:** “Soaring for Excellence”
  
- **District’s Mission Statement:** The mission of the Mason Consolidated School District is a high quality educational system that requires:
  - High levels of performance and accountability for all;
  - Management by fact;
  - Learning-Centered education;
  - A systems approach to continuous improvement; and
  - Public responsibility and citizenship
  
- **District’s Value Statement**  
 We believe in:
  - Active staff members;
  - Active parents;
  - Best practices;
  - Basic needs must be met before learning can occur;
  - Nurturing environment
  - Directed Curriculum; and
  - All have worth and dignity regardless of race, gender, or economic status.

## EQUAL EDUCATION OPPORTUNITY

It is the policy of this district to provide an equal education opportunity for all students. Any person who believes that s/he has been discriminated against on the basis of his/her race, color, disability, religion, gender, or national origin, while at school or a school activity should immediately contact the School District's Compliance Officer listed below:

Superintendent’s Office. . (734) 848-9304

Complaints will be investigated in accordance with the procedures as described in Board Policy #5202. Any student making a complaint or participating in a school investigation will be protected from any threat or retaliation. The Compliance Officer can provide additional information concerning equal access to educational opportunity. The Compliance Officer can be contacted via the Superintendent’s Office at (734) 848-9304.

## SECTION I - GENERAL INFORMATION

### ACADEMIC INTERVENTION

High School teachers will notify the parent(s) of any student who is failing their class within one week of realizing any such deficiency: teachers will use phone numbers and e-mail supplied to them by their students or through the office - please ensure your contact information is up to date. Parents/Guardians, students, and involved staff as directed by the building principal may convene a meeting to review and determine appropriate interventions and develop a plan of implementation as may be necessary for your student. It is the joint responsibility of the student, the parents, and staff to monitor the progress of any such plan. If you feel your student needs such a meeting, please contact the high school office and ask for Mrs. Spicer or Mr. Bates or contact them via e-mail at [spicer@eriemason.k12.mi.us](mailto:spicer@eriemason.k12.mi.us) or [bates@eriemason.k12.mi.us](mailto:bates@eriemason.k12.mi.us)

### ADVERTISING OUTSIDE ACTIVITIES

Students, parents, or others may not post announcements or advertisements for outside activities without receiving prior approval from the principal.

### ARMED FORCES RECRUITING

The school must provide at least the same access to the high school campus and to student directory information as is provided to other entities offering educational or employment opportunities to those students. “Armed forces” means the armed forces of the United States and their reserve components and the United States Coast Guard.

If a student or the parent or legal guardian of a student submits a signed, written request to the Board that indicates that the student or the parent or legal guardian does not want the student’s directory information to be accessible to official recruiting representatives, then the school officials of the school shall not allow that access to the student’s directory information.

The Board shall ensure that students, parents, and guardians are notified of the provisions of the opportunity to deny release of directory information. Public notice shall be given regarding right to refuse disclosure to any or all “directory information” including in the armed forces of the United States and the service academies of the armed forces of the United States.

Annually the Board will notify male students age 18 or older that they are required to register for the selective service.

### ATHLETICS

Mason Consolidated Schools provides a variety of athletic activities in which students may participate providing they meet any eligibility requirements that may apply. The following is a list of activities currently being offered.

For further information, contact the High School Athletic Director at (734) 848-9356.

#### **Varsity Sports:**

Baseball	Basketball	Cheerleading	Cross County
Golf	Softball	Swimming	Volleyball
Track	Wrestling	Football	



## COMPUTER TECHNOLOGY AND NETWORKS

Before any student may take advantage of the school's computer network and the Internet, s/he and his/her parents must sign the yearly registration form. Failure to abide by all of the terms of the technology agreement may lead to termination of the student's computer account, possible disciplinary action and/or referral to law enforcement authorities. Students who use the computer to bully other students fall into this category. Cyber-Bullying is a serious violation of the law and students who use the computers to bully other students will be removed from using the computers and the local authorities will be contacted.

Your student will receive an account on the school's computer networks. With this educational opportunity comes responsibility to use these networks in a productive and ethical manner. When your child receives an account number and password, it is extremely important that s/he abide by the enclosed agreement, which is to be signed by both the child (student) and the parent.

Any inappropriate use of the computer networks will result in the loss of the privilege to use this educational tool and possibly to disciplinary action as well. Since you are legally responsible for your son/daughter's actions, you may want to stress the importance of using only his/her own account number and password and the necessity of guarding against their use by others.

Under NO circumstances should anyone else be given the information to access your child's account.

***See Electronic information technologies guidelines in back of handbook***

## CONTROL OF CASUAL-CONTACT OF COMMUNICABLE DISEASES AND PESTS

Because a school has a high concentration of people, it is necessary to take specific measures when the health or safety of the group is at risk. Because of this, we encourage all students to wash their hands frequently while at school and to cover their mouths when coughing. The school's professional staff has the authority to remove or isolate a student who has been ill or has been exposed to a communicable disease or highly transient pest, such as lice. Specific diseases include; COVID-19, diphtheria, scarlet fever, strep infections, whooping cough, mumps, measles, rubella, and other conditions indicated by the local and state Health Departments. Any removal will only be for the contagious period as specified in the school's administrative guidelines.

### **Lice, Nits, and Bed Bugs**

Board Policy 5709

#### **A. Lice and Nits**

A student with nits within ¼ inch of the scalp or live lice may remain at school. The student will be restricted from activities that involve close head-to-head contact or sharing of personal items. The District will notify the student's parent/guardian and provide educational materials on head lice prevention and treatment.

District personnel will not ostracize or embarrass a student with lice or nits and will maintain student confidentiality.

If a student has a persistent infestation after 6 weeks or 3 separate cases within 1 school year, the District will form a team that may include the student's parents/guardians, teacher, social workers, or administrators to determine the best approach to resolve the issue.

## B. Bed Bugs

If a District official suspects that a student's clothing or belongings contain bed bugs, the school nurse or other District official may visually inspect the student's clothing or belongings. Any bugs found should be removed and collected for identification. If a live bed bug is discovered, the District will notify the student's parent/guardian and provide educational materials on bed bug prevention and treatment.

No student will be excluded from school because of bed bugs unless efforts to remedy an infestation have been unsuccessful.

If bed bugs are found in a classroom or elsewhere in the school building, the building principal or designee will notify the parents/guardians of all students in the affected building and will provide information on bed bug prevention and treatment. The school building will not be closed due to bed bug presence. If pest management is necessary, it will be provided to affected areas of the school building consistent with Policy 3406.

## CONTROL OF NONCASUAL-CONTACT COMMUNICABLE DISEASES

In the case of non-casual contact, communicable diseases, the school still has the obligation to protect the safety of the staff and students. In these cases, the person in question will have his/her status reviewed by a panel of resource people, including the County Health Department, to ensure that the rights of the person affected and those in contact with that person are respected. The school will seek to keep students and staff persons in school unless there is definitive evidence to warrant exclusion. Non-casual contact, communicable diseases include sexually transmitted diseases: AIDS (Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome), ARC-AIDS Related Complex (condition), HIV (Human-immunodeficiency), HAV, HBV, HCV (Hepatitis A, B, C); and other diseases that may be specified by the State Board of Health. As required by Federal law, parents may be requested, at parent/guardian expense, to have their child's blood checked for HIV, HBV, and other blood-borne pathogens when the child has bled at school and students or staff members have been exposed to the blood. Any testing is subject to laws protecting confidentiality.

## DUAL ENROLLMENT

Any eligible student in grades 9-12 may enroll in a post-secondary program providing s/he meets the requirements established by law and by the district. Any interested student should contact the counseling department to obtain further necessary information.

### Eligibility Criteria:

1. Admission to any career and technical postsecondary program is based upon high school performance and placement tests or SAT scores.
2. Student must be enrolled in a least one (1) high school class at Mason Senior High School/MAVA or state approved nonpublic school in district, except a foreign exchange student who does not have at least one (1) parent or legal guardian who is a legal resident of Michigan, nor may that student be enrolled for more than four (4) school years including the one in which the student seeks to enroll in an eligible course except for 5<sup>th</sup> year seniors who may enroll in no more than two courses.
3. The dual enrollment class must be part of his/her regular schedule (i.e. 1 dual enrollment class and 6 high school classes—the administration may schedule in travel time to allow for safe transportation as necessary).
4. MSHS will partner with in-state postsecondary institutions and colleges first and foremost who stay in formula for the offering of dual enrollment courses. **Students must understand the total cost of dual enrollment on the District's part may not exceed the prorated foundation dollar amount from the**

**State of Michigan nor may students enroll for courses except as outlined in the Public Acts of Michigan. The student/parent/guardian must pay the difference if the cost is more than the state's prorated foundation allowance for the pupil's attendance at Mason.**

5. Students who attempt "college credit only" will not be required to include the attempted college credit as part of the high school graduation requirement (for the purpose of the 92% of attempted credits under the section entitled "Graduation Requirements" of this handbook).
6. Student and parent/guardian must sign a contract with the guidance office acknowledging rules and regulations pertaining to Dual Enrollment.
7. Dropping a course, withdrawal, or failure to complete a course taken for dual enrollment shall result in applicable repayment to the district.

**Students who wish to be dual enrolled in the first term must have all paperwork completed by the end of May. Those students who dual enroll in the fall are encouraged to also dual enroll in the winter.**

### EAGLE ADVISORY TIME

The Eagle Advisory time is a multifaceted program, the purpose of which is to promote meaningful relationships between staff and students while also providing academic support to students through the MTSS process. Eagle Advisory Time (E.A.T.) will consist of daily meetings, weekly themes, and monthly service projects, through which students will experience a more personalized learning environment with a structure and set of practices for monitoring and encouraging academic progress and career/college readiness. Each student, along with his/her advisor teacher, will develop an Educational Development Plan (E.D.P.) to map out his/her educational and postsecondary career path and well as setting academic and personal goals.

### EARLY DISMISSAL

No student (regardless of age) will be allowed to leave school prior to dismissal time without a written request signed by the parent or a person whose signature is on file in the school office or the parent coming to the school office to request the release.

### EMERGENCY CLOSINGS AND DELAYS

If the school must be closed or the opening delayed because of inclement weather or other conditions, the school will notify students and parents via Instant Alert and Detroit and Toledo TV and radio stations.

Parents and students are responsible for knowing about emergency closings and delays. Please do not call the school. Please check the web site, [www.eriemason.k12.mi.us](http://www.eriemason.k12.mi.us). Announcements on the radio and television will be made between 5:00 and 6:00 a.m., if at all possible. Buses will be delayed up to two (2) or three (3) hours in the mornings if fog or other inclement conditions prevent drivers from making the regular runs in safe conditions.

### EMERGENCY MEDICAL AUTHORIZATION

The Board has established a policy that every student must have an Emergency Medical Authorization Form completed and signed by his/her parent in order to participate in any activity off school grounds. This includes

field trips, spectator trips, athletic and other extra-curricular activities, and co-curricular activities. The Emergency Medical Authorization Form is provided at the time of enrollment and at the beginning of each year. Failure to return the completed form to the school will jeopardize a student's educational program. Parents have the responsibility to keep this information current. This is our primary source for contact information in an emergency.

## ENROLLING IN THE SCHOOL

In general, state law requires students to enroll in the school district in which their parent or legal guardian resides unless enrolling under the Monroe County School of Choice Program. Students under the age of eighteen (18) must be enrolled by their parent or legal guardian. Eligible students must be less than twenty (20) years of age as of September 1 of the school year in which they intend to enroll, or less than twenty-six (26) years of age if enrolling as a special education student. When enrolling, parents must provide copies of the following:

- A. A birth certificate or similar document;
- B. Court papers allocating parental rights and responsibilities, or custody (if appropriate);
- C. Proof of residency
- D. Proof of immunizations.
- E. MHSAA eligibility determination.
- F. Concussion Information Sheet

***New students eighteen (18) years of age or older are not required to be accompanied by a parent when enrolling. When residing with a parent, these students are encouraged to include the parents in the enrollment process. When conducting themselves in school, adult students have the legal responsibilities of both student and parent.***

Under certain circumstances, temporary enrollment may be permitted. In such cases, parents will be notified about documentation required to establish permanent enrollment. Students enrolling from another school must have an official transcript from their previous school in order to have credits transferred. The counseling office will assist in obtaining the transcript, if not presented at the time of enrollment.

Homeless students who meet the Federal definition of homeless may enroll and will be under the direction of the district liaison for Homeless Children with regard to enrollment procedures.

A student who has been suspended or expelled by another public school in Michigan may be temporarily denied admission to the district's schools during the period of suspension or expulsion even if that student would otherwise be entitled to attend school in the district. Likewise, a student who has been expelled or otherwise removed for disciplinary purposes from a public school in another state and the period of expulsion or removal has not expired, may be temporarily denied admission to the district's schools during the period of expulsion or removal or until the expiration of the period of expulsion or removal which the student would have received in the district had the student committed the offense while enrolled in the district.

Prior to denying admission, however, the Superintendent shall offer the student an opportunity for a hearing to review the circumstances of the suspension or expulsion and any other factors the Superintendent determines to be relevant.

## FIELD TRIPS

Field trips are academic activities that are held off school grounds. In addition, other trips are part of the school's co-curricular and extra-curricular program. No student may participate in any school-sponsored trip without parental consent. Permission forms will be sent home with students prior to the trip and parents must sign the permission form and the form must be returned to the designated staff member by the designated date if the student is to participate in the field trip. School rules apply to field trips and all off-campus events. In some cases, all or partial cost of the field trip may have to be covered by the student.

## FIRE, TORNADO, AND LOCKDOWN DRILLS

The school complies with all fire safety laws and will conduct fire drills in accordance with state law. Specific instructions on how to proceed will be provided to students by their teachers who will be responsible for safe, prompt, and orderly evacuation of the building.

Lockdown drills and Tornado drills will be conducted using the procedures provided by the Emergency Management Division of Monroe County. The alarm system for lockdowns and tornadoes is different from the alarm system for fires and consists of an announcement made to all classrooms.

## FOOD SERVICE

The school participates in the National School Lunch Program and makes lunches available to students for a fee. A la carte items are available. Students may also bring their own lunch to school to be eaten in the school's cafeteria. No student shall be allowed to leave school premises during the lunch period without specific written permission granted by the principal. Applications for the school's free- and reduced-priced meal program are available in the principal's office. If a student does not receive one and believes that s/he is eligible, contact the food service provider or principal's office.

## GRADES

Mason Consolidated Schools has a standard grading procedure, as well as additional notations that may indicate work in progress or incomplete work. The purpose of a grade is to indicate the extent to which the student has acquired the necessary learning. In general, students are assigned grades based upon formative assessments like guided practice, homework (independent practice), classroom participation; and, summative assessments like quizzes and tests, projects, and other performance measures. In general, Mason Senior High School/MAVA is an 80/20 school: eighty percent of a student's grade comes from summative assessments; twenty percent from formative. Exceptions to this rule of thumb might be performance-based courses like Band, Choir, or Art.

Each teacher may place a different emphasis on specific areas in determining a grade and will so inform the students at the beginning of the coursework via a principal-approved syllabus which will go home for parental acknowledgement.

Students will receive an "F" for all On-line courses that are not complete by the end of the semester. Once that course is completed, the letter grade earned will replace the "F" on the student's transcript.

If a student is not sure how his/her grade will be determined, s/he should ask the teacher.

**A = Outstanding Achievement.** The pupil has mastered the objectives in the subject area, shows initiative, applies knowledge gained to new situations, and accepts responsibility for learning.

**B = Above Average (High) Achievement.** The pupil has mastered most of the objectives in the subject area, is above average in initiative, application of knowledge, and accepting responsibility for learning.

**C = Satisfactory Achievement.** The pupil has mastered the basic objectives in the subject area and with direction and stimulation by the teacher is progressing in initiative, application of knowledge, and accepting responsibility for learning.

**D = Below Average (Needs Improvement in) Achievement.** The pupil has mastered few of the basic objectives in the subject area.

**F = Unsatisfactory Achievement.** The pupil has not mastered the basic objectives in the subject area and is not ready to move on.

**I = Incomplete.** The student has not demonstrated enough evidence for the instructor to issue a grade other than Incomplete. After marking periods one, two, and three, students with an Incomplete will have 2 weeks to demonstrate sufficient evidence before the teacher enters a permanent grade. Students with an "I" must submit the paperwork through Student Services in order to be issued a new grade as a result of making up work. Marking period four grades will compute based on the work turned in, any change in grade after the end of marking period four is up to the teacher of record.

The school uses the following grading system: Class grades are given the following weight: when figuring out GPA:

A+ = 100

A = 99 – 93

A- = 92 – 90

B+ = 89 – 87

B = 86 – 83

B- = 82 – 80

C+ = 79 – 77

C = 76 – 73

C- = 72 – 70

D+ = 69 – 67

D = 66 – 63

D- = 62 – 60

F = 59 – 50

Grade	Pts.
A+	4.0
A	4.0
A-	3.7
B+	3.3
B	3.0
B-	2.7
C+	2.3
C	2.0
C-	1.7
D+	1.3
D	1.0
D-	0.7
F	0

Zeroes will be recorded only as a last resort and shall reflect a refusal to complete the assigned work, paper, project or test.

### **Grade Point Average**

To calculate a grade point average (G.P.A.), assign a weighted point value to each course grade and divide by the total number of credits. For partial-credit courses use the fractional value of the grade. For example, a half credit course with an earned grade of C would be  $.5 \times 2 = 1$ . Then add this to the other grades earned for total points

earned. This total is then divided by the total credits earned for the G.P.A. This can be done by grading period, semester, year, or for a series of school years.

### **Grading Periods**

Student's report cards will be posted on Home Access Center (HAC) at the end of each quarter and first semester indicating their grades for each course of study for that portion of the academic term. Semester two report cards will be posted on HAC approximately two weeks after the school year has ended. The student and or guardian can view report card grades through Home Access Center (HAC).

If a student is unable to be in attendance during the examination period, the teacher will assign an "F" for the exam until the student makes up their exam. Once the exam has been made up the grade will be recalculated into the student's GPA.

On-line course grades are not entered into Home Access Center (HAC). Parents can view current grades through the online academic platform.

### **Marking Period Grades and Marking Period Exams**

Marking period grades and marking period exam grades will be issued as a letter grade, not a percentage.

### **Semester Grades**

Semester grades will be calculated, based on the following weights: Quarter #1, 40% (marking period g.p.a. equivalency x 4) + Quarter #2, 40% (marking period g.p.a. equivalency x 4) + Semester #1 Exam, 20% (g.p.a. equivalency) divided by 10 = g.p.a. equivalency converted back to a letter grade. Semester courses are worth ½ credit.

When on-line courses are completed final scores will be submitted for the transcripts.

## **HOMEcoming COURT, WINTERFEST AND PROM KING & QUEEN SELECTION**

**The purpose of the Homecoming Queen, Winterfest King, and Prom King and Queen is to represent the student body of Erie Mason High School by exemplifying the spirit and highest standards of the school.**

### **Selection Process**

The Court shall be chosen from the senior class by the senior class. Seniors will be given a list of all senior girls (or boys for Winterfest) from which to nominate. The five girls (boys for Winterfest) who have the most nomination votes and who meet the guidelines listed below will comprise the Court.

The Homecoming Queen shall be chosen from the five nominees by a school-wide election. She will be crowned during the half-time ceremony at the homecoming football game.

The Winterfest King shall be chosen from the five nominees by a school-wide election. He will be crowned during the half-time ceremony at the designated "Winterfest game".

### **Eligibility Requirements**

- Nominees must have passed at least enough credit hours to obtain senior class status.



- Nominees must have been in residency at Erie Mason High School the previous four (4) semesters.

### **Academic Requirements**

- Nominees must have a minimum 2.0 GPA
- Nominees can have no course failures or credit losses due to the attendance policy.

### **Conduct Requirements**

- Nominees must have no out-of-school suspension (OSS) violations during the previous (4) semesters at Erie Mason High School.
- Nominees must have had no more than two (2) office referrals resulting in Saturday detentions during the previous (4) semesters at Erie Mason High School (This includes referrals for tardiness).
- Nominees must have no felony or misdemeanor criminal convictions.

### **Responsibilities**

The Homecoming Queen, Winterfest King, and Prom King and Queen will be expected to represent Erie Mason High School in various school and community functions such as the parade, school pageant events and other functions as assigned by the-advisors.

**\*\*\*The School Administration shall have final approval of the Homecoming, Winterfest, and Prom Court and have the right to remove any candidate which would not exemplify the highest standards of the school.\*\*\***

## INJURY AND ILLNESS

All injuries must be reported to a teacher or the office. If minor, the student will be treated and may return to class. If medical attention is required, the office will follow the school's emergency procedures.

A student who becomes ill during the school day should request permission to go to the office. An appropriate adult in the office will determine whether or not to initiate the phone call home. No student will be released from school without proper parental/guardian permission.

## GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS MASON SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL/MAVA CREDIT DEFICIENCY, EARLY GRADUATION/EARLY RELEASE, PROMOTION, RETENTION SUMMER SEMESTER

A student's progress toward graduation and receiving a diploma is determined by completing required coursework, earning the necessary credits, maintaining a full, year-round academic schedule (attendance issues relating to truancy may result in the loss of participation privileges at the graduation ceremony), actively participating in and putting forth individual best effort in the PSAT 9, PSAT 10, SAT and M-STEP examinations.



A student is only promoted when the necessary requirements are met or the student has completed the goals and objectives of an Individualized Education Plan (I.E.P.).

***It is the parent /guardian and student's responsibility to keep in contact with his/her counselor and teachers to ensure that all credit, course, and graduation requirements are being met.*** Information about credit and course requirements is available in the guidance office and a counselor will be pleased to answer any questions.

### **Credit Deficiency**

Students will continue to be promoted with their class until their senior year where they will be retained until all graduation requirements are met. Students who are not on track to graduate and need recovery credit(s) may take a course for credit through a variety of methods per principal's approval. Other means by which to recover credits include retaking the course with a certified instructor or through Mason Virtual Academy. See the counseling department or Mr. Bates if you have questions.

Students not on track to graduate as a result of credit deficiency may be placed on an "academic graduation plan" once the following criteria have been met: Freshman—2.0 credits or more behind pace to graduate, sophomores—1.5 or more credits behind pace to graduate, juniors—1.0 or more credits behind pace to graduate, seniors—.5 or more credits behind pace to graduate.

### **Early Release/Early Graduation**

Students who are on pace for early release and who have achieved the credits and graduation requirements to do so, may, with Board approval, graduate early provided there is evidence to support that the student needs to graduate early in order to attend a post-secondary institution, serve in the Armed Forces, or has a life situation that merits early release from Mason Consolidated Area Schools. The student must state the reason for requesting such an early release and apply for Early Release/Early Graduation at least one full semester in advance and forward the request through the building principal. Students who are granted early release and meet all the qualifications for early graduation will receive a high school diploma—provided all requirements for graduation are met on the applied-for date—but do not necessarily participate in a graduation ceremony or other "senior" events.

### **Graduation Requirements—Mason Senior High School/MAVA**

A student will normally complete graduation requirements in four years. However, some students do not finish in four years and may need additional time or alternative placement, or both, to finish all requirements. In order to receive a diploma and graduate, a student will need to meet the school requirements for basic coursework, and earn the total number of minimum credits. Mason Senior High School/MAVA has adopted the "Michigan Merit Curriculum (MMC)." Students not on track to graduate in the expected timeframe will continue to follow the graduation requirements designated to them as a first time ninth-grader.

In order to graduate and fully participate in the graduation ceremony, students will pass 92% of all attempted credits and meet the following graduation requirements:

- 4 credits of English (English 9, English 10, English 11, and \*English 12)
- 4 credits of Mathematics (Algebra I, Algebra II, Geometry, and 1 math or math-related course to be completed in senior year)
- Three credits of Science (Pre-Chemistry/Pre-Physics, Biology I, and 1 other additional Science elective.

- Beginning with the Class of 2025 – Biology I, Chemistry, Physics
- 3 credits of Social Studies (.5 Civics, .5 Economics, US History and Geography, World History and Geography)
- 1 credit of Visual Performing and Applied Arts
- 2 credits of World Language
  - A student may fulfill one credit of a world language by completing a department approved formal career and technical education program or by completing a visual or performing arts credit in addition to the VPA requirements.
- .5 credit of Physical Education
- .5 credit of Health Education
- All high school students must also participate in an online course or learning experience (can be one of the above-listed, required credits; earned in grades 9-12 or through an equivalent learning experience K-12).
- Take the Michigan Merit Examinations (MME) as established by the MDE and/or state law.

Note 1: Full Academic Schedule; In order to participate in the graduation ceremony, students must maintain a full academic schedule throughout their high school career.

Note 2: Possession of graduation requirements: Students who cannot demonstrate possession of the graduation requirements (at the end of final exams for seniors) three full calendar days prior to the graduation ceremony may be excluded from the graduation ceremony by the high school principal. Students who fulfill the requirements for graduation after this cutoff date but prior to the beginning of the next academic year will receive their diploma in the high school office without a ceremony.

Note 3: This is the traditional course sequence suggested by the individual departments. In some instances, with administrator approval, students may choose an alternative sequence of courses to satisfy graduation requirements

Note 4: Unpaid bills, missing equipment or lost uniforms. Students who owe the school money for unpaid bills or lost uniforms/equipment, fines or fees may be excluded from the graduation ceremony by the high school principal.

Note 5: Caps and gowns must be worn in order to walk at the graduation ceremony. Caps and gowns are to be purchased by the student/student's parents or guardians from the company identified by the school for the purpose of uniformity and decorum. Caps and gowns will not be issued to the student until the senior check out is complete. For those students who are not walking at the graduation ceremony, either the student will be issued the cap or gown within the next five business days following the ceremony or a refund will be issued by the company from whom the cap and gown were purchased.

Note 6: Students choosing not to participate in the graduation ceremony or who otherwise are not permitted to walk at graduation, will be issued their diploma—when all requirements have been demonstrated—no sooner than the first business day following the ceremony for the graduating class.

### **Testing Out of Courses**

Not enrolled in the course: In order to take more advanced classes, dual enroll in college coursework, or clear room on a student schedule for other courses, a student or parent/guardian may wish for the opportunity to “test out” of a core content class (English, Math, Social Studies, or Science). Board policy, in compliance with State law allows students to test out of a course with a passing score of a 78% or better on an end of course exam (semester exam) or approved equivalency (such as a portfolio or presentation).

Any high school student who wishes to test-out of a course in which s/he is not enrolled may do so by taking the final examination for the course and receiving a grade of at least C+ or by demonstrating mastery of the subject matter as determined by the course instructor’s alternative assessment used in lieu of a final examination. Students currently enrolled in a course must have permission of the principal. However, the student must take, and can only take, the “Testing Out” Exam during dates and times set by our high school. It is not testing out on demand. Credit for a course earned by a student through this process may be used to fulfill a course or course-sequence requirement and be counted toward the required number of credits needed for graduation, but may not be used to determine the student’s G.P.A. Students requesting to attempt high school credit will be given the opportunity to test out.

### **Online/Blended Learning Program (MAVA)**

The Board of Education recognizes the need to provide alternative means, such as online learning, by which students achieve the goals of the District.

Mason Virtual Students (MAVA) will be expected to follow and abide by the student guidelines and the code of conduct outlined in this handbook. For more information on MAVA class offerings, program expectations, and online learning experience please contact our MAVA coordinator Stacy Morrow @ [morrow@eriemason.k12.mi.us](mailto:morrow@eriemason.k12.mi.us) or Student Services Coordinator, Jo Ann Spicer @ [spicer@eriemason.k12.mi.us](mailto:spicer@eriemason.k12.mi.us).

The Superintendent shall establish administrative guidelines whereby each educational option is properly analyzed, planned, and implemented and complies with all applicable requirements of the State.

### **Transfer Credit Formula:**

Mason students are required to earn 92% of the credits attainable for graduation. This requirement is the same for transfer students. This does not exempt students from completing the number of core credits for graduation. Students who transfer prior to the completion of a term, semester or trimester may be awarded partial credit based on grades at time of transfer and other variables. Counselors will also consider the academic strengths of the student, the timing of the transfer, and other special circumstances in determining whether the partial credit courses will fulfill Mason graduation requirements.

On a case-by-case basis, as may be needed, the building principal will decide on the acceptance and transferability of coursework from other high schools. Coursework with ambiguous course descriptions or from non-accredited public, foreign nation, home or private high schools may be denied due to lack of rigor or relevance.

## HIGH SCHOOL COURSE OFFERINGS

Each year, Mason High School prepares a Curriculum Guide that lists all courses and includes a description of each course. If you would like a Curriculum Guide, please contact the counselor at (734)-848-9351 or check online at the Mason Consolidated Schools homepage.

## HOMEWORK

The assignment of homework can be expected. Student grades will reflect the completion of all work, including outside assignments. Homework is also part of the student's preparation for the M-STEP and SAT test, the workplace and graduation.

Homework provides students with the opportunity to extend their learning outside the classroom. However, research shows that the amount of homework assigned should vary by grade level and that parent involvement should be minimal. Teachers should explain the purpose of homework to both the student and the parent or guardian, and teachers should give specific feedback on all homework assigned.

## IMMUNIZATIONS

Students must be current with all immunizations required by law or have an authorized waiver from state immunization requirements. If a student does not have the necessary shots or waivers, the principal may remove the student or require compliance with a set deadline. This is for the safety of all students and in accordance with state law. Any questions about immunizations or waivers should be directed to the principal's office.

## INDIVIDUALS WITH DISABILITIES/SECTION 504

The American's with Disabilities Act (A.D.A.) and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act provide that no individual will be discriminated against on the basis of a disability. This protection applies not just to the student, but also to all individuals who have access to the district's programs and facilities. If anyone attending an event at Mason Schools needs help with parking, please contact the in advance for help. A student can access special education services through the proper evaluation procedures. Parent involvement in this procedure is important and required by federal (IDEA) and state law. Parents who believe their child may have a disability that substantially limits the child's ability to function properly in school should contact the counseling department at (734) 848-9351 to inquire about evaluation procedures and programs.

## LIMITED ENGLISH PROFICIENCY

Limited proficiency in the English language should not be a barrier to equal participation in the instructional or extra-curricular programs of the district. It is, therefore, the policy of this district that those students identified as having limited English proficiency will be provided additional support and instruction to assist them in gaining English proficiency and in accessing the educational and extra-curricular program offered by the district.

Parents should contact the Superintendent's Office (734) 848-9304 to inquire about evaluation procedures and programs offered by the district.

## LOST AND FOUND

The lost and found area is located outside the main doors to the library. Students who have lost items should check there and may retrieve their items if they give a proper description. Unclaimed items will be given to charity.

## NATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY ERIE MASON CHAPTER

The purpose of the society is to honor students for outstanding performance in the areas of scholarship, character, leadership and service, and to allow them to work to foster these ideals in their fellow students by example and direct involvement.

### **Selection for Membership**

Membership in the society is an honor granted by the faculty council, not a right. Students MAY NOT APPLY for membership. The following procedure is used during the summer of each year to determine those to be honored by selection:

- A. School records are reviewed to determine possible candidates with regard to grade level, cumulative grade point (3.2 or better) and school discipline.
- B. Potential candidates are notified by letter and provided with an information materials packet to be completed by the candidate.
- C. Materials returned by the posted date and time are reviewed for evidence of outstanding character, scholarship, leadership and service to the community.
- D. Candidates are notified as to selection (those meeting ALL requirements) or non- selection.
- E. Inductee candidates become active members at the annual formal induction.
- F. Candidates not selected may request a hearing.

### **Membership**

National Honor Society Member is a participatory organization, not an honorary one. Membership is therefore a responsibility as well as an honor. Members are required to meet each of the following standards during each semester to retain membership:

- A. Cumulative G.P.A. 3.2 or higher.
- A. Five (5) hours of personal community service.
- B. Attendance at all formal business meetings (at least once each month) and the formal induction ceremony (annual).
- C. Participation in regular committee work.
- D. Participation in chapter-wide service project.
- E. Payment of \$10.00 membership dues (annual).
- F. Compliance with school rules and civil laws.
- G. Compliance with all due dates and obligations.

All members will be under review at the conclusion of each semester. Those not meeting the requirements will be subject to the society's disciplinary code. The results of which could be a warning, probation, or even removal.

**Copies of the complete by-laws and appeals process are available upon request.**

## NON-SCHOOL SPONSORED CLUBS AND ACTIVITIES

Non-school sponsored student groups organized for religious, political, or philosophical reasons may meet during non-instructional hours. The application for permission can be obtained from the principal.

Membership in any fraternity, sorority, or any secret society as proscribed by law is not permitted. All groups must comply with school rules and must provide equal opportunity to participate.

No non-district sponsored organization may use the name of the school or school mascot.

## PARENT INVOLVEMENT

Parents are encouraged to participate in the education of their children. We invite you into our classrooms, to participate on our field trips, and other school activities. A *Volunteer Release Form* **must** be filled out prior to volunteering. This form can be found in the principal's office and on the website. Please return the completed form to the office.

We are absolutely committed to keeping our parents involved and informed of the happenings at school. We believe that your student's success at our school is directly related to our ability to communicate with you and keep you involved in a positive manner.

Parents have the right to know how their child is progressing in school and will be provided information on a regular basis and, as needed, when concerns arise. Many times it will be the student's responsibility to deliver that information. If necessary, Email, U.S. mail or hand delivery may be used to ensure contact. Parents are encouraged to build a two-way link with their child's teachers and support staff by informing the staff of suggestions or concerns that may help their child better accomplish his/her educational goals. Additional information will be discussed at our annual Open House, in course syllabi, in person, or via the district website at: [www.eriamason.k12.mi.us](http://www.eriamason.k12.mi.us).

### Parent Portal

Parent Portal will allow contacts who are designated as student guardians, as well as students themselves, to view pupil progress and selected tracking data such as demographics and test scores. This data is in "view only" mode. Each student and guardian will receive an account to access Parent Portal

## PARENTS AND STUDENT RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES

The rules and procedures of the school are designed to allow each student to obtain a safe, orderly, and appropriate education. Students can expect their rights to freedom of expression and association and to fair treatment as long as they respect those rights for their fellow students and the staff. Students will be expected to follow teachers' directions and to obey all school rules. Disciplinary procedures are designed to ensure a safe, educationally conducive environment for **all** students. All discipline will be administered in accordance with due process (a fair hearing) and with the ultimate goal of establishing a structured, learner-centered high school reflective of the workplace and the real world.

Students must arrive at school on time, prepared to learn and participate in the educational program. If, for some reason, this is not possible, the student should seek help from any staff member at the school.

Adult students (age eighteen (18) or older) must follow all school rules.

## PERSONAL CURRICULUM

The Personal Curriculum option is a process used to modify specific credit requirements and/or content expectations for high school students. These modifications are based on the individual learning needs of the student. It is designed mainly for two groups of students:

- (1) Students who want to accelerate their learning or go beyond the Michigan Merit Curriculum (MMC) requirements
- (2) Students who need to individualize their learning requirements in order to meet the MMC requirements for graduation.

All students are entitled to apply for a Personal Curriculum and should contact the high school counseling office for more information.

## PERSONAL ITEMS

Students are encouraged not to bring items of value to school. Items such as jewelry, expensive clothing, electronic equipment, and the like are tempting targets for theft and extortion. The school cannot be responsible for their safekeeping and will not be liable for loss or damage to personal valuables. Students and families may choose to contact the school liaison or local authorities to report and/or investigate claims of theft. Items with no educational value like two-way radios, playing cards, dice, hand-held video games, and items considered toys for leisure or sport are not to be used during the instructional periods of the school day. These items are not permitted in the classroom. They must be kept in the student's locker until the end of the school day. These items are subject to confiscation by school officials. The school may confiscate and deem it necessary to return such items to the student's parents only. The school administration reserves the right to add to the list of inappropriate personal items.

## PLAGIARISM/ACADEMIC DISHONESTY/CHEATING

Students are expected to complete and submit their own work. Assisting another to, or submitting any work or falsely representing someone else's intellectual property as one's own is academic dishonesty. The use of purchased work, or submitting the work of another, including authored language from the Internet, is also strictly prohibited. Students who provide unauthorized assistance; i.e. papers to be copied, answers to tests, and/or copies of tests or test questions also violate this policy. Furthermore, the use of on-line translators is strictly prohibited unless special accommodations have been approved. In this fashion, cheating is herein defined as "to deceive by trickery or to act dishonestly" and is also strictly prohibited. If a student is caught plagiarizing, being academically dishonest or in any way, he/she will receive a zero for the assignment in question and/or possibly suffer loss of credit for the class. An opportunity to re-do the assignment may be given. Second or subsequent violations of this policy in any class may result in automatic loss of credit and removal from course.

## PREPAREDNESS FOR TOXIC AND ASBESTOS HAZARDS

The school is concerned for the safety of students and attempts to comply with all federal and state laws and regulations to protect students from hazards that may result from industrial accidents beyond the control of school officials or from the presence of asbestos materials used in previous construction. A copy of the school's district ***Preparedness for Toxic Hazard and Asbestos Hazard Policy and Asbestos Management Plan*** will be made available for inspection at the Board offices upon request.



## RECOGNITION OF STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT

Students who have displayed significant achievements during the course of the year will be recognized for their accomplishments. Areas that may merit recognition include but are not limited to academics, athletics, performing arts, citizenship, and volunteerism.

Recognition for such activities is initiated by the staff and coordinated by the office. Honor rolls are determined at the end of each semester.

The athletic department with the approval of the athletic director develops requirements for athletic awards. These requirements will be reviewed with interested students by the appropriate coach.

## REVIEW OF INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS AND ACTIVITIES

Parents have the right to review any instructional materials being used in the school. They also may observe instruction in any class, particularly those dealing with instruction in health and sex education, provided the educational environment is not impugned. Any parent who wishes to review materials or observe instruction must contact the principal prior to coming to the school. Parents' rights to review teaching materials and instructional activities are subject to reasonable restrictions and limits.

We believe that parent involvement is the key to our success with students and we are committed to keeping parents aware of what is happening in our classrooms where applicable. Our teachers will provide each of their students with a class syllabus that will outline the content of the class, expectations in the class, grading procedures, testing procedures, and behavior expectations. Parents are encouraged to call the teacher when they have a concern or need help.

## SCHEDULING

All students must attend eight (8) semesters of high school on a full schedule unless recommendations are made by the principal and approved by the Mason Board of Education for an early release/early graduation upon completion of graduation requirements where no ceremony is conducted. Schedules are provided to each student at the beginning of the school year or upon enrollment. Schedules are based on the student's needs and available class space. Every effort will be made to place students in courses that are appropriate for their abilities and future educational or career interests. Student and parent input will be encouraged during the time of course selection. Once those selections are made, we will honor them to the extent possible. The time frame for the schedule adjustments is announced summer days and three days at the beginning of each semester.

Any changes in a student's schedule should be handled through the counseling office. Counselors, teachers, administrators, and parents make course changes, working together as much as possible. Students may be denied course enrollment due to a lack of available space or the need to pass prerequisites. Students are expected to follow their schedules. Exceptions are rare and limited to extenuating circumstances.

## SCHOOL PROPERTY

Damage to or loss of school equipment and facilities wastes taxpayers' money and undermines the school program. Therefore, if a student does damage to or loses school property, the student or his/her parents will be required to pay for the replacement or damage. If the damage or loss was intentional, the student will also be subject to discipline according to the Student Discipline Code, including possible contact of law enforcement.



## SCHOOL-SPONSORED CLUBS AND ACTIVITIES

Mason Consolidated Schools provides students the opportunity to broaden their learning through curricular-related activities. A curricular-related activity may be for credit, required for a particular course, and/or contain school subject matter. Extra-curricular activities do not reflect the school curriculum, but are made available to students to allow them to pursue additional worthwhile activities such as recreational sports, drama, and the like. All students are permitted to participate in the activities of their choosing, as long as they meet the eligibility requirements.

## STUDENT ASSESSMENT

To measure student progress, students will be tested in accordance with state standards and district policy.

Unless properly exempted (e.g., as necessary to accommodate a student's disability), each student will be expected to pass the appropriate PSAT/SAT/M-STEP test. Each test will be administered once each year. Make-up dates are scheduled, but unnecessary absences should be avoided. Taking these state tests is part of the requirements for graduation. The fundamental right of a parent/legal guardian to determine and direct the care, teaching, and education of his/her child(ren) does not confer upon a parent/legal guardian the right to demand that a student be excused without penalty from assessments administered by the District, nor does it confer upon a student the right to refuse without penalty to participate in such an assessment.

- Mason High School students will take the M-STEP and the PSAT/SAT

## STUDENT EMPLOYMENT

### **BOARD POLICY 5804 WORK PERMITS**

The building principal or designee will issue student work permits in accordance with state law.

## STUDENT FEES, FINES, AND SUPPLIES

Mason Consolidated Schools charges specific fees for certain activities and programs. Such fees or charges are determined by the cost of materials, freight/handling fees, and add-on fees for loss or damage to school property. The school and staff do not make a profit. The district will provide all basic supplies for classes attempted for credit. The student and/or his/her family may choose to purchase their own supplies if they desire to have a greater quantity or quality of supplies, or desire to help conserve the limited resources for use by others. The teacher or appropriate administrator may recommend useful supplies for these purposes. ***Transportation to some athletic events, weekend athletic transportation, and incentive field trips, are examples of areas of where a fee may be charged (see Policy #6152). Students who want to participate in commencement must provide their own cap and gown in accordance with the graduating class of the school.*** Fees may be waived in situations where there is financial hardship. Students using school property and equipment can be charged for excessive wear and abuse of the property and equipment. The charges will be used to pay for the damage, not to make a profit. Late fines can be avoided when students return borrowed materials promptly. Their use may be needed by others. Failure to pay fines, fees, or charges may result in the withholding of report cards, parking lot privileges, loss of specific class privileges and participation in extra-curricular activities up to and including loss of participation in and/or ability to attend the graduation ceremony.

## STUDENT FUND-RAISING

Students participating in school-sponsored groups and activities will be allowed to solicit funds from other students, staff members, and members of the community in accordance with school guidelines. The following general rules will apply to all fund-raisers.

- Students involved in the fund-raiser must not interfere with students participating in other activities when soliciting funds.
- Students must not participate in a fund-raising activity for a group in which they are not members without the approval of the student's counselor and/or advisor.
- Students may not participate in a fund-raising activity conducted by a parent group, booster club, or community organization on school property without the approval of the principal.

## STUDENT RECORDS

The school district maintains many student records including both directory information and confidential information. Directory information includes:

*(See District Policy #8330)*

Each year the Superintendent shall provide public notice to students and their parents of its intent to make available, upon request, certain information known as "directory information." The Board designates as student "directory information":

- A student's name.
- Major field of study.
- Participation in officially recognized activities and sports; height and weight, if a member of an athletic team.
- Date of graduation.
- Awards received.

Parents and eligible students may refuse to allow the district to disclose any or all of such "directory information" upon written notification to the district within thirty (30) days after receipt of the district's public notice. Directory information can be provided upon request to any individual, other than a for-profit organization, even without the written consent of a parent. Parents may refuse to allow the Board to disclose any or all of such "directory information" upon written notification to the Board. For further information about the items included within the category of directory information and instructions on how to prohibit its release you may wish to consult the Board's annual *Family Education Rights and Privacy Act* (FERPA) notice which can be found in the appendix of this book.

Other than directory information, access to all other student records is protected by (FERPA) and Michigan law. Except in limited circumstances as specifically defined in state and federal law, the school district is prohibited from releasing confidential education records to any outside individual or organization without the prior written consent of the parents, or the adult student, as well as those individuals who have matriculated and entered a postsecondary educational institution at any age. Confidential records include test scores, psychological reports, behavioral data, disciplinary records, and communications with family and outside service providers. Students and parents have the right to review and receive copies of all educational records. Costs for copies of records may be charged to the parent. To review student records please provide a written notice identifying requested student records to the counseling department and an appointment with the appropriate person to answer any questions and to review the requested student records will then be set.

Parents and adult students have the right to amend a student record when they believe that any of the information contained in the record is inaccurate, misleading or violates the student's privacy. A parent or adult student must request the amendment of a student record in writing and, if the request is denied, the parent or adult student will

be informed of their right to a hearing on the matter. Individuals have a right to file a complaint with the United States Department of Education if they believe that the district has violated FERPA.

Consistent with the *Protection of Pupil Rights Amendment (PPRA)*, no student shall be required, as a part of the school program or the district's curriculum, without prior written consent of the student (if an adult, or an emancipated minor) or,

if an un-emancipated minor, his/her parents, to submit to or participate in any survey, analysis, or evaluation that reveals information concerning:

- A. Political affiliations or beliefs of the student or his/her parents.
- B. Mental or psychological problems of the student or his/her family.
- C. Sex behavior or attitudes.
- D. Illegal, anti-social, self-incriminating or demeaning behavior.
- E. Critical appraisals of other individuals with whom respondents have close family relationships.
- F. Legally recognized privileged and analogous relationships, such as those of lawyers, physicians, and ministers;
- G. Religious practices, affiliations, or beliefs of the student or his/her parents; or
- H. Income (other than that required by law to determine eligibility for participation in a program or for receiving financial assistance under such a program).

Consistent with the PPRA and Board policy, the Superintendent shall ensure that procedures are established whereby parents may inspect any materials used in conjunction with any such survey, analysis, or evaluation. Further, parents have the right to inspect, upon request, a survey or evaluation created by a third party before the survey/evaluation is administered or distributed by the school to the student. The parent will have access to the survey/evaluation within a reasonable period of time after the request is received by the building principal.

The Superintendent will provide notice directly to parents of students enrolled in the district of the substantive content of this policy at least annually at the beginning of the school year, and within a reasonable period of time after any substantive change in this policy.

In addition, the Superintendent is directed to notify parents of students in the district, at least annually at the beginning of the school year, of the specific or approximate dates during the school year when the following activities are scheduled or expected to be scheduled:

- A. Activities involving the collection, disclosure, or use of personal information collected from students for the purpose of marketing or for selling that information for otherwise providing that information to others for that purpose; and
- B. The administration of any survey by a third party that contains one or more of the items described in A through H above.

The Family Policy Compliance Office in the U.S. Department of Education administers both FERPA and PPRA. Parents and/or eligible students who believe their rights have been violated may file a complaint with:

Family Policy Compliance Office  
U.S. Department of Education  
400 Maryland Avenue, SW 20202-4605  
Washington, D.C.  
[www.ed.gov/offices/OM/fpc](http://www.ed.gov/offices/OM/fpc)

Informal inquiries may be sent to the Family Policy Compliance Office via the following email addresses:

[FERPA@ED.Gov](mailto:FERPA@ED.Gov); and [PPRA@ED.Gov](mailto:PPRA@ED.Gov).

## STUDENT SALES

No student is permitted to sell any item or service in school without the approval of the principal. Violation of this may lead to disciplinary action.

## STUDENT WELL-BEING

Student safety is a responsibility of the staff. All staff members are familiar with emergency procedures such as fire and tornado drills and accident reporting procedures. Should a student be aware of any dangerous situation or accident, s/he must notify any staff person immediately.

State law requires that all students must have an emergency medical card completed, signed by a parent or guardian, and filed in the school office. Parents must keep the information on the card current. It is our primary source of information in an emergency. A student may be excluded from school until this requirement has been fulfilled.

Students with specific health care needs should deliver written notice about such needs along with proper documentation by a physician, to the school office.

## SURVEYS

Vocational and interest surveys may be given by the guidance office to identify particular areas of student interest or talent. If necessary, intelligence tests, speech and language evaluations, individually administered achievement tests, and other special testing services are available to students needing these services. Students will not be required, as part of the school program or district curriculum, to submit to or participate in any survey, analysis, or evaluation that reveals information of a personal nature in accordance with Board policy and federal guideline.

## SUMMER SCHOOL SEMESTER

When run, summer school semesters are for the attempt first, to recover credits not earned in the regular classroom. Summer school semesters will be run whenever feasible and will be run for the benefit of Mason Senior High School/MAVA students. The primary means of summer school instructional delivery is ~~Plate~~ Edgenuity, a technology-based curriculum.

## TELEPHONES; OFFICE

In the high school, we do not have telephones readily available in the high school office. However, the building secretary is prepared to help students in the event that a phone call must be made. In addition, any student who needs an operator-assisted communication (relay) system due to hearing difficulties should talk to the building secretary. The building secretaries will be happy to work with you and provide the help in this area. Except in an emergency, students will not be called to the office to receive a telephone call. **Personal calls cannot be made or accepted in the office.** Students may use the office telephone for approved purposes between classes, during lunch or after school. **The office telephone cannot be used during instructional time.** The use of the office telephone is a privilege and not a right. Conversations are limited to two minutes and must be related to a school issue.

## TEXTBOOKS

Students are responsible to take care of their textbooks and other materials provided by the school. If books or materials are not returned or fines paid for lost items, students may not be issued additional textbooks or allowed to participate in extra-curricular activities, drive to school, or participate in other school-related events, including graduation until compensation is made to the school district.

## TRANSFER OUT OF THE DISTRICT

Transfer will be authorized only after the student has completed the arrangements, returned all school materials, and paid any fees or fines that are due. School records, may not be released if the transfer is not properly completed. Parents are encouraged to contact the principal's office for specific details. School officials, when transferring student records, are required to transmit disciplinary records including suspension and expulsion actions against the student.

## USE OF SCHOOL EQUIPMENT AND FACILITIES

Students must receive the permission of the teacher before using any equipment or materials in the classroom and the permission of the principal to use any other school equipment or facility. Students will be held responsible for the proper use and protection of any equipment or facility they are permitted to use.

## USE OF THE LIBRARY/MEDIA CENTER

The library/media center is available to students throughout the school day. Passes may be obtained from a student's teacher or from the library attendant. Books on the shelves may be checked out for a period of two (2) weeks. To check out any other materials, contact the library attendant. In order to avoid late fees, all materials checked out of the library must be returned to the library/media center within two (2) weeks.

We have penalties in place to help us maintain the quality of our library. When a student returns a book to the library after the due date a late fee will be assessed. The student will be given one week to pay the fee. Failure to pay the late fee by the due date may result in loss of privileges, detentions, etc. Parents will be informed if their son/daughter has a late fee or a lost book fee.

## VIDEO SURVEILLANCE USAGE NOTICE

The Board of Education recognizes the school district's continuing responsibility to ensure the safety of staff and students and to maintain order in and around school. In an effort to maintain the safety and security of Mason Senior High School/MAVA, security cameras are in use. Security camera usage is prohibited in any space where there is a reasonable expectation for privacy. Specifically, all restrooms and locker rooms are excluded from camera usage. Please be on notice that all activities may be monitored by video security cameras in those areas of the building that are monitored. This includes building entrances, hallways, gymnasiums, parking lots and common areas of Mason Senior High School/MAVA.

## VISITORS

Parent visitors are always welcome at school. Other visitors are welcome at the school for school-related issues that enhance or add to our curriculum. In order to properly monitor the safety of students and staff, each visitor must report to the office upon entering the school to obtain a pass. Any visitor found in the building without a pass shall be reported to the principal. If a person wishes to confer with a member of the staff, s/he should call for an appointment prior to coming to the school in order to schedule a mutually convenient time at least 24 hours in advance. All visitors must have photo identification. **Students shall not bring visitors or “guests” to school.**

## WITHDRAWAL FROM SCHOOL

For the class of 2016 and beyond, no student under the age of eighteen (18) will be allowed to withdraw from school without the written consent of his/her parents or guardians

# SECTION II - STUDENT CONDUCT

## ATTENDANCE

### **School Attendance Policy**

It is imperative that students be in attendance each school day in order not to miss a significant portion of their education. Many important lessons result from active participation in classroom and other school activities, which cannot be replaced by individual study.

Attendance is important in the development of a high quality work ethic, which will be a significant factor in a student's success with future employers. One of the most important work habits that employers look for in hiring and promoting a worker is his/her dependability in coming to work every day and on time. This is a habit the school wants to help students develop as early as possible in their school careers. Our attendance policy is geared to maintain high academic standards for earning grades and credit. Regular and punctual attendance is a critical factor in school success. Attendance and participation are absolutely essential to learning. Students are required to complete all work assigned promptly, regardless of the reason for the absence. Because attendance is important to a student's success, failure to make up missing work right away is unacceptable and may negatively impact a student's success.

Students with health conditions that cause repeated absences are to provide the school office with an explanation of the condition from a registered physician. Parents/Guardians of students with this type of health condition should notify the administration or guidance office as soon as possible and will be required to complete a form provided by the school documenting that you have met with your child's health care provider for assistance.

Absence from school due to suspension shall be considered an authorized absence, neither excused nor unexcused. A suspended student will be responsible for making up schoolwork lost due to suspension. It is recommended that a student complete missed assignments during the suspension and turn them in to the teacher upon his/her return from school. Assignments may be obtained from the school office beginning with the second day of a suspension. Make up of missed tests may be scheduled when the student returns to school. The student will be given credit for properly completed assignments and a grade on any made-up tests.

### **Procedures**

#### **Step 1**

When a student misses 5 or more days of school within a school semester the administration will review the student's grades, reason for absences, and discipline records to determine if the attendance issue interfering with learning.

If it is determined by the administration to be interfering with learning or to be a potential truancy case

- Letter of concern sent to parents
- If the student continues to miss school, the administration will proceed to step 2

### Step 2

When a student misses 4 additional days of school within a school semester (total of 9 or more) Letter #2 will be sent to set up a parent meeting.

- School Officials will prepare an Attendance Improvement Plan
- School Officials will send a follow up letter and related documents to parents
- A copy of the letter and AIP will be emailed to the Prosecutor's Office

If the family participates in services and the student's attendance improves the administration will continue to monitor the student's attendance. If the family refuses to participate in the attendance meetings and/or the attendance does not improve the school officials will officially notify the Prosecutor's office to begin steps 3 and 4.

### **Attendance Improvement Plan**

Unexcused absences from school are not acceptable and constitute truancy. Students who are repeatedly absent from school are considered truant by Michigan state law. When a student is identified as truant by a school administrator, the parent(s)/guardian(s) will be required to meet with the attendance officer prior to the student returning to school where they will then be placed on an attendance contract. After nine (9) unexcused absences from any class in any semester, a student will be placed on an attendance improvement plan and considered a "habitual truant" which may result in:

- A grade of "F" in the class, which will become part of the student's permanent record and may be sent to employers and postsecondary schools.
- A hearing before a judge in a court of law.
- A report to local authorities concerning lack of parental responsibility in providing proper care and supervision of a child.

Students that are placed on an Attendance Improvement Plan whose attendance improves and the student is passing the class at "Final" exam time, will take the "Final" exam and the student will receive the letter grade they earned in that class.

Students that are placed on an Attendance Improvement Plan who continue to display poor attendance and/or do not have a passing grade, must take the "Testing Out" exam and pass the "Testing Out" exam with a score of 78% (C+) in order to receive credit only – the student will still receive a grade of "F" in the class.

### **Disenrollment**



When a student reaches ten (10) consecutive absences without parent/guardian contact, that student will be disenrolled/dropped from the high school and lose all credit for the semester. A letter will go home to this effect and in the case of truancy, law enforcement agencies contacted. Any student thus dropped/disenrolled will have to reenroll before attempting credit. Students dropped/disenrolled for lack of attendance under this policy will not be allowed to attempt credit until a new semester begins.

### **Mason Senior High School/MAVA Attendance Appeal Process**

Students have the right to appeal days absent from school. Appeal forms are the joint responsibility of the student and the parent/guardian and are available in the high school office; appeal forms must be signed by the student *and* the parent prior to consideration by the principal.

- A. The process will begin with the student requesting an appeal of any absence or group of absences by making such an appeal in writing to the appropriate principal.
- B. If a student has an absence that they are appealing to be excluded from the 9 absences per semester, only doctor's or licensed clinician's (specific to the absences) notes will be recognized. A parent note for the purpose of excusing such an absence will not be recognized.

### **18 Year-Olds**

All student attendance issues must be handled by the student's parent/guardian even if the student is 18 years old or older. Students are not permitted to excuse their own absences or to sign themselves in or out of school. The only exception to this is if the student has a legal emancipation agreement on file.

### **Excusable, Non-approved Absence**

If a student is absent from school because of an out-of-school or in-school suspension, a medically-related, funeral, court mandated or pre-arranged reason (such as an approved vacation release), the absence will not be considered truancy, however the student must make up the schoolwork that is missed.

### **Unexcused Absences**

Any student who is absent from school for all or any part of the day without a legitimate excuse shall be considered truant and the student and his/her parents shall be subject to the truancy laws of the state. All schoolwork/homework missed as a result of truancy must be made up - this is non-negotiable.

Unexcused Absences may include, but are not limited to:

- Skipping/Truancy – The willful absence from scheduled classes/activities
- Oversleeping.
- Missed bus.
- Car problems.
- Trains.
- Unverified absence – No parental notification.
- Leaving school without permission or not following proper checkout procedures.
- Hunting

### **School-Related Absences**



When a student is excused from class due to an approved school activity it may be considered school related. If a student is involved with such an activity, the absence will not negatively impact the student's attendance in any way. It is the student's responsibility to remind the teacher at least a day in advance of the time in order to have the absences placed in the "school-related" category. All assignments missed during the absence must be made up. Reasons include:

- College visits.
- Job/Career shadowing.
- School events.
- Athletic contests.
- CPR training. (special meetings & training sessions)
- Counseling groups.
- Student Council meetings.

School-related absences must be pre-approved by the building principal.

### **Notification of Absence**

If a student is going to be absent, the parents must contact the Mason High School office at 848-5755, by 8:00 A.M. and provide an explanation. If prior contact is not possible, the parents should provide a written excuse by the next morning. The school will attempt to notify the parent of a student who is absent if the parent fails to call in on the day of the absence. If the absence of a student appears to be questionable or excessive, the school staff will try to help parents improve their child's attendance. Students are required to make up all possible work. It is the responsibility of the student to obtain missed assignments. It is possible that certain kinds of school work such as labs or skill-practice sessions cannot be made up and, as a result, may negatively impact a student's grade.

### **Pre-Arranged Trips**

**Parents are encouraged not to take their child out of school for vacations.** However, it is recognized that during the school year there may be quality family trips or exceptional opportunities for students (~~overseas weddings, trips to the Azores, etc.~~) where the educational experience in days missed at school can be traded for "real time" in a diverse or unique setting. Please call or see the building secretary ~~principal~~ for guidance in handling school days that may be affected.

### **Tardiness**

Each student is expected to be in his/her assigned location throughout the school day. All tardiness except those caused by late buses or by a conference with a teacher, counselor or administrator shall be deemed a violation of the school tardy policy. If a student arrives to class after the final bell rings, they will be considered tardy. Thirty (30) minutes tardy to class equals one (1) absence from that class. If a student is late in arriving at school, s/he is to report to the school office before proceeding to his/her first assigned location - any student who is late to school must get a pass from the office. Students will be admitted to class with a pass from the office. Students are expected to be in the classroom when the bell rings. Students with three (3) late arrivals to school or six (6) or more tardies in a semester will be subject to disciplinary action and be placed on an attendance contract.

### **Make-up of Tests and Other School Work**

Students who are absent from school or who have been suspended will be required to make-up missed work. For make-up or missed work, students have a day for each day out plus one to turn in work for that work to be considered "on time." It is the student's responsibility to contact the teacher(s) as soon as possible to obtain

assignments. If a student misses a teacher's test due to an excused absence, s/he may make arrangements with the teacher to take the test. If s/he misses the SAT or other standardized test, the student should consult with the school counselor to arrange for taking the test.

### **Entering/Leaving the Building**

Students occasionally enter the building late or must leave the building during the school day for reasons of health or to meet doctor or dental appointments. It is best if all appointments can be made after school hours. All students must be signed in or out by a parent either by a phone call, written notification or in person.

Students who are consistently late or consistently signed out may be placed on an attendance contract and may be negatively subject to consequences as listed in this attendance policy and be further subject to the student code of conduct.

Seat Time Waiver (STW) students are expected to sign in and out at the MAVA learning lab. Students can participate in passing time and lunch, however all student management expectations are applicable.

### ***Board Policy 5801 Closed Campus***

The school campus is a closed campus. All students must remain on campus during school hours. The building principal or designee will release a student only after confirming with an authorized adult that the student has permission to leave campus. Students who leave campus without authorization are subject to disciplinary action. Nothing in this Policy prevents the school from sending a student home when the student is ill or for disciplinary purposes.

## **CODE OF CONDUCT**

A major component of the educational program at Mason Consolidated Schools is to prepare students to become responsible workers and citizens by learning how to conduct themselves properly and in accordance with established standards.

Each student shall be expected to:

- Abide by national, state, and local laws as well as the rules of the school.
- Respect the school, themselves, and the civil rights of others.
- Act courteously to adults and fellow students.
- Be prompt to school and attentive in class.
- Work cooperatively with others when involved in accomplishing a common goal, regardless of the other's ability, gender, race, religion, height, weight, disability, or ethnic background.
- Complete assigned tasks on time and as directed.
- Help maintain a school environment that is safe, friendly, and productive.
- Act at all times in a manner that reflects pride in self, family, and in the school.

### **Student Use of Cell Phone and Electronic Communication Devices**

#### **Board Policy 5209**

Students may use cell phones or other electronic devices while at school, so long as they do so safely, responsibly, and respectfully, and comply with all other school rules while using the devices.

Students are personally and solely responsible for the security of their cell phones and other electronic devices. The District is not responsible for theft, loss, or damage of any cell phone or other electronic device.

Students may not use cell phones or other electronic devices while they are in locker rooms, restrooms, or any other area in which others may have a reasonable expectation of privacy.

Taking, disseminating, transferring, or sharing obscene, pornographic, lewd, or otherwise illegal photographs, video, audio, or other similar data, whether by electronic data transfer or otherwise (including via cell phone or other electronic device), may constitute a crime under state or federal law. A student engaged in any of these activities at school, at a school event, or on school-provided transportation, may be subject to discipline pursuant to this Policy and the student code of conduct. A student engaged in any of these activities outside of school may be disciplined if the student's activities substantially disrupt or negatively affect the school environment.

The Superintendent, building principals, and teachers are authorized to develop building-level and classroom rules for students' use of cell phones and other electronic devices. Those rules must be clearly communicated to students. A student who violates the rules or this Policy are subject to corrective or disciplinary action, consistent with Policy and the student code of conduct.

School administrators and teachers may confiscate a student's cell phone or other electronic device if the student's use or possession of a cell phone or electronic device violates this Policy, the student code of conduct, or any applicable building or classroom rule. The building principal or designee may require a meeting with the student's parent/guardian to discuss the rule violation before returning the cell phone or electronic device.

Legal authority: MCL 380.1303(2)

#### **Cell Phone/Other Electronic Communication Devices/iPods/iPADs/Other Personal Audio/Visual Players—Mandate Violations:**

First Offense – The device is confiscated by school personnel. The teacher or administrator will return the phone or device in question at the end of the day. The infraction will be documented

Second Offense – The device is confiscated by school personnel and delivered to the office. The parents will be informed and the student will be assigned a Saturday School detention. ~~The phone or device in question will not be returned until a parent comes in to pick it up.~~

Third and Successive Offenses – The device is confiscated by school personnel and delivered to the office. The parents will be informed and the student will be subject to a one day out of school suspension. The phone or device in question will not be returned until a parent comes in to pick it up.

*A student may possess a cellular telephone or other electronic communication device (ECD) in school, on school property, at after school activities and at school-related functions, provided that during school hours and on a school vehicle the cell phone or other ECD remains off and stored away out of sight.*

### **STUDENT AUDIO AND VIDEO RECORDING**

Board Policy 5805

For purposes of this Policy, “recording” or “recordings” includes still photographs, video, audio, and other similar data captured in any medium.

#### **A. Prohibited Recordings by Students**

Unless otherwise authorized by this Policy, law, or a District employee, students may not make recordings on school property; when on a vehicle owned, leased, or contracted by the District; or at a school-sponsored activity or athletic event.

Student and parent/guardian use of GPS tracking technology with audio surveillance capability, other than a cell phone, is governed by Policy 5210.

#### B. Permitted Recordings by Students

A student may make recordings of instructional activities if recording is necessary to accommodate the student's disability pursuant to the student's Individualized Education Program or Section 504 Plan. Students may also make recordings of instructional activities if expressly permitted by the building principal or classroom teacher.

Recordings of instructional activities permitted under this Policy may only be used by students for personal academic purposes and may not be shared or disseminated without written consent from the building principal or designee.

A student may record school-sponsored activities and athletic events as a spectator if the recording is made in a manner permitted by the District for the public. For example, students may record athletic events for their personal use in a manner similar to parents/guardians or other spectators, but students remain subject to the District's acceptable use and student discipline policies.

Except as otherwise permitted by this Policy, students may not make recordings of non-instructional activities without the permission of the building principal or supervising adult.

Any student recording must comply with applicable state and federal laws, codes of conduct, and Board Policy.

No recordings may be taken or made in restrooms, locker rooms, or other areas where there is a reasonable expectation of privacy.

#### C. District Recordings

Nothing in this Policy limits the District's ability to make recordings as otherwise permitted by state and federal law or Board Policy.

#### **Recording Picture/Video Phones and Cameras (Sexting)**

Video images can be stored, used, and transmitted instantly because of the advances in photographic, ECD and other 3G/cell phones technologies. These advances raise a variety of privacy issues and potential student harassment issues because these images can, without the person's permission, be posted and stored on the Internet or other areas. Picture/video phones are not to be used in locker rooms, training rooms, weigh-in rooms, bathrooms, and school public areas such as hallways and cafeterias, playing fields, or classrooms.

**The recording of student or staff images without their knowledge and/or transmitting those images is a violation of Public Act 155 and a felony. Student will be disciplined following the student harassment policies and local law enforcement agencies contacted.**

#### **Dress and Grooming**

While fashions change, the reason for being in school does not. Students are in school to learn. Any fashion (dress, accessory, or hairstyle) that disrupts the educational process or presents a safety risk will not be permitted. Personal expression is permitted within these general guidelines.

If a student has selected a manner of appearance that is beyond mere freedom of expression and disrupts the educational process or presents risk to themselves or others, they may be removed from the educational setting. When clothing does not meet the guidelines, students will be asked to change before returning to a classroom setting and parents may be called to bring appropriate clothing before the student is allowed to return to class.

Repeated violations of the dress code may result in progressive discipline according to the student code of conduct.

The following styles or manners of dress are prohibited:

- Outerwear: backpacks, bulky coats/jackets, blankets, hats, hoods, flannel pants, baseball caps, and bandanas cannot be worn in school. Outerwear items here described which are worn to school and/or will be worn home are to be kept locked up in the student's school-issued locker during school hours.
- Dresses and skirts should be appropriate in length, modest in nature, and extend below the fingertips.
- Low-cut tops and shirts that expose a student's torso are prohibited.
- Tops (shirts, blouses, sweaters) must extend to the waistline. Exposing bare midriff when sitting, standing or walking is prohibited.
- Halter tops, tube tops, mesh tops, muscle shirts, and tops with thin straps (less than two (2) inches wide) are prohibited. Undergarments cannot be exposed.
- Lycra and spandex fabrics, cut-off jeans, cut-off sweat pants, pajama tops and bottoms, swim attire, and boxer shorts are prohibited. Pajama tops and bottoms are not acceptable.
- Leggings, when worn, must be covered by a skirt or a top that reaches below fingertip level.
- Pants must be worn at the waist level and cannot expose undergarments or skin. Hip-hugger type pants or pants worn below the hips are not allowed. Pants with manufacturer's "scratches" or "holes" in them: holes exceeding 1" x 2" above the mid-thigh will not be allowed. Pants with more than four scratches, slices, or holes in them will not be allowed. If undergarments or skin above mid-thigh are visible then the dress is unacceptable regardless of size of hole in pant or outerwear.
- Pocket chains and other chains are prohibited. Choke collars, spiked collars, spiked wristbands, or other spiked apparel is prohibited.
- Shoes or sandals must be worn. Shoes with roller heels will not be permitted. No stiletto heels over 4 inches high.
- Gang-related attire is prohibited.
- Clothing with visual or written obscenities/profanities, sexual innuendo or double meanings is prohibited.
- Clothing that promotes alcohol, drugs, gangs, pornography, sexual activity, tobacco, and violence is prohibited.
- Sunglasses, shooting glasses are prohibited.
- Piercings that could be a safety hazard to the student or others are prohibited. Examples could include, but are not limited to: safety pins, spikes, etc.
- Hair must be clean, neat, and not distracting to the learning environment.

***The school reserves the right to make judgments on appropriate dress and expects the cooperation of the students and the support of the parents.*** Students who are representing Mason Consolidated Schools at an official function or public event may be required to follow specific dress requirements—usually, this applies to athletic teams, cheerleaders, bands, and other such groups.

### **Facial Coverings**

Mason Consolidated Schools endorses the concept that appropriate school attire is conducive to a learning atmosphere. Districts may require face coverings in the threat of a communicable disease or a pandemic event. The District shall require face coverings for students as directed by State Executive Orders, Health Department

Orders and/or Mason Consolidated Board of Education Action with exceptions to meet medical conditions, ADA requirements, and/or religious beliefs. Exceptions will be monitored by building administrators. All face coverings must follow MCS dress code policy. Apparel must comply with the health and safety codes and not interfere with the educational process. MCS prohibits intimidating, hostile or offensive messages on face coverings. Apparel that advocates tolerance for or advertises controlled or illegal products or substances will not be permitted. Any face covering by virtue of its color, arrangement, trademark, symbol or any other attribute, which indicates or implies membership or affiliation with a gang will not be tolerated. Any question concerning appropriate apparel shall be handled on an individual basis by the immediate supervisor, teacher, or building administrator.

### Gangs

Gangs, which initiate, advocate, or promote activities, which threaten the safety or well-being of persons, or which are disruptive to the school environment, are not tolerated. Incidents involving initiations, hazing, intimidations or related activities, which are likely to cause harm or personal degradation, are prohibited and unlawful. ***“Gang activity” will not be tolerated. A gang is a group of individuals, juveniles and/or adults, who associate on a continuous basis and are involved in delinquent or criminal behavior. Parents should be aware that gangs would generally adopt some sort of common dress or identifier that sets them apart from the rest of society and identifies them as a group. This gives the gang the public recognition that it strives for and needs. Identifiers can, but do not always mean, gang related membership or activity. Some of the identifiers used by gangs are caps, hats, shirts, pants, jackets/coats, shoes, bandannas, jewelry, graffiti or drawings of gang symbols on notebooks or clothing, haircuts, or tattoos.***

Students engaging in gangs/gang activity shall suffer disciplinary consequences commensurate with the behavior.

Students wearing, carrying or displaying gang paraphernalia or exhibiting behaviors or gestures, which symbolize gang membership or causing and/or participating in activities, which are designed to intimidate another student, will be disciplined. Prohibited gang paraphernalia will be specifically identified and posted by the building principal.

## STUDENT DISCIPLINE CODE

The Board of Education has adopted the following Student Discipline Code. The code includes the types of misconduct that will subject a student to disciplinary action. The Board has also adopted the list of behaviors and the terms contained in the list. It is the school staff's responsibility to provide a safe and orderly learning environment. History has shown that certain student actions are not compatible with a "safe and orderly" environment. Discipline is within the sound discretion of the school's staff and administration. Due process ensures that disciplinary action is imposed only after review of the facts and/or special circumstances of the situation. The commission of the following incidents by pupils on school grounds, or while attending school functions, shall be subject to disciplinary action as hereafter noted. Previous incidents, which occurred at the student's former school, will be considered when discipline is administered at Mason Consolidated Schools. Upon the commission of the incidents below, the person or persons who have engaged in such activity are subject to disciplinary measures. Based on the nature of the conduct and after an investigation, the administration will determine the appropriate level of discipline. In the event the person commits more than one offense in the same incident, disciplinary action shall be taken on the more severe incident. Parents/Guardians may be required to come to the school for a conference before the student is allowed to return from a suspension. A step may be repeated if deemed appropriate by the administrator. Students will be given an opportunity to present their side. Discipline begins in the classroom. The school staff is acting "in loco parentis", which means the law allows them to direct a student, as would a parent. If given a directive by a staff member, the student is expected to

comply. **Teachers will call home to keep parents informed if disciplinary issues arise in the classroom.** The first line of discipline will always be the classroom teacher. Mason Consolidated Schools encourages parents and teachers to communicate often and effectively about student classroom behavior.

## DISCIPLINARY MANDATES

Upon the commission of the incidents below, the person or persons who have engaged in such activity are subject to disciplinary measures it is understood that there are different degrees of circumstance for each discipline case. The administrator has the right to differentiate between the levels of discipline based on the facts and severity of each situation. In the event the person commits more than one offense in the same incident, disciplinary action shall be taken on the more severe incident. Students who are repeat offenders or are disciplined for a variety of infractions overtime will be subject to the progressive disciplinary process. Parents/guardians may be required to come to the school for a conference before the student is allowed to return from a suspension. Prior to the administration of discipline, students will be given an opportunity to present their side.

### **Behavior Contracts**

Students who are subjected to an out of school suspension of five (5) days or longer in duration or who exhibit habitual negative behavior may be placed on a behavior contract by the building principal. Students who transfer in with adverse discipline records may be immediately placed on a behavioral contract at enrollment. We want Mason Senior High School/MAVA to be a safe learning environment first and foremost, an orderly, harassment-free zone, where staff and student body alike have the ability to grow and prosper in preparation for life and the real world beyond the gates of school.

## DISCIPLINE GUIDELINES

It is important to remember that the school's rules apply going to and from school, at school, on school property, at school-sponsored events, and on school transportation. In some cases, a student can be suspended from school transportation for infractions of school bus rules.

Ultimately, it is the principal's responsibility to keep things orderly. In all cases, the school shall attempt to make discipline prompt and equitable and to have the punishment match the severity of the incident.

Two types of discipline are possible, informal and formal.

### **Informal Discipline**

Informal discipline takes place within the school. It includes but is not limited to:

- Warnings.
- Change of seating or location.
- Lunchtime and/or after-school detention.
- In-school restriction.
- Saturday school.

### **Detentions**



Teacher-initiated and administered in lieu of an office referral or formal discipline: a student may be detained after school or asked to come to school early by a teacher, after giving the student and his/her parents one (1) day's notice. The student or his/her parents are responsible for transportation.

#### In-School Suspension.

Safety and order in the classroom and in the school building come before anything else and as such, the need to restrict a student to a specified area may arise and is usually conducted in the general office area. Removal for less than one (1) school day without the possibility of suspension or expulsion may not be appealed.

#### Saturday School

Students who have violated any section of the Code of Conduct, including the Attendance Policy, may be assigned to Saturday School by the principal. Saturday School will be in session most Saturdays per the posted schedule. Saturday School can also be teacher-initiated in lieu of an office referral or formal discipline, or for missing work. A student failing to attend or missing any portion of his/her assigned time in Saturday School will be automatically assigned an additional Saturday School or suspended from school on Monday with no make-up work privileges.

A student and/or parent who *choose* the option of Saturday School will be allowed to do so under the following circumstances:

1. In place of short-term suspension from school or to make up attendance issues (case-by-case basis, with authorization of building principal or assistant principal only).
2. To serve detention for minor rule infractions of the Student code of Conduct.
3. To allow a student the opportunity to make up homework assignments not being done on a regular basis.

The following rules shall apply to both in-school restriction and to Saturday school:

- Students are required to have class assignments with them or will be assigned community service.
- Students are not to communicate with each other unless given special permission to do so.
- Students are to remain in their designated seats at all times unless permission is granted to do otherwise.
- Students shall not be allowed to put their heads down or sleep.
- No radios, cards, magazines, cell phones, or other recreational articles shall be allowed in the room.
- No food or beverages shall be consumed.
- Failure to abide by Saturday School rules may result in the assignment of an additional Saturday School or an out of school suspension.

#### **Restorative Justice Practices**

Restorative Justice is a whole school relational approach to building school climate and addressing student behavior that fosters belonging over exclusion, social engagement over control, and meaningful accountability over punishment. This type of discipline focuses on repairing harm through an inclusive process that engages all stakeholders. Students who participate will understand the impact of their actions, take responsibility for choices, and suggest ways to repair harm. Practices may include community, teacher and peer mediation circles, peer juries, community service, school projects, specified behavior plans with principal and/or restorative justice coordinator.

#### **Health and Safety Protocols**

To maintain safe and orderly environments, all Mason Consolidated students are required to follow building and district safety and health routines and protocols. Failure to abide by school and/or district safety and health routines and/or protocols will result in disciplinary action.



### **Formal Discipline**

Formal discipline removes the student from school. It includes emergency removal for up to 72 hours, suspension for up to nineteen (19) school days, and expulsion from school. Suspensions and expulsions may carry over into the next school year. Suspension and expulsion can be appealed. Students being considered for suspension or expulsion are entitled to an informal hearing with the principal, prior to removal, at which time the student will be notified of the charges against him/her and given an opportunity to make a defense. If a student is suspended, the parents may appeal the suspension, in writing, to the principal and a formal appeal hearing will be held. When a student is being considered for expulsion, a formal hearing is scheduled with the Superintendent and the parents will be given written notice of the hearing and will be expected to attend. The Superintendent then takes testimony and determines if a recommendation to expel is to be made to the Board of Education. This decision may also be appealed to the Board of Education. In the case of expulsion, the student remains out of school during the appeal period. Mason Consolidated Schools makes a sincere effort to have disciplinary actions take place that will allow the student to remain in school. If a disciplinary action does not result in removal from school, it is not appealable. Should a student or parent have questions regarding the propriety of an in-school disciplinary action, they should contact the principal/assistant principal.

### **Suspension from co-curricular and extra-curricular activities**

Students involved in co-curricular and extra-curricular activities such as band and athletics can lose their eligibility for violation of the school rules. If a student commits a crime while at school or a school-related event, s/he may be subject to school disciplinary action as well as to action by the community's legal system. These are separate jurisdictions and do not constitute double jeopardy (being tried twice for the same crime).

### **Discipline of Students with Disabilities**

Students with disabilities are entitled to the rights and procedures afforded by the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (I.D.E.A.) and the Americans with Disabilities Act (A.D.A.), or Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973.

### **Violation of the Student Code of Conduct/Actions:**

Arson; Assault and Battery of a staff member; Assaulting a staff member; Assault and Battery of a student, Felonious Assault; Drug Trafficking; Endangerment; making an audio/visual recording of a classroom, other students or staff members of a sexual nature or attempting to perpetrate a recording that is sexual in nature, Sexual Misconduct and/or Weapons possession per MCL 380.1311/MCL 380.1313, or anything used as a weapon; Habitual Offender; Use or Possession of Explosives; Firearms; Inciting a Riot; Bomb Threat; Threat of bodily harm to a staff member; Gross Misconduct

		1 <sup>st</sup> incident, subsequent incidents
	→	Nineteen (19) days out of school suspension pending expulsion hearing with the possibility of having charges filed through our local law enforcement agencies.

Aggravated Assault of a student (major, attention of medical personnel required), aiding and abetting in the commission of an offense (law or student code of conduct), “holding” illicit/illegal materials for others, Creating a Disturbance, larceny, ~~Use/Possession of Tobacco, vapor, or electronic cigarette, Tagging or the marking of gang-related graffiti~~, Extortion, False Fire Alarm, Fighting (mutual combat resulting in an injury requiring medical attention).

1 <sup>st</sup> Incident	2 <sup>nd</sup> Incident	3 <sup>rd</sup> Incident
(3-5) days out of school suspension and/or participation in assigned restorative justice practices with the possibility of having charges filed through our local law enforcement agencies.	Ten (10) days out of school suspension with the possibility of having charges filed through our local law enforcement agencies	Nineteen (19) days out of school suspension pending expulsion hearing with the possibility of having charges filed through our local law enforcement agencies

Assault of a student (minor, no medical attention required), Battery, Bullying/Cyber Bullying, Racial and Sexual Harassment, Credible threat of bodily harm to a student, Destruction of School Property/Vandalism (must also make full restitution), participating in a “strike” or act of defiance against the instructor that results in a refusal to participate in class, knowingly making false accusations about another student, gross insubordination, theft (must also make restitution), graffiti (must also make full restitution), verbal assault of a staff member, Use/Possession of Tobacco, vapor, or electronic cigarette,.

1 <sup>st</sup> Incident	2 <sup>nd</sup> Incident	3 <sup>rd</sup> Incident
(1-4) days out of school suspension and/or participation in assigned restorative justice practices.	Five to seven (5-7) days out of school suspension and/or participation in assigned restorative justice practices.	Seven (7) days out of school suspension

Reckless Driving, third cell phone in class violation, Insubordination, Failure to attend Saturday Detention, Verbal Altercation.

1 <sup>st</sup> Incident	2 <sup>nd</sup> Incident	3 <sup>rd</sup> Incident
One (1) day out of school suspension and/or participation in assigned restorative justice practices.	Two (2) days out of school suspension and/or participation in assigned restorative justice practices.	Three (3) days out of school suspension

Repeated dress code violation, Public Display of Affection, unauthorized material (pornography, dice, lighters, laser pointers, matches, etc.), Careless driving, Cheating/plagiarism, Disrupting Classroom, Skipping, Obscenities/Profanities, Inappropriate behavior, second cell phone in class violation

1 <sup>st</sup> Incident	2 <sup>nd</sup> Incident	3 <sup>rd</sup> Incident

Saturday School Detention (three hours) or half day out of school suspension and/or participation in assigned restorative justice practices.	2 Saturday School Detentions (three hours each) or one full day out of school suspension and/or participation in assigned restorative justice practices.	Three (3) days out of school suspension
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Discipline Steps Note 1: any incident which may be a violation of the law or an existing legal statute will result in the contact of the appropriate law enforcement agency.

Discipline Steps Note 2: incidents of such a nature as to represent a gross violation, an incident that makes a long-term negative impact on the school, building or district, and/or impedes the educational opportunity of others, may be progressed or advanced beyond the indicated step above including possible long-term suspension or suspension pending an expulsion hearing.

Discipline Steps Note 3: After the third incident resulting in a 5-day suspension or longer, a long-term suspension or suspension pending an expulsion hearing may result.

### DUE PROCESS RIGHTS

Before a student may be suspended or expelled from school, there are specific procedures that must be followed.

#### **Suspension from School**

When a student is being considered for a suspension of ten (10) days or less, the principal will notify the student of the charges. The student will then be given an opportunity to explain his/her side and the principal will then provide the student the evidence supporting the charges. At or after that informal hearing, the principal will make a decision whether or not to suspend. If a student is suspended, s/he and his/her parents will be notified of the reason for and the length of the suspension, within two (2) school days of the determination of consequences. Documentation in writing shall be supplied to the student and parent as soon as possible. The suspension may be appealed to the Superintendent. This must be done in writing within 72 hours of receiving notice of the suspension. All consequences will be enforced during the appeal period at the discretion of the principal. The appeal shall be conducted in a private meeting and the student may be represented. A final appeal may be made to the Board of Education. This must be done in writing within 72 hours of receiving notice of the Superintendent's decision on the original appeal. Again, all consequences will be enforced during the appeal period at the discretion of the Superintendent. The appeal shall be conducted in a private meeting and the student may be represented. Sworn, recorded testimony shall be given. If the appeal is heard by the Board of Education, the Open Meetings Act governs the hearing. Under the Open Meetings Act, the hearing must be public unless the parents/guardians request that the meeting be conducted in a closed session.

When a student is suspended, s/he must make-up work missed while on suspension. Any learning that cannot be made up, such as labs, field trips, skill-practices, or other learning that the student chooses not to make-up may be reflected in the grades earned. A student being considered for suspension of more than ten (10) days will be given due process as described in the expulsion section below.

#### **Expulsion from School**

When a student is being considered for a suspension with recommendation to expel, the principal will notify the student of the charges. The student will then be given an opportunity to explain his/her side and the principal will then provide the student the evidence supporting the charges. After that informal hearing, the principal will make

a decision whether or not to suspend with recommendation to expel. If a student is suspended with recommendation to expel, s/he and his/her parents will be notified, and documentation in writing shall be supplied to the student and parent as soon as possible. An expulsion hearing will then be scheduled and conducted by the Superintendent within ten (10) days of this notification. This hearing shall be conducted in a private meeting and the student may be represented. Parents will be notified, in writing, within five (5) school days of the expulsion hearing as to the Superintendent's decision. An appeal may be made to the Board of Education. This must be done in writing within 72 hours of receiving notice of the Superintendent's decision. All consequences will be enforced during the appeal period at the discretion of the Superintendent. Sworn, recorded testimony shall be given. Since the appeal is heard by the Board of Education, the Open Meetings Act governs the hearing. Under the Open Meetings Act, the hearing must be public unless the parents request that the meeting be conducted in a closed session.

Work missed during an expulsion cannot be made up and usually results in a loss of credit

## 2 **5206 Student Discipline**

### A. Student Discipline – Generally

The Board is committed to providing students and staff with a safe learning environment free from substantial disruption. Consistent with this commitment, the District may discipline students who engage in misconduct, up to and including suspension or expulsion from school.

The District will take steps to effectively discipline students in a manner that minimizes out-of-school suspensions and expulsions. The District will comply with applicable laws related to student discipline, including the consideration of specific factors and possible use of restorative practices.

### B. Applicability

This Policy applies to student conduct that occurs:

1. on District property;
2. at a school-sponsored or school-related event;
3. on a school bus or vehicle;
4. while traveling to or from school, including at a bus stop; and
5. at any other time or place if the conduct has a nexus to the school, substantially disrupts the school environment, or as permitted by law.

### C. Student Code of Conduct

The Superintendent or designee will develop, regularly update, and annually publish a student code of conduct in all student handbooks. The student code of conduct must:

1. identify offenses that may result in discipline;
2. identify possible disciplinary consequences for each offense, which may, if appropriate, include suspension or expulsion;
3. be consistent with applicable state and federal laws and Board Policies; and
4. include a copy of Policy 5206E entitled "Suspension from Class, Subject, or Activity by Teacher."

### D. Definitions

For purposes of this Policy:

1. “suspend” or “suspension” means a disciplinary removal from school for less than 60 school days;
2. “expel” or “expulsion” means a disciplinary removal from school for 60 or more school days;
3. “restorative practices” means practices that emphasize repairing the harm to the victim and the school community caused by a student’s misconduct; and
4. “Mandatory 7 Factors” means the following:
  - a. the student’s age;
  - b. the student’s disciplinary history;
  - c. whether the student has a disability;
  - d. the seriousness of the behavior;
  - e. whether the behavior posed a safety risk;
  - f. whether restorative practices are a better option; and
  - g. whether lesser interventions would address the behavior.

#### E. Restorative Practices

Before suspending or expelling a student (except a student who possesses a firearm in a weapon-free school zone), teachers, administrators, and the Board must first determine whether restorative practices would better address the student’s misconduct, recognizing the Board’s objective of minimizing out-of-school suspensions and expulsions. Likewise, teachers, administrators, and the Board must consider whether restorative practices should be used in addition to the suspension or expulsion. Restorative practices, which may include a victim-offender conference, should be the first consideration to remediate offenses such as interpersonal conflicts, bullying, verbal and physical conflicts, theft, damage to property, class disruption, harassment, and cyberbullying.

All victim-offender conferences must be conducted consistent with state and federal law and Policies. No student who claims to be the victim of unlawful harassment may be compelled to meet with the alleged perpetrator of the harassment as part of a restorative practice.

#### F. Discretionary Suspension or Expulsion

Under Michigan law, a suspension of 10 or fewer school days is presumed to be reasonable. A suspension of more than 10 school days or an expulsion is, in most circumstances, presumed not to be justified. Before imposing a suspension or an expulsion, administrators or the Board must consider the Mandatory 7 Factors.

##### 1. Building Administrators – 10 or fewer days

The Board delegates to all building administrators the authority to suspend a student for up to 10 school days consistent with the student code of conduct.

A building administrator may also suspend a student for up to 10 school days pending further investigation and possible further disciplinary consequences, including a longer-term suspension or expulsion.

Before exercising this authority, the building administrator must consider the Mandatory 7 Factors.

Additionally, before suspending a student for any length of time, the building administrator must provide the student due process as described in Policy 5206A. If the student is a student with a disability, the student’s discipline is also subject to Policy 5206B.

##### 2. Superintendent – Less than 60 school days

The Board delegates to the Superintendent the authority to suspend a student for less than 60 school days consistent with the student code of conduct. Before exercising this authority, the Superintendent must consider the Mandatory 7 Factors.

Any time the Superintendent finds that a suspension of more than 10 school days is warranted; the Superintendent must base the rationale on the Mandatory 7 Factors and explain the rationale in writing.

Additionally, before suspending a student for any length of time, the Superintendent must provide the student due process as described in Policy 5206A. If the student is a student with a disability, the student's discipline is also subject to Policy 5206B.

### 3. Board – Suspension or Expulsion

The Board may suspend or expel a student for an offense consistent with the student code of conduct. Before exercising this authority, the Board must consider the Mandatory 7 Factors.

Any time the Board finds that a suspension of more than 10 school days or expulsion is warranted, the Board must base the rationale on the Mandatory 7 Factors and explain the rationale in writing.

Before exercising this authority, the Board must provide the student due process as described in Policy 5206A. If the student is a student with a disability, the student's discipline is also subject to Policy 5206B.

## G. Criminal Sexual Conduct – Discretionary Suspension or Expulsion

If a student commits criminal sexual conduct, as defined in Revised School Code Section 1311, against another student enrolled in the District and expulsion is not mandatory under Policy 5206 H.3, the District may suspend or expel the student even if the student has not been criminally charged, subject to consideration of the Mandatory 7 Factors.

Before exercising this authority, the District must provide the student due process as described in Policy 5206A. If the student is a student with a disability, the student's discipline is also subject to Policy 5206B.

## H. Mandatory Suspension or Expulsion

Building principals and other administrators must refer all incidents that may result in a mandatory suspension or expulsion to the Superintendent or designee for transmission to the Board. As explained below, the Board recognizes that in some circumstances it may choose not to suspend or expel a student. Nothing in this section may be construed as limiting the Board's discretion to suspend or expel a student for any offense that the student code of conduct identifies as possibly resulting in suspension or expulsion.

### 1. Possession of a Dangerous Weapon

#### a. Possession of a Firearm

If a student possesses a firearm in a weapon-free school zone, the Board will permanently expel the student unless the student demonstrates, in a clear and convincing manner, at least one of the following:

- the student was not possessing the firearm to use as a weapon or to deliver, either directly or indirectly, to another person to use as a weapon;
- the student did not knowingly possess the firearm;
- the student did not know or have reason to know that the firearm constituted a "dangerous weapon"; or
- the student possessed the firearm at the suggestion, request, or direction of, or with the express permission of, school or police authorities.

If a student demonstrates one of the above circumstances in a clear and convincing manner and the student has not been previously suspended or expelled from school, the Board will not expel the student unless the Board finds that, based on the circumstances, expulsion is warranted.

**b. Possession of a Dangerous Weapon (Other than a Firearm)**

If a student possesses a dangerous weapon (other than a firearm) in a weapon-free school zone, the Board will consider whether to permanently expel the student or to impose a less severe penalty after first considering the Mandatory 7 Factors.

The Board is not required to expel a student for possession of a dangerous weapon (other than a firearm) if the student demonstrates, in a clear and convincing manner, at least one of the following:

- the student was not possessing the instrument or object to use as a weapon or to deliver, either directly or indirectly, to another person to use as a weapon;
- the student did not knowingly possess the weapon;
- the student did not know or have reason to know that the instrument or object constituted a “dangerous weapon”; or
- the student possessed the weapon at the suggestion, request, or direction of, or with the express permission of, school or police authorities.

If a student demonstrates one of the above circumstances in a clear and convincing manner and the student has not been previously suspended or expelled from school, the Board will not expel the student unless the Board finds that, based on the circumstances, expulsion is warranted.

**c. Applicable Definitions for Dangerous Weapon Offense**

“Weapon-free school zone,” means school property and a vehicle used by a school to transport students to or from school property.

“School property” means a building, playing field, or property used for school purposes to impart instruction to children or used for functions and events sponsored by a school, except a building used primarily for adult education or college extension courses.

“Dangerous weapon” means a firearm, dagger, dirk, stiletto, and knife with a blade over 3 inches in length, pocket knife opened by a mechanical device, iron bar, or brass knuckles.

“Firearm” means (i) any weapon (including a starter gun) which will or is designed to or may readily be converted to expel a projectile by the action of an explosive; (ii) the frame or receiver of any such weapon; (iii) any firearm muffler or firearm silencer; or (iv) any destructive device.

“Firearm” does not include an antique firearm, as defined by 18 USC § 921.

“Destructive device” means (i) any explosive, incendiary, or poison gas (including a bomb, grenade, rocket having a propellant charge of more than four ounces, missile having an explosive or incendiary charge of more than one-quarter ounce, mine, or similar device); (ii) any type of weapon (other than a shotgun or a shotgun shell that the Attorney General finds is generally recognized as particularly suitable for sporting purposes) by whatever name known which will, or which may be readily converted to, expel a projectile by the action of an explosive or other propellant, and which has any barrel with a bore of more than one-half inch in diameter; and (iii) any combination of parts either designed or intended for use in converting any device into a destructive device and from which a destructive device may be readily assembled.

**d. Additional Procedures for Dangerous Weapon Expulsion**

The Superintendent or designee must ensure that if a student is expelled for possession of a dangerous weapon, the student’s permanent record reflects the expulsion. The Superintendent or designee must refer a student who is expelled for possession of a dangerous weapon to the county department of social services or the county community mental health agency and notify the student’s parent/guardian (or the student, if the



student is at least age 18 or is an emancipated minor) of the referral within 3 calendar days of the expulsion. The Superintendent or designee must also make a referral to local law enforcement and contact the student's parent/guardian immediately any time a student is found to have brought a dangerous weapon to school or possessed a dangerous weapon at school, at a school related activity, or in a school vehicle. If a District official confiscates a dangerous weapon, the District official will give the dangerous weapon to law enforcement and will not release the dangerous weapon to any other person, including the legal owner.

Unless reinstated pursuant to Revised School Code Section 1311(6), a student expelled by another district or public school academy for possession of a dangerous weapon may not enroll in the District.

## 2. Arson

If a student commits arson as defined in Revised School Code Section 1311, in a school building or on school grounds, the Board will consider whether to permanently expel the student or to impose a less severe penalty after first considering the Mandatory 7 Factors.

The Superintendent or designee must ensure that if a student is expelled for committing arson, the student's permanent record reflects the expulsion. The Superintendent or designee must refer a student who is expelled for committing arson to the county department of social services or the county community mental health agency and notify the student's parent/guardian (or the student, if the student is at least age 18 or is an emancipated minor) of the referral within 3 calendar days of the expulsion.

Unless reinstated pursuant to Revised School Code Section 1311(6), a student expelled by another district or public school academy for committing arson may not enroll in the District.

## 3. Criminal Sexual Conduct

If a student commits criminal sexual conduct as defined in Revised School Code Section 1311, in a school building or on school grounds, or pleads to, is convicted of, or is adjudicated for criminal sexual conduct against another student enrolled in the District, the Board will consider whether to permanently expel the student or to impose a less severe penalty after first considering the Mandatory 7 Factors.

The Superintendent or designee must ensure that if a student is expelled for committing criminal sexual conduct, the student's permanent record reflects the expulsion. The Superintendent or designee must refer a student who is expelled for committing criminal sexual conduct to the county department of social services or the county community mental health agency and notify the student's parent/guardian (or the student, if the student is at least age 18 or is an emancipated minor) of the referral within 3 calendar days of the expulsion.

Unless reinstated pursuant to Revised School Code Section 1311(6), a student expelled by another district or public school academy for committing criminal sexual conduct may not enroll in the District.

## 4. Physical Assault

### a. Physical Assault Against Employee, Volunteer, or Contractor

If a student in grade 6 or above commits a physical assault at school against an employee, volunteer, or contractor and the victim reports the physical assault to the Board or to a school administrator or, if the victim is unable to report the assault, another person makes the report on the victim's behalf, the Board will consider whether to permanently expel the student or to impose a less severe penalty after first considering the Mandatory 7 Factors.



The Superintendent or designee must ensure that if a student is expelled for physically assaulting an employee, volunteer, or contractor, the student's permanent record reflects the expulsion. The Superintendent or designee must refer a student who is expelled for physically assaulting an employee, volunteer, or contractor to the county department of social services or the county community mental health agency and notify the student's parent/guardian (or the student, if the student is at least age 18 or is an emancipated minor) of the referral within 3 calendar days of the expulsion.

Unless reinstated pursuant to Revised School Code Section 1311a(5), a student expelled by another district or public school academy for physically assaulting an employee, volunteer, or contractor may not enroll in the District.

b. Physical Assault Against Another Student

If a student in grade 6 or above commits a physical assault at school against another student and the physical assault is reported to the Board or to an administrator, the District will consider whether to suspend or expel the student or to impose a less severe penalty after first considering the Mandatory 7 Factors.

A resident student in grade 6 or above who is currently expelled by another district or public school academy for committing a physical assault against another student may request to enroll in the District. The Superintendent or designee will consider the request along with any information the Superintendent or designee determines relevant. The Superintendent or designee may either grant or deny the request. The Superintendent's decision is final.

c. Applicable Definitions for Physical Assault Against Student

- i. "Physical assault" means intentionally causing or attempting to cause physical harm to another through force or violence.
- ii. "At school" means in a classroom, elsewhere on school premises, on a school bus or other school-related vehicle, or at a school-sponsored activity or event, whether or not it is held on school premises.

5. Bomb Threat or Similar Threat

If a student in grade 6 or above makes a bomb threat or similar threat directed at a school building, other District property, or at a school-related event, the District will consider whether to suspend or expel the student or to impose a less severe penalty after first considering the Mandatory 7 Factors.

A resident student in grade 6 or above who is currently expelled by another district or public school academy for making a bomb threat or similar threat may request to enroll in the District. The Superintendent or designee will consider the request along with any information the Superintendent or designee determines relevant. The Superintendent or designee may either grant or deny the request. The Superintendent's decision is final.

I. Statewide School Safety Information Policy (SSSIP) & Law Enforcement Reporting

The Superintendent or designee must notify law enforcement when required by the SSSIP and make all other reports and provide all other notifications required by the SSSIP or any state or federal law. Nothing in this Policy limits the ability of a school administrator to contact law enforcement at any other time.

J. Educational Programming During Suspension or Expulsion

Except as otherwise required by law or as provided in this Policy, a student who has been suspended or expelled may not be on school property, attend classes or other school functions, or participate in extracurricular activities during the student's suspension or expulsion without written permission from the Superintendent or designee. District personnel may assist students who have been suspended or expelled to explore alternative means, as allowed by law, to earn credit and to complete coursework during the period of the student's suspension or expulsion.

Legal authority: 18 USC 921; 20 USC 1401 et seq., 7151; 29 USC 705, 794-794b; MCL 380.1308-.1310, 380.1310a, 380.1310c, 380.1310d, 380.1311, 380.1311a, 380.1312, 380.1313

## TERMINOLOGY

### **Definition of Terms:**

The meaning of the incidents noted below shall be the same as defined by the statutes of the State of Michigan, and when not so defined, the words of the incident shall have the common dictionary meaning.

**Aiding and Abetting** - assisting another in the commission of an offense or the covering up of an offense.

**Arson** - Any act which results in the starting of a fire, aiding, persuading, and procuring in the starting of a fire.

**Aggravated Assault** – Assault without a weapon that results in a serious injury. A serious injury is a physical injury that requires immediate medical attention.

**Assault** - An attempt or offer to commit an offensive touching of another. An attempted battery.

**Assault and Battery** - Any offensive touching of another which is without justification or excuse.

**Assault, Felonious** - A simple assault or assault and battery committed with a dangerous weapon.

**Bullying** - Persistent, offensive, insulting behavior or the abuse of power that makes the recipient upset, threatened, humiliated, or vulnerable. This may include, but is not limited to: Verbal harassment, physical intimidation, social media posts, and direct threats over the computer/cyber-bullying.

**Careless Driving** - Operating a vehicle on school grounds in a manner that could be dangerous to students, staff, or the public. Ex. Making “doughnuts” in the snow

**Cheating** - Acting dishonestly on a classroom assignment or test.

**Closed Campus** - Leaving school property without permission of the administration or designee.

**Destruction/Misuse of Property** - Minor damage to school property such as books, desks, tables, wall, and other surfaces.

**Disruption in Classroom** - Any act which disturbs or interferes with the learning atmosphere.

**Disturbance** - Exhibiting inappropriate behavior that disrupts the normal operations of the school and failing to respond to directions.

**Drug Trafficking** – illegal drug trade in the global black market consisting of the cultivation, manufacture, distribution and sale of illegal controlled drugs.

**Endangerment** - An act that is accidental or premeditated that causes the risk of the health, welfare, or lives of others.

**Explosive** - Any chemical compound mixture that when detonated has destructive power; life or property threatening

**Extortion** - To obtain money or property by threat.

**Facsimile** - The appearance of an exact copy of a weapon.

**False Alarm** - The activation of an alarm system or protocol that necessitates a response by school employees and/or police/fire/emergency personnel.

**Fighting** - Attempting to harm or gain power over an adversary by physically delivering blows, grappling, shoving/pushing, weapons, etc.

**Firearms** - Include facsimiles, starter gun, B-B gun, or weapon designed to expel a projectile by explosive or other propellant.

**Fireworks** - Explosives, which produce an audible sound and/or visual effect upon detonation, non-life threatening the way it is used.

**Gambling** - Playing a game for money or property; to bet on an uncertain outcome.

**Gang** - A group of hoodlums or criminals who band together for mutual protection and/or profit.

**Gossip** - Making personal or sensational statements about others.

**Gross Misconduct** - Acts of misbehavior of a more serious nature. Depending on the severity of the act, gross misconduct will be dealt with by punishment ranging from short-term suspension to long-term suspension and possible expulsion by Board action.

**Habitual Offender** - A student may be considered a habitual offender after the fourth incident that results in an out of school suspension of greater than three days

**Harassment** – defined as inappropriate conduct that is repeated enough, or serious enough, to negatively impact a student’s educational, physical, or emotional well-being.

**Holding** – temporarily possessing property, drugs, alcohol, or other illicit/illegal materials for the purpose of deceiving the administration or proper authorities; hiding same on school property to help someone else avoid disciplinary action.

**Inappropriate Displays of Personal Affection** - Students will not engage in inappropriate displays of affection, such as kissing or long embraces of a personal nature.

**Inciting** - Spurring to action, stirring up, urging on.

**Insubordination/Unruly Conduct** - Refusal to comply with directives given by staff. If the student is given a reasonable direction by any staff member, he/she is expected to comply. A student will not ignore or refuse to comply with directions or instructions given by school authorities.

**Interference with School Authorities** - Interfering with the performance of duties by threat of force or violence.

**Intimidation** - The act of fighting, discouraging, or inhibiting to compel or deter action.

**Larceny** - theft of property equal to or in excess of \$200 in value

**Obscenities/Profanities** - Indecent, lewd, vulgar, offensive expressions.

**Paraphernalia** - Drug-related articles, equipment or gear.

**Plagiarism** - Defined as the act of taking ideas, writings, etc., from another source and presenting as one’s own.

**Proscribed Substance** –. Proscribed substances are any substances other than food, water or tobacco that affect the body function. May include but not limited to: Alcohol, prescribed drugs, stimulants, depressants, over the counter medicines and counterfeit or look alike drugs.

**Racism** - A lack of respect or hatred for a person because of his/her ethnicity. Creating a hostile learning environment that prevents students or staff from learning or completing their job based on ethnicity.

**Reckless Driving** – driving in such a manner as to create the potential for an accident and/or physical harm to come to another; excessive speed and disobeying the law of the road is usually involved

**Sexual Harassment** - remarks or comments meant to sexually degrade based on gender and/or call another’s gender or sexuality into question; repetitive in nature

**Sexual Misconduct** - physically touching or otherwise causing a touching in order to sexually degrade another based on gender and/or call another’s gender or sexuality into question

**School Rule Violation** - Violation of classroom or school rules pertaining to student behavior. Failure to participate in class and/or complete assignments, dress code violation or minor offenses not itemized above.

**Snap Suspensions** - A teacher may suspend a student from a class/subject for up to one full day, if the teacher has concluded that the student has engaged in any of the following activities: anger, defacement of property, insubordination, and disruption in classroom.

**Tardy** - Late for class

**Theft** – stealing of another person’s or entity’s property valued at under \$200

**Threat** - An expression of an intention to inflict harm on a person or thing.

**Truancy** - The condition of being truant (absent) without permission.

**Tobacco** – use or possession of smoking or smokeless tobacco

**Unauthorized Area** - A restricted area of the school or grounds.

**Unauthorized Material** – Including but not limited to cell phones, pornography, beepers, dice, matches, lighters, mace/pepper spray, and all other electronic devices etc.

**Use of an Object as a Weapon** - Any object that is used to threaten, harm, or harass another student may be considered to be a weapon. This includes but is not limited to pens, pencils, books, jewelry, etc. Intentional injury to another student can be cause for criminal and/or civil action.

**Vandalism** - Willful or malicious destruction of school or personal property

**Verbal Assault** - Anger that includes profanities/obscenities directed at any staff member of volunteer. Verbal assault includes a communicated intent to inflict physical or other harm on another person.

**Weapon** - Including but not limited to: firearms, gun, laser, revolver, pistol, dagger, dirk, stiletto, knife, and pocketknife opened by a mechanical device, iron bar, or brass knuckles.

**Weapon Free School Zone** - Means school property and/or a vehicle used by the school to transport students to or from school property and any property defined in the penal code.

## SUBSTANCE ABUSE MANDATES

Mason Consolidated Schools maintains a zero tolerance for substance abuse and the sale of any illegal substance. These substance abuse mandates apply only to the Class (Schedule) I and Class (Schedule) II proscribed substances listed in this section. We will utilize any means possible in order to enforce this philosophy. If this situation occurs, the parents/guardians will be called to the school immediately.

Disciplinary action taken by district officials shall not be intended or shall not replace in any way such action as may be taken by the State of Michigan or any of its political subdivisions or local law enforcement agencies.

Offenses under the Substance Abuse Mandates are cumulative.

## MEDICATIONS; USE OF

In those circumstances where a student must take prescribed medication during the school day, the following guidelines are to be observed:

- A. Parents should, with their physician's counsel, determine whether the medication schedule could be adjusted to avoid administering medication during school hours.
- B. The Medication Request and Authorization Forms must be filed with the respective building principal before the student will be allowed to begin taking any medication during school hours.
- C. All medications must be registered with the principal's office.
- D. Medication that is brought to the office will be properly secured.
  - a. Medication may be conveyed to school directly by the parent or designated adult. This should be arranged in advance. A two- to four- (2-4) week supply of medication is recommended.
  - b. Medication MAY NOT be sent to school in a student's lunch box, pocket, or other means on or about his/her person, except for emergency medications for allergies and/or reactions.
- E. Any unused medication unclaimed by the parent will be destroyed by school personnel when a prescription is no longer to be administered or at the end of a school year.
- F. The parents shall have sole responsibility to instruct their child to take the medication at the scheduled time, and the child has the responsibility for both presenting himself/herself on time and for taking the prescribed medication.
- G. A log for each prescribed medication shall be maintained, which will note the personnel giving the medication, the date, and the time of day. This log will be maintained along with the physician's written instructions and the parent's written permission release.

**Asthma Inhalers and Epi-pens**

Students, with appropriate written permission from the physician and parent, may possess and use a metered dose inhaler or dry powder inhaler to alleviate asthmatic symptoms. Epinephrine (Epi-pen) is administered only in accordance with a written medication administration plan developed by the school principal and updated annually. This includes a written permission plan developed by the principal's office and the parent(s).

**Non-Prescribed Medications**

If a student is found possessing a non-prescribed medication without parent authorization, s/he will be brought to the school office and the parents will be contacted for authorization. The medication will be confiscated until written authorization is received. Any student who misuses or distributes a medication of any kind to another student is in violation of the school's Code of Conduct and may be disciplined in accordance with the drug-use provision of the Code.

**Use of Breath-Test Instruments and Drug Dogs**

The school administration may arrange for a breath test for blood-alcohol to be conducted on a student whenever s/he has individualized reasonable suspicion to believe that a student has consumed an alcoholic beverage.

The student will be taken to a private administrative or instructional area on school property with at least one (1) other member of the teaching or administrative staff present as a witness to the test.

The purpose of the test is to determine whether the student has consumed an alcoholic beverage. The amount of consumption is not relevant, except where the student may need medical attention.

If the result indicates a violation of school rules as described in this handbook, the student will be disciplined in accordance with disciplinary procedures. If a student refuses to take the test, s/he will be advised that such denial will be considered an admission of alcohol use with the consequent discipline invoked. The student will then be given a second opportunity to take the test. Law enforcement agencies may be contacted as necessary.

The school reserves the right to bring in a drug dog during the school day. When a drug dog is in the school, students will be directed to remain in their classrooms. In some case, classrooms will be evacuated so the drug dog can continue the search for illegal drugs.

**Definition of Terms**

Definition of words and phrases used in policy and procedures for substance abuse:

**SUBSTANCE ABUSE** is the possession, use, delivery, or manufacture or the intent to possess, use, deliver, or manufacture proscribed substances on school property or during school-sponsored activities.

**PROSCRIBED SUBSTANCES** include alcohol, stimulants, depressants, controlled substances, prescription drugs, and over-the-counter medicines and counterfeit or look-a-like drugs, or immediate precursors thereof. Proscribed substances are any substances other than food, water, or tobacco, which affect the body function.

**DELIVER OR DELIVERY** means the actual, constructive, or attempted transfer from one person to another of a proscribed substance, whether or not there exists an agency relationship.

**USE OF A PROSCRIBED SUBSTANCE** includes application, injection, inhalation, or ingestion into the human body.

**POSSESSION** is the actual or constructive ownership, control, or holding of a proscribed substance.

**SELF-REFERRED USER** is the term for that student, who, because of a disciplinary or potentially disciplinary infraction of the student handbook regarding substance abuse of a Class I or Class II proscribed substance, chooses to self-refer himself or herself out a desire for rehabilitation through a recognized substance abuse program. The self-referral has to happen before the administration is aware of the use or when questioned initially about the use.

**MANUFACTURE** means the production, preparation, propagation, compounding, conversion, or processing of a proscribed substance, directly or indirectly by extraction from substances of natural origin or independently by means of chemical synthesis, or by a combination of extraction and chemical synthesis. It includes the packaging or repackaging of the proscribed substance.

**CLASS (SCHEDULE) I PROSCRIBED SUBSTANCES** include, but are not limited to, cocaine, heroin, LSD, GHB, Ecstasy, designer drugs, bath salts, marijuana, but may also include counterfeits, and look-a-likes.

**CLASS (SCHEDULE) II PROSCRIBED SUBSTANCES** include, but are not limited to, alcohol, inhalable substances, all over-the-counter (OTC) medicines, prescription drugs, diet and performance-enhancing products, and look-a-likes, but not inclusive thereof. Some common OTC medicines that can be misused include, Triaminic, Nyquil, Vicks 44D, Robotussin, and Coricidin C. All other OTC medications (pills, capsules, sprays, liquids, etc.) are also strictly prohibited.

**A. Procedures for dealing with the SELF-REFERRED USER.**

1. Every effort will be made to maintain the counselor-client relationship. Parent involvement will be solicited as soon as it is appropriate. Parents will be contacted immediately if the student's health is in danger or his/her behavior jeopardizes his/her or another's well being.
2. Confidential records shall be kept for the purpose of counseling and referral. These records shall be kept separate from the student's cumulative record file.
3. Any discipline resulting from a first-time (one time and one time only) self-referred user will automatically be mitigated by 50%. In the case of suspensions pending an expulsion hearing, such self-referred user will be granted the ability to shortened expulsion in exchange for successful completion of the applicable and pertinent, clinically recognized rehabilitation program. The student will incur any outside service costs.

**B. Procedures for dealing with the USER/POSSESSOR for violation of school policy.**

1. If the health problem is not a medical emergency, the parents should take the student to the appropriate health care facility. In any case, the parents will be notified.
2. All cases shall be referred, when appropriate, to the law enforcement agencies.
3. Confidential records shall be kept for the purpose of counseling and referral. These records shall be kept separate from the student's cumulative record file.

**USER/POSSESSOR OF CLASS I PROSCRIBED SUBSTANCES.**

**First Offense**

Immediate separation from the building. There will be a required 9-day, out-of-school suspension. In cases of a severe nature, Possession with Intent to Deliver Class I and Class II may be applied.

**Second Offense**



Immediate separation from the building. The student will receive a 19-day out-of-school suspension up to expulsion. Credit for up to 10 days suspension may be given if parent and student agree to involvement with an outside, licensed, professional substance abuse program as a condition for re-admittance. Any costs for such assistance will be incurred by the student.

All cases shall be referred to local law enforcement agencies.

#### USER/POSSESSOR OF CLASS II PROSCRIBED SUBSTANCES.

##### First Offense

Immediate separation from the building. There will be a required 5 day out of school suspension.

##### Second Offense

Immediate separation from the building. There will be up to 9-day out- of-school suspension with possibility of credit for up to 4 days if parent and student agree to involvement with an outside, licensed, professional substance abuse program as a condition for re-admittance. Any outside service costs will in incurred by the student.

##### Third Offense

Immediate separation from the building. There will be a 19-day out-of- school suspension up to expulsion with administrative/team recommendation for further continued treatment.

All cases shall be referred to local law enforcement agencies.

#### **C. Procedures for dealing with the SELLER/DISTRIBUTOR/MANUFACTURER OF CLASS I PROSCRIBED SUBSTANCES.**

1. The appropriate law enforcement agency shall be notified.
2. Parents shall be notified.
3. If the school administrator determines that a student has sold, given away, exchanged, distributed or manufactured any Class I Proscribed Substances, the following mandates shall apply:

##### First Offense

Immediate separation from the building. There will be a 19-day out-of- school suspension up to expulsion, required assessment, evaluation, and/or treatment by an outside licensed, professional substance abuse agency as condition of return to school. Any costs for such assistance will be incurred by the student. Referral to appropriate law enforcement agency.

#### **D. Procedures for dealing with the SELLER/DISTRIBUTOR/MANUFACTURER OF CLASS II PROSCRIBED SUBSTANCES.**

1. The appropriate law enforcement agency shall be notified.
2. Parents shall be notified.

3. If it is determined a student has sold, given away, exchanged, distributed, otherwise helped someone obtain, or manufactured any Class II Proscribed Substance, the following mandates shall apply:

#### First Offense

Immediate separation from the building. There will be a 5-day out-of school suspension up to expulsion. The school administrator can also recommend assessment, evaluation, and/or treatment by an outside licensed, professional substance abuse agency as condition of return to school. Any costs for such assistance will be incurred by the student. There will also be a referral to appropriate law enforcement agency.

#### Second Offense

Immediate separation from the building. Suspension pending expulsion hearing. There will also be a referral made to the appropriate law enforcement agency.

### SEARCH AND SEIZURE **Board Policy 5103**

School officials may search a student and the student's belongings if they have reasonable suspicion that the search will reveal contraband or evidence of a violation of law, Board Policy, or rule. In rare cases, school officials may conduct a search without reasonable suspicion if there is an imminent threat of physical harm or death.

A reasonable suspicion search must be justified at its inception and reasonable in its scope. A search is justified at its inception when school officials have reasonable grounds to suspect that the search will uncover contraband or evidence of a violation of law, Policy, or rule. A search is reasonable in scope when the measures used are reasonably related to the search objectives and are not excessively intrusive in light of the student's age, sex, and the nature of the infraction.

School officials are not required to have reasonable suspicion to search lockers or other District property. See Policy 5102.

The District may use detection dogs to search for contraband on District property consistent with Policy 3107.

A breath alcohol test is a search and may be administered upon reasonable suspicion that a student has consumed or is under the influence of alcohol. For voluntary, noncurricular school activities (e.g., school dances), suspicion less breath alcohol tests may be administered for student health and safety purposes if students and their parents/guardians have been provided advance written notice.

Strip searches are prohibited.

The building principal or designee will turn over to law enforcement illegal items and dangerous weapons, as defined in Policy 5206, and may store in a secure place any other contraband or evidence seized from a search until a disciplinary hearing.

This Policy does not apply to any outside entity that may require drug or breath alcohol testing as a condition of participation. See Policy 5105.

Legal authority: MCL 380.1306, 380.1313(2)



### **Board Policy 5102 Lockers**

Lockers are District property and may be made available for student use. Lockers are assigned to students on a temporary basis, and District administration may revoke a student's locker assignment at any time. The District retains ownership of lockers notwithstanding student use.

Students have no expectation of privacy in their lockers. The building principal or designee may inspect lockers without any particularized suspicion or reasonable cause and without advance notice. Upon the request of the building principal or designee, law enforcement may assist with searching lockers.

During a locker search, student privacy rights will be respected for any items that are not illegal or against Board Policy.

The Board directs the Superintendent to include this Policy in the student code of conduct and to distribute it to parents/guardians.

Legal authority: MCL 380.1306

### **Bullying and Other Aggressive Behavior**

It is the policy of the District to provide a safe and nurturing educational environment for all of its students.

This policy protects all students from bullying/aggressive behavior regardless of the subject matter or motivation for such impermissible behavior.

Bullying or other aggressive behavior toward a student, whether by other students, staff, or third parties, including Board members, parents, guests, contractors, vendors, and volunteers, is strictly prohibited. This prohibition includes written, physical, verbal, and psychological abuse, including hazing, gestures, comments, threats, or actions to a student, which cause or threaten to cause bodily harm, reasonable fear for personal safety or personal degradation.

Demonstration of appropriate behavior, treating others with civility and respect, and refusing to tolerate harassment or bullying is expected of administrators, faculty, staff, and volunteers to provide positive examples for student behavior.

This policy applies to all "at school" activities in the District, including activities on school property, in a school vehicle, and those occurring off school property, if the student or employee is at any school-sponsored, school-approved or school-related activity or function, such as field trips or athletic events where students are under the school's control, or where an employee is engaged in school business. Misconduct occurring outside of school may also be disciplined if it interferes with the school environment.

### **Notification**

Notice of this policy will be annually circulated to and posted in conspicuous locations in all school buildings and departments within the District and discussed with students, as well as incorporated into the teacher, student, and parent/guardian handbooks. State and Federal rights posters on discrimination and harassment shall also be posted at each building. All new hires will be required to review and sign off on this policy and the related complaint procedure.

Parents or legal guardians of the alleged victim(s), as well as of the alleged aggressor(s), shall be promptly notified of any complaint or investigation as well as the results of the investigation to the extent consistent with student confidentiality requirements. A record of the time and form of notice or attempts at notice shall be kept in the investigation file.

To the extent, appropriate and/or legally permitted, confidentiality will be maintained during the investigation process. However, a proper investigation will, in some circumstances, require the disclosure of names and allegations. Further, the appropriate authorities may be notified, depending on the nature of the complaint and/or the results of the investigation.

### **Implementation**

The Superintendent is responsible to implement this policy, and may develop further guidelines, not inconsistent with this policy.

This policy is not intended to and should not be interpreted to interfere with legitimate free speech rights of any individual. However, the District reserves the right and responsibility to maintain a safe environment for students, conducive to learning and other legitimate objectives of the school program.

### **Procedure**

Any student who believes s/he has been or is the victim of bullying, hazing, or other aggressive behavior should immediately report the situation to the Principal or assistant principal. The student may also report concerns to a teacher or counselor who will be responsible for notifying the appropriate administrator or Board official. Complaints against the building principal should be filed with the Superintendent. Complaints against the Superintendent should be filed with the Board President.

Every student is encouraged, and every staff member is required, to report any situation that they believe to be aggressive behavior directed toward a student. Reports shall be made to those identified above. Reports may be made anonymously, but formal disciplinary action may not be taken solely based on an anonymous report.

The Principal (or other administrator as designated) shall promptly investigate and document all complaints about bullying, aggressive or other behavior that may violate this policy. The investigation must be completed as promptly as the circumstances permit and should be completed within three (3) school days after a report or complaint is made.

If the investigation finds an instance of bullying or aggressive behavior has occurred, it will result in prompt and appropriate remedial action. This may include up to expulsion for students, up to discharge for employees, exclusion for parents, guests, volunteers and contractors, and removal from any official position and/or a request to resign for Board members. Individuals may also be referred to law enforcement or other appropriate officials.

The individual responsible for conducting the investigation shall document all reported incidents and report all verified incidents of bullying, aggressive or other prohibited behavior, as well as any remedial action taken, including disciplinary actions and referrals, to the Superintendent. The Superintendent shall submit a compiled report to the Board on an annual basis.

### **Non-Retaliation/False Reports**

Retaliation or false allegations against any person who reports, is thought to have reported, files a complaint, participates in an investigation or inquiry concerning allegations of bullying or aggressive behavior (as a witness or otherwise), or is the target of the bullying or aggressive behavior being investigated, is prohibited and will not

be tolerated. Such retaliation shall be considered a serious violation of Board policy, independent of whether a complaint of bullying is substantiated. Suspected retaliation should be reported in the same manner as bullying/aggressive behavior.

Making intentionally false reports about bullying/aggressive behavior for the purpose of getting someone in trouble is similarly prohibited and will not be tolerated. Retaliation and intentionally false reports may result in disciplinary action as indicated above.

## Definitions

The following definitions are provided for guidance only. If a student or other individual believes there has been bullying, hazing, harassment or other aggressive behavior, regardless of whether it fits a particular definition, s/he should report it immediately and allow the administration to determine the appropriate course of action.

**"Aggressive behavior"** is defined as inappropriate conduct that is repeated enough, or serious enough, to negatively impact a student's educational, physical, or emotional well-being. Such behavior includes, for example, bullying, hazing, stalking, intimidation, menacing, coercion, name-calling, taunting, making threats, and hitting/pushing/shoving.

**"At School"** is defined as in a classroom, elsewhere on school premises, on a school bus or other school-related vehicle, or at a school-sponsored activity or event, whether or not it is held on school premises. It also includes conduct using a telecommunications access device or telecommunications service provider that occurs off school premises if owned either by or under the control of the District.

**"Bullying"** is defined as any gesture or written, verbal, graphic, or physical act (including electronically transmitted acts – i.e. internet, telephone or cell phone, personal digital assistant (PDA), or wireless hand held device) that, without regard to its subject matter or motivating animus, is intended or that a reasonable person would know is likely to harm one (1) or more students either directly or indirectly by doing any of the following:

- A. substantially interfering with educational opportunities, benefits, or programs of one (1) or more students;
- B. adversely affecting the ability of a student to participate in or benefit from the school district's educational programs or activities by placing the student in reasonable fear of physical harm or by causing substantial emotional distress;
- C. having an actual and substantial detrimental effect on a student's physical or mental health; and/or
- D. causing substantial disruption in, or substantial interference with, the orderly operation of the school.

Bullying can be physical, verbal, psychological, or a combination of all three. Some examples of bullying are:

- A. Physical – hitting, kicking, spitting, pushing, pulling; taking and/or damaging personal belongings or extorting money, blocking or impeding student movement, unwelcome physical contact.

- B. Verbal – taunting, malicious teasing, insulting, name-calling, making threats.
- C. Psychological – spreading rumors, manipulating social relationships, coercion, or engaging in social exclusion/shunning, extortion, or intimidation. This may occur in a number of different ways, including but not limited to notes, emails, social media postings, and graffiti.

**"Harassment"** includes, but is not limited to, any act which subjects an individual or group to unwanted, abusive behavior of a nonverbal, verbal, written or physical nature, often on the basis of age, race, religion, color, national origin, marital status or disability, but may also include sexual orientation, physical characteristics (e.g., height, weight, complexion), cultural background, socioeconomic status, or geographic location (e.g., from rival school, different state, rural area, city, etc.).

**"Intimidation/Menacing"** includes, but is not limited to, any threat or act intended to: place a person in fear of physical injury or offensive physical contact; to substantially damage or interfere with person's property; or to intentionally interfere with or block a person's movement without good reason.

**"Staff"** includes all school employees and Board members.

**"Third parties"** include, but are not limited to, coaches, school volunteers, parents, school visitors, service contractors, vendors, or others engaged in District business, and others not directly subject to school control at inter-district or intra-district athletic competitions or other school events.

#### **Weapon-Free School Zone, Arson, Assault and Criminal Sexual Conduct Policy**

Mason Consolidated Schools will follow State of Michigan law regarding criminal offenses in this category.

### STUDENT ATTENDANCE AT SCHOOL EVENTS

The school encourages students to attend as many school events held after school as possible, without interfering with their schoolwork and home activities. Enthusiastic spectators help to build school spirit and encourage those students who are participating in the event. However, in order to ensure that younger students attending evening events as non-participants are properly safeguarded, it is strongly advised that a parent or adult chaperone accompany students when they attend the event. The school will not be able to supervise unaccompanied students nor will it be responsible for students who arrive without an adult chaperone.

The school will continue to provide adequate supervision for all students who are participants in a school activity. Students must comply with the Code of Conduct at school events, regardless of the location.

Students who demonstrate poor sportsmanship, insubordination, or other defiance of authority so that such behavior reflects negatively on Mason Consolidated Schools may be asked to leave the premises and/or lose their privilege to attend future events.

#### **Dances**

No dance shall take place without prior authorization from the building principal at least one calendar week in advance. Guests: Only Mason Senior High School/MAVA students will be allowed to attend high school dances. Exceptions for fall and winter homecoming and prom will be made provided the "guest" is a currently enrolled high school student or a high school graduate under the age of 21.

Inappropriate behavior at a dance, including public displays of affection, overt sexual dancing (grinding, bumping or the like) may result in removal from premises without reimbursement. All other guidelines including the Student Code of Conduct shall be in effect. The administration reserves the right to end or cancel a dance or any event at any time if there is a real or perceived threat to the student code, persons or property present.

The Junior-Senior Prom is conducted by the junior class and requires adherence to the rules set forth here and by any additional rules deemed necessary in a specific school year (signed contracts, tickets purchased in advance, etc.).

Dances must be sponsored by a school club or class. A police officer must be present. In addition to one administrator and at least one sponsor or advisor from the entity sponsoring the dance, one chaperone for every anticipated 20 students must be present.

### STUDENT CONCERNS, SUGGESTIONS, AND GRIEVANCES

The school is here for the benefit of the students. The staff is here to assist each student in becoming a responsible adult. If a student has suggestions that could improve the school, s/he should feel free to offer them. Written suggestions may be presented directly to the principal or to the student government.

When concerns or grievances arise, the best way to resolve the issue is through communication. No student will be harassed by any staff member or need fear reprisal for the proper expression of a legitimate concern. Any suggestions, concerns, and grievances may be directed to the principal or to the student government.

A student may have the right to a hearing if the student believes s/he has been improperly denied participation in a school activity or has been subjected to an illegal rule or standard. A student may not petition to have a change in grade.

### STUDENT RIGHTS OF EXPRESSION

#### **Board Policy 5101**

The District will balance student speech and expression rights with its responsibility to provide a safe, orderly learning environment.

Students may not engage in speech or expressive conduct that would materially and substantially interfere with or disrupt school operations, including school activities and educational programming. An actual disruption is not required before school officials may regulate student speech or impose discipline if they can reasonably forecast a substantial and material disruption or interference with school operations.

Students may be disciplined for speech or expressive conduct that: is materially and substantially disruptive or that school officials can reasonably forecast will create a substantial disruption; is obscene, sexually explicit, indecent, or lewd; promotes the use of or advertises illegal substances; incites violence; contains “fighting words” or constitutes a true threat of violence; involves a student walkout; urges a violation of law, Board Policy, or rule; or is not constitutionally protected. Administrators will evaluate student speech on a case-by-case basis before imposing discipline.

Student activism is subject to the above standards.

As used in this Policy, “fighting words” are words that tend to provoke a violent response amounting to a breach of the peace.

Legal authority: U.S. CONST. amend. I; Const 1963, art I, § 5; *Tinker v Des Moines Indep Community Sch Dist*, 393 US 503 (1969)

### **SECTION III – TRANSPORTATION**

#### **Board Policy 5802 Student Transportation**

The District may provide student transportation to and from school.

If the District provides student transportation to and from school, the District is not required to transport or pay for transportation for a student who lives within 1.5 miles of the student's school by the nearest traveled route.

The District may establish and require students to use bus stops. The District is not responsible for supervising students at bus stops, before the bus picks the student up for school, or after the student disembarks at the end of the student's school day. Students may only ride assigned school buses and must board and depart from the bus at assigned bus stops. Students will not be permitted to ride unassigned buses for any reason other than an emergency, except as approved by the principal.

The building principal may approve a change in a student's regular assigned bus stop to address a special need, upon the approval of a note from parent stating the reason for the request and the duration of the requested change.

A student's failure to comply with Board Policy, applicable codes of conduct, and any other applicable rules or behavioral expectations while using District-provided transportation, including while at a designated bus stop, may result in disciplinary action and exclusion from District-provided transportation.

A student does not have a right to District-provided transportation. Nothing in this Policy, however, diminishes any right a student with a disability may have under state or federal law.

Legal authority: MCL 380.1321

#### **BUS CONDUCT**

Students who are riding to and from school on transportation provided by the school are required to follow all basic safety rules. This applies to school-owned buses as well as any contracted transportation.

The driver may assign seating or direct students in any reasonable manner to maintain that transportation safety.

Students must comply with the following basic safety rules:

Previous to loading (on the road and at school), each student shall:

- Be on time at the designated loading zone (10 minutes prior to scheduled stop).
- Stay off the road at all times while walking to and waiting for the school transportation.
- Line up single file off the roadway to enter.
- Wait until the school transportation is completely stopped before moving forward to enter.
- Refrain from crossing a highway until the driver signals it is safe to cross.
- Go immediately to a seat and be seated.

It is the parents' responsibility to inform the bus driver when their child will not be aboard school transportation. The bus will not wait. Drivers will not wait for students who are not at their designated stops on time

### During the trip

Each student shall:

- Remain seated while school transportation is in motion
- Keep head, hands, arms, and legs inside the school vehicle at all times
- Not litter in the school vehicle or throw anything from the vehicle
- Keep books, packages, coats, and all other objects out of the aisle
- Be courteous to the driver and to other riders
- Not eat or play games, cards, etc.
- Not tamper with the school vehicle or any of its equipment

### Leaving the bus

Each student shall:

- Remain seated until the vehicle has stopped
- Cross the road, when necessary, at least ten (10) feet in front of the vehicle, but only after the driver signals that it is safe
- Be alert to a possible danger signal from the driver.

The driver will not discharge students at places other than their regular stop at home or at school unless s/he has proper authorization from school officials.

## **VIDEO RECORDING ON SCHOOL BUSES**

Video cameras may be used to monitor student behavior on school vehicles transporting students to and from school or extracurricular activities. The district shall keep all video recording of students confidential and shall comply with all applicable state and federal laws related to video recordings when such recordings are considered as part of the student's education and behavioral record as determined by the district and in accordance with the law.

## **PENALTIES ASSOCIATED WITH CITATIONS**

A student who misbehaves on the bus shall be disciplined in accordance with the Student Discipline Code and may lose the privilege of riding on the bus.

A citation, when received by a student carries with it specific penalties, they are as follows:

- 1<sup>st</sup> Report: A verbal warning and possible suspension from the bus.
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Report: A written warning and possible suspension from the bus based on the offense.
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Report: Removal from the bus for three (3) school days to (5) school days and possible permanent suspension of bus privileges
- 4<sup>th</sup> Report: Removal from the bus for a minimum of ten (10) school days and possible permanent suspension of bus privileges.
- 5<sup>th</sup> Report: Removal from the bus for a minimum of 30 school days to a maximum of one school year.
- 6<sup>th</sup> Report: Removal from the bus for the balance of the school year.

Restitution for bus damage must be paid before the student is allowed to be transported by a school bus.

## SELF TRANSPORTATION TO SCHOOL

**Board Policy 5803**

Student driving and parking on District property is a privilege, not a right that may be revoked at any time. The building principal or designee will annually publish rules and criteria for student driving and parking in the applicable student handbook(s).

A student who drives to school must register any vehicle driven to school consistent with the rules in the applicable student handbook.

Parking on school property is a privilege, which can be revoked/restricted at any time. Student parking may be revoked/restricted as a disciplinary measure at the discretion of the principal. Students who are provided the opportunity to ride school transportation are encouraged to do so. Students and their parents assume full responsibility for any transportation to and from school not officially provided by the school.

The following rules shall apply:

- Parking lot speed limit is 15 m.p.h.
- The student must obtain a permit from high school office and pay a fee of \$5 for the entire school year. Permit must be displayed in parking lot at all times.
- If a student's parking permit is suspended, no fees will be refunded.
- Students are not to enter their vehicles during the school day. Any student who enters their vehicle during the school day without permission of the principal will have their car searched and may have additional disciplinary consequences.
- Students who assist other students to skip school will lose driving privileges for up to 30 days for the first offense and may lose driving privileges for the remainder of the year for subsequent offenses.
- Students must park in assigned areas.
- Students must lock their vehicles.
- No reckless driving or squealing of tires.
- Students will not park in designated visitor, staff, or handicap parking areas.



## SECTION IV– ATHLETIC/EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITY CODE

The Michigan High School Athletic Association and our conference, the TCC, have made a commitment to good sportsmanship. Students at Mason High School are expected to exhibit good sportsmanship. Any action, cheer, or chant that is offensive to either competing individual, team, school, or community is not appropriate.

It is the policy at Mason High School that athletes, students who participate in extra-curricular activities and in school sponsored clubs, such as the drama club, establish an exemplary image regarding school behavior. A student is eligible to participate in athletics and extra-curricular activities if, in the judgment of the principal, coaching staff, and faculty, they are representative of the school's ideals in matters of citizenship, integrity and sportsmanship. **Participation in athletics and extra-curricular activities is a privilege, not a right.**

Students involved in extra-curricular activities are expected to abide by the Student Code of Conduct. In addition, students involved in extra-curricular activities are expected to abide by the rules outlined in the Athletic/Extra-Curricular Activity Code. A student should realize that the extra-curricular student activities guidelines apply at all times throughout the students' high school career (from: Day One of eligibility, freshman year—through: Last Day of eligibility, up to and including post-season MHSAA tournaments in the fourth and last year of high school: the off season and all vacation periods are included.) The guidelines are not limited to the time period in which the student participates in a particular activity, nor are the guidelines limited to the student behavior at school-sponsored activities or on school property. A student who violates the guidelines will be subject to disciplinary action as outlined in the penalty provisions.

As program participants, athletes/extra-curricular members (where applicable) are to:

- Follow the rules, train faithfully, and comply with the coach's instructions and policies.
- Enjoy the fun of the contest by playing hard, playing fair, and concentrating on giving their best.
- Strive to keep faith in their teammates, their school, their coach, and themselves.
- Be respectful to all officials and accept their judgments.
- Be modest in victory and courteous in defeat.
- Show respect for faculty members and students at all times.
- Be prepared for daily classroom activities and strive for more than minimum academic standards.

### ATHLETIC FEE (FOR ATHLETICS ONLY)

This program does not guarantee playing time. It will allow access to our various sports programs.

**COST:** \$100 per school calendar year per athlete for high school students and \$75 per school calendar year per athlete for 6<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> grade students with a maximum of \$200 per family at any or combined levels. After a student-athlete has paid their athletic fee, the student-athlete will receive an athletic pass to all home middle school and high school athletic events.

**FEE:** Must be paid no later than the first scheduled scrimmage or game. Fee must be paid to the athletic office, and a receipt will be issued. Return checks will result in the athlete being declared ineligible until a cash payment can be made. A student who has not paid the fee by the deadline will be removed from the team. A student who becomes ineligible, is suspended, or resigns his position for the team will not receive a refund.

Note on fee: A student-athlete who is injured within the first 50% of the season and is unable to continue participating (as confirmed by a medical doctor) because of that injury may receive a refund.

## ATHLETIC ELIGIBILITY

Eligibility is determined by the student-athlete's previous semester grade point average (GPA): student-athletes must pass 4 out of 6 classes and maintain a 1.7 GPA or better to be eligible to participate in a sport for the following semester; student-athletes passing at the semester or most recent check 4 out of 6 classes with at least a 1.5 GPA but less than a 1.7 GPA are eligible to participate provided they meet the conditions of academic probation per the definition and procedures outlined in this section. Those student-athletes not meeting these requirements may regain their eligibility by making up the deficiency in the class(es) affecting their eligibility, by retaking the classes they did not pass, by successfully testing out of the class they did not pass, or by making up the class(es) during summer school.

Beginning the third Friday after Labor Day, all in-season athletes will have their grades checked every other Friday, on a bi-weekly basis. If during the eligibility, check the athlete is failing one or more courses, is ineligible, or on probation, the athlete may be required to attend after school tutoring sessions. Students are considered ineligible if they have a 1.499 GPA, or lower. Students are considered on academic probation if they have a 1.5-1.699 GPA. Parents/Guardians, students and coaches will be notified by the Athletic Director when the student is ineligible and/or failing a course. It is the student's responsibility to gather assigned and/or missing assessments for each course.

**If a student is ELIGIBLE (>1.7 GPA), but FAILING one of more courses:** Student will meet with the athletic director to discuss the academic deficiency. Student will have until the next grade check to bring up their failing grade or the student MUST attend after school tutoring and meet all of the requirements (see below). Eligible students are allowed to practice and compete in the games, providing they have fulfilled the tutoring center requirements. If the deficient grade is brought up at the next check, the student will no longer be required to attend the after school tutoring.

**If a student is INELIGIBLE (<1.49 GPA) or on PROBATION (1.5-1.69 GPA):** Student MUST attend after school tutoring and meet all of the requirements (see below). Ineligible students are allowed to practice, providing they have fulfilled the tutoring center requirements, but they are not permitted to compete, until eligible. Probationary students are allowed to practice, providing they have fulfilled the tutoring center requirements and are allowed to compete.

### Requirements for After School Tutoring:

1. Students must attend tutoring three times a week, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, until they are eligible and are NOT failing any course. (Tutoring days are subject to change)
2. Students must bring and do their school work when in the tutoring center or they will not receive credit for attending that day.
3. Saturday school may be assigned as needed, but cannot replace the required after school tutoring sessions.

**Academic probation:** As a result of a previous semester's GPA or weekly grade check, student-athletes with a 1.5 to 1.699 (rounded) GPA will be placed on "academic probation" and will have until the next weekly grade check to lift their grade point average up to 1.7 or better. Student-athletes who fail to raise their GPA back up

to 1.7 or better commencing with the first grade-check of the semester or after spending a week on probation will be ineligible until at least their next weekly grade check. The definition of a week's eligibility is always Monday through Sunday, per MHSAA, commencing on the Monday following the grade check on Friday.

### **Other Eligibility Rules:**

- High school students must be under 19 years of age on August 31. Seventh and eighth grade students must be under ages 14 and 15, respectively, on September 1 of current school year.
- In order to be eligible to practice with or play on a school-sponsored team, you must have satisfactorily passed a physical examination for the present school year. A record of this examination must be on file in the high school. Physicals must have the signature of either an M.D. or D.O.
- An insurance program either through the school or private insurance must cover you. You cannot practice without insurance. A parental/guardian signature is required on the physical exam record indicating insurance coverage.
- You have not been enrolled in high school for more than eight (8) semesters [two semesters = three trimesters] beyond the eighth grade.
- An athlete may not represent another team. Exceptions are in Section 13 of the MHSAA.
- Students transferring into the district will be eligible if they meet requirements set forth in MHSAA Regulations (Regulation 1, Section 9).
- MHSAA Regulations relating to amateur status and awards shall apply.

## **ATHLETIC/EXTRA-CURRICULAR VIOLATIONS AND PENALTIES**

**ALL VIOLATIONS OF THE ATHLETIC/EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITY CODE OF CONDUCT WILL RESULT IN AN INTERNAL INVESTIGATION PERFORMED BY THE ATHLETIC DIRECTOR AND/OR THE BUILDING PRINCIPAL. ANY DISCIPLINARY ACTION ISSUED TO THE ATHLETE/PARTICIPANT WILL BE BASED SOLELY ON THE INTERNAL INVESTIGATION OR THE REPORT OF A RECOGNIZED, PROPER, LEGAL AUTHORITY.**

**ALL PENALTIES FOR THIS CODE OF CONDUCT SHALL BE CUMULATIVE BEGINNING WITH THE STUDENT'S FIRST DATE OF ELIGIBILITY TO PARTICIPATE IN HIGH SCHOOL.**

### **DUE PROCESS**

Any student involved in an athletic/extra-curricular activity that is in violation of any major offense mentioned above will be afforded due process. During the investigation, the student-athlete will have the right to be informed of any and all allegations and will have the right to be heard by the athletic director or the building principal. The student will have the right of appeal of consequences to the building principal unless the building principal is actively involved in the original investigation and/or determination of consequences. This must be done, in writing, per board policy. All consequences will be enforced during the appeal period. A final appeal may be made to the Superintendent of schools or his/her designee, in writing, within 72 hours of the consequences being determined. All consequences will be enforced during the appeal. A form to initiate the appeal is available in the high school office and must be filled out to initiate the appeal.

Major Offenses - Major offenses documented at any time are subject to Athletic/Extra-Curricular Code discipline. The number of major offenses is cumulative during the total high school career.

1. Involvement in any crime inside or outside of school that results in a misdemeanor or felony citation, ticket, charge or conviction by law enforcement.
2. Use, possession, association with or distribution of, alcohol, or illegal drugs is prohibited on school grounds. This includes illegal performance enhancing substances, unauthorized medicines or prescriptions, narcotics, or look-alike drugs. Also included is the aiding and abetting of any such activity listed above, including the promotion of or distribution of information on where and how to obtain.

Progressive Discipline - Any athlete involved in a major offense will be subject to the following disciplinary action. A coach may establish more stringent discipline if approved by the athletic director and Superintendent.

1. **First Offense:** Suspension from the next two (2) scheduled contest-dates where the student-athlete, as a member of a team, participates. This will begin immediately; if an athlete/participant is unable to serve their entire suspension, the suspension will carry over to the athlete's/participants next season. Participants may continue practicing with the team/activity during this period with the coach's/moderator's permission, but cannot dress, play/participate, or be involved in any way during the contests/events. If the offense results in a felony conviction, then the first offense will result in suspension from all athletics for one (1) calendar year.

2. **Second Offense:** Suspension from all extra-curricular activities for one (1) calendar year. If the offense results in a second felony conviction, then the second offense will result in suspension from all athletics for the rest of the high school career.

3. **Third Offense:** You may not represent Mason High School in any athletics for the rest of your school career.

Other Offenses: Tobacco use or possession –or– Where there is no misdemeanor or felony conviction and the offense involves conduct unbecoming of a Mason student that is involved in an athletics including—but not limited to violation of in-season team rules as determined by the head coach of the sport in question—the disregard for the rights of other team/activity members, coaches/moderators, faculty or school personnel, fans, other students or property (school or private).

1. First Offense:  
Suspension from the next scheduled contest-date—where the student-athlete as a member of a team participates.
2. Second Offense:  
Suspension from the next scheduled 50% of the contest-dates where the student-athlete as a member of a team participates.
3. Third and Subsequent Offense: Suspension from all athletics for one (1) calendar year.

Penalties: Athletic code contest suspensions shall not be considered served if the athlete quits the team or sport prior to that sport's season completion. The athletic director or principal may waive this clause under extenuating circumstances only.

Additionally, athletic code contest suspensions shall not be considered served if the contest or contest-date is moved or cancelled due to weather and/or the joint agreement of both schools. In this case, the athletic director will notify the coach of the readjustment.

### Team Offenses

The head coach/moderator will establish the appropriate discipline for those team offenses not already covered in this section. This discipline will be explained in the individual coach's/moderator's, Athletic Director-approved rules, and distributed to athletes and parents prior to the start of the season.

## ATHLETIC AWARDS/LETTERS

Athletic awards such as the varsity letter "M," captain's pins, other pins or emblems and participation certificates are intended to stand as symbols of recognition for being part of a team, for abiding by school, sport and team rules, and for representing the community. The head varsity coach of each sport will determine the guidelines for earning a varsity letter, for some teams this may mean finishing the season in good standing, for some teams this may mean the accumulation of a specific number of "points" or top-place finishes. The varsity letter and other team awards are to be determined by the head varsity coach of each sport with the approval of the athletic director before the beginning of the sport season. Coaches are directed to share this information with student-athletes and parents alike prior to the start of each season at a designated "pre-season meeting" where team rules are also presented. Under no circumstances will a varsity letter be awarded to an athlete who quits prior to the end of the season. Additionally, varsity letters, post-season honors or other awards will not be conferred to members of a team when that athlete or team does not finish its schedule due to team disciplinary action or administrative action in lieu of team disciplinary action.

## CURFEW

As part of team rules, an in-season curfew may be put in place for each team/activity as determined by the coach/moderator and approved by the athletic director.

## MISCELLANEOUS

- **All rules shall be in effect for the athlete /participant's entire high school career.**
- All equipment issued to students participating in any extra-curricular activity is school equipment. Loss of this equipment will require replacement by the student at a cost determined by the Athletic Director/Principal.
- The athlete/participant will consult with the coach/moderator if he/she must miss a practice.
- Athletic awards should be worn with pride. Awards will not be altered.

## PARTICIPATION RULES

### 1. School Attendance:

Athletes must be in attendance for all periods of the school day in order to practice or participate in competition.

- a. Unexcused Absence: Any athlete/participant that has an unexcused absence from any scheduled class may not participate in a practice, contest, or event on that day or the day it is discovered by the attendance office.
  - b. Excused Absence: The athletic director/principal, if appropriate, may grant special consideration; an example of this would be a medical or dental appointment with a doctor's note.
  - c. Suspension: An athlete/participant serving an out-of-school suspension will neither appear at, practice nor participate in an event on the day(s) of suspension.
2. There must be on file with the athletic director or the athletic director's designee, the signature of the parent/guardian and the student-athlete on the physical card stating they have read the Mason Athletic/Extra-Curricular Code and agree to abide by its contents.

### **THE FANS' ROLE AT ATHLETIC CONTESTS:**

The spectators at an athletic contest have an extremely important role in displaying good sportsmanship. As a group, the actions and words of the fans may have quite an impact on how others see a school or a community.

Fans should always:

1. Compliment student-athletes in their attempts to improve and learn.
2. Realize that a ticket is a privilege to observe a contest, not a license to verbally assault others or be generally obnoxious.
3. Respect both players and fans of opposing teams.
4. Know and understand the rules of the game.
5. Respect the decision of the officials, and admire the willingness to publicly officiate student-athletes in the best interest of interscholastic sports.
6. Cheer good performances, regardless of the uniform color.
7. Recognize and compliment the efforts of coaches, officials, league, and school administrators for their interest in expanding education.

### **UNIFORMS / EQUIPMENT**

The proper care of equipment is the participant's responsibility. It is issued for the participant's use as a team/activity member. The participant will be responsible for reimbursing the cost of equipment lost through negligence.

### **USE OF ATHLETIC SUPPLEMENTS**

School personnel and coaches should not dispense any drug, medication or food supplement except with extreme caution and in accordance with policies developed in consultation with parents, health-care professionals, the MHSAA and senior administrative personnel of the school or school district. Use of any drug, medication or food supplement in a way not prescribed by the manufacturer should not be authorized or encouraged by school personnel and coaches. Even natural substances in unnatural amounts may have short-term or long-term negative health effects.

In order to minimize health and safety risks to student-athletes, maintain ethical standards and reduce liability risks, school personnel and coaches should never supply, recommend or permit the use of any drug medication or food supplement solely for performance-enhancing purposes

**SECTION V – APPENDIXES****MASON SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL/MAVA COMPLAINT FORM**

☐ Title VI      ☐ Title IX      ☐ Title II      ☐ Age Discrimination Act  
☐ Harassment/Bullying      ☐ Section 504

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

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

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone (home): \_\_\_\_\_ (work): \_\_\_\_\_

Status of person filing complaint:

Student ☐      Employee ☐      Parent/Guardian ☐      Other: \_\_\_\_\_

Statement of complaint (include type of discrimination charged and the specific incidents in which it occurred:

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Complainant: \_\_\_\_\_ Date filed: \_\_\_\_\_

Complainant received by: \_\_\_\_\_ Date received: \_\_\_\_\_

Complaint number: \_\_\_\_\_ Complaint authority: \_\_\_\_\_

Submit all copies to the local Civil Rights Coordinator. The person receiving the complaint will sign receipt, date and number the complaint. One (1) copy will be returned to the complainant, and one (1) copy will be retained by the Civil Rights Coordinator.

Distribution:    1<sup>st</sup> Copy – Civil Rights Coordinator  
                       2<sup>nd</sup> Copy – School/Department  
                       3<sup>rd</sup> Copy – Complainant

## Authorization for Prescribed Medication or Treatment Form.

This form is available in the school office and can be downloaded from our website at [www.eriamason.k12.mi.us](http://www.eriamason.k12.mi.us)

### FERPA NOTICE

#### Notification of Student and Parent Rights under Family Educational Rights and Protection Act

The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) afford parents and legal guardians (*parents*) and students over 18 years of age (*eligible students*) certain rights with respect to the student's education records.

These rights are outlined below:

1. The right to inspect and review the student's education records within 45 days of the day the district receives a request for access. Parents or eligible students should submit to the school principal or program supervisor a written request that identifies the record(s) they wish to inspect. The principal or supervisor will make arrangements for access and notify the parent or eligible student of the time and place where the records may be inspected. Upon request of the viewer, a record shall be reproduced unless the record is copyrighted, and the viewer may be charged a fee equivalent to the cost of handling and reproduction.
2. The right to request the amendment of the student's education records that the parent or eligible student believes is inaccurate or misleading. Parents or eligible students may ask the Mason Consolidated Schools to amend a record that they believe is inaccurate or misleading. They should write the school principal, clearly identify the part of the record they want changed, and specify why it is inaccurate or misleading. If the district decides not to amend the record as requested by the parent or eligible student, the district will notify the parent or eligible student of the decision and advise them of their right to a hearing regarding the request for amendment. Additional information regarding the hearing procedures will be provided to the parent or eligible student when notified of the right to a hearing.
3. The right to consent to disclosures of personally identifiable information contained in the student's education records, except to the extent that FERPA authorizes disclosure without consent. One exception, which permits disclosure without consent, is disclosure to school officials with legitimate educational interests. A school official is a person employed by the district as an administrator, supervisor, instructor, or support staff member (including health or medical staff and law enforcement unit personnel); a person serving on the School Board; a person or company with whom the district has contracted to perform a special task (such as an attorney, auditor, medical consultant, or therapist); or a parent or student serving on an official committee, such as a disciplinary or grievance committee, or assisting another school official in performing his or her tasks. A school official has a legitimate educational interest if the official needs to review an education record in order to fulfill his or her professional responsibility. Upon request, the district discloses education records without consent to officials of another school district in which a student seeks or intends to enroll.
4. The right to file a complaint with the U.S. Department of Education concerning alleged failures by the School District County Public Schools to comply with the requirements of FERPA. The name and address of the Office that administers FERPA are:  
Family Policy Compliance Office  
U.S. Department of Education  
400 Maryland Avenue. S.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20202-4605
5. **Directory Information:** Directory information is defined as information, which would not generally be considered harmful, or an invasion of privacy if disclosed. Upon receipt of a request for information, the Mason Consolidated Schools will disclose the following types of information without notification or consent from the student or parents unless a written objection to the release has been delivered to the student's school within ten (10) days of the distribution of this notice: (i) name, (ii) address, (iii) date and place of birth, (iv) participation in officially recognized activities and sports, (v) weight and height of members of athletic teams, (vi) dates of attendance, (vii) degrees and awards received, and (viii) photograph. **The district will not disclose directory information requested for the purpose of surveys, marketing or solicitation unless the district determines that the use is consistent with the educational mission of the district and is beneficial to the affected students. The district will provide student names, addresses and phone numbers, if listed, to the armed forces of the United States and to service academies of the United States.**



## Memorandum to Parents Regarding School Board Policy on Drug-Free Schools Form #5530 F2

In accordance with Federal Law, the Board of Education prohibits the use, possession, concealment, or distribution of drugs by students on school grounds, in school or school-approved vehicles, or at any school-related event. Drugs include any alcoholic beverage, anabolic steroid, dangerous controlled substance as defined by state statute or substance that could be considered a "look-a-like" controlled substance. Compliance with this policy is mandatory for all students. Any student who violates this policy will be subject to disciplinary action, in accordance with due process and as specified in the student handbooks, up to and including expulsion from school. When required by state law, the district will also notify law enforcement officials. The district is concerned about any student who is a victim of alcohol or drug abuse and will facilitate the process by which s/he receives help through programs and services available in the community. Students and their parents should contact the school principal or counseling office whenever such help is needed.

2/98

**Notice of Nondiscrimination and Grievance Procedures for Title II, Title VI, Title VII, Title IX, Section 504 and ADA Form 2260 F8** This policy is available in the school's and counselor's offices. It is the policy of the Mason Consolidated School District that no discriminatory practices based on gender, race, religion, color, age, national origin, disability, height, weight or any other status covered by Federal, State or Local Law be allowed in providing instructional opportunities, programs, services, job placement assistance, employment or in policies governing student conduct and attendance. Any person suspecting a discriminatory practice should contact the Superintendent of Schools at the Mason Consolidated School District, 2400 Mason Eagles Drive, Erie, MI 48133 or call (734) 848-9304. non discrim policy.doc.

### GRIEVANCE PROCEDURES FOR TITLE VI OF THE CIVIL RIGHTS ACT OF 1964 TITLE IX OF THE EDUCATIONAL AMENDMENT ACT OF 1972 TITLE II OF THE AMERICANS WITH DISABILITY ACT OF 1990 SECTION 504 OF THE REHABILITATION ACT OF 1973 AGE DISCRIMINATION ACT OF 1975

#### Section I

Any person believing that Mason Consolidated School District or any part of the school organization has inadequately applied the principles and/or regulations of (1) Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, (2) Title IX of the Educational Amendment Act of 1972 (3) Title II of the Americans with Disability Act of 1990, (4) Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, and (5) the Age Discrimination Act of 1975 may bring forward a complaint, which shall be referred to as a grievance, to the local Civil Rights Coordinator at the following address:

Superintendent  
Mason Consolidated Schools  
2400 Mason Eagles Drive  
Erie, Michigan 48133  
(734) 848-9304

#### Section II

The person who believes a valid basis for grievance exists shall discuss the grievance informally and on a verbal basis with the Civil Rights Coordinator, who shall in turn investigate the complaint and reply with an answer within five (5) business days. The complaint may initiate formal procedures according to the following steps:

Step 1: A written statement of the grievance signed by the complainant shall be submitted to the local Civil Rights Coordinator within five (5) business days of

the receipt of answers to the informal complaint. The coordinator shall further investigate the matters of grievance and reply in writing to the complainant within five (5) business days.

Step 2: A complainant wishing to appeal the decision of the local Civil Rights Coordinator may submit a signed statement of appeal to the

Superintendent of Schools with five (5) business days after receipt of the Coordinator's response. The Superintendent shall meet with all parties involved, formulate a conclusion, and respond in writing to the complainant within ten (10) business days.

Step 3: If unsatisfied, the complainant may appeal through a signed, written statement to the Board of Education with five (5) business days of receiving the Superintendent's response in Step 2. In an attempt to resolve the grievance, the Board of Education shall meet with the concerned parties and their representative within 40 days of the receipt of such an appeal. A copy of the Board's disposition of the appeal shall be sent to each concerned party within (10) days of this meeting.

Anyone at any time may contact the Office of Civil Rights for information and/or assistance at 216-522-4970. If the grievance has not been satisfactorily settled, further appeal may be made

to the Regional U.S. Department of Education for Civil Rights, 600 Superior Avenue East, Bank One Center, Suite 750, Cleveland, OH 44114-2611. Fax: 216-522-2573; TDD: 877-521-2172.

Inquiries concerning the nondiscriminatory policy may be directed to Director, Office of Civil Rights, U.S. Department of Education, Washington, D.C. 20202.

The local Coordinator, on request, will provide a copy of the district's grievance procedure and investigate all complaints in accordance with this procedure. A copy of the Acts and the Regulations on which this notice is based may be found in the Civil Rights Coordinator's Office.

**Title VI, IX, 504 Grievance Form.** This form is available in the school office and can be downloaded from our website at [www.eriemason.k12.mi.us](http://www.eriemason.k12.mi.us)

### **Notification to Parents on Blood-Borne Pathogens Form #8453.01 F5**

Dear Parent:

We recently have been notified by the federal government that the district is subject to new regulations from the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) to restrict the spread of Hepatitis B virus (HBV) and human immune deficiency virus (HIV) in the workplace. These regulations are designed to protect employees of the district who are, or could be, exposed to blood or other contaminated bodily fluids while performing their job duties. Because of the very serious consequences of contracting HBV or HIV, the district is committed to taking the necessary precautions to protect both students and staff from its spread in the school environment.

Part of the federally-mandated procedures includes a requirement that the district request the person who was bleeding to consent to be tested for HBV and HIV. This information would then be provided both to the exposed employee and the treating physician to determine proper medical treatment. The law does not require parents or guardians to grant permission for the examination of their child's blood, but it does require the district to request that consent. Although we expect that incidents of exposure will be few, we wanted to notify parents of these requirements ahead of time. That way, if the situation does develop you will understand the reason for our request and will have had an opportunity to consider it in advance. These are serious diseases, and we sincerely hope that through proper precautions and cooperation we can prevent them from spreading. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Deb McCain at 848-9402.

2/98

### **Notification to Parents Regarding Student Records Form #8330 F9**

Mr. Brandon Bates, high school principal, is the Custodian of Records and is responsible for the supervision of student records at the high school. His office is located at 2400 Mason Eagles Drive, Erie, MI 48133. He can be reached by calling 734-848-9350. Each student's records will be kept in a confidential file located at the student's school office. The information in a student's record file will be available for review only by the parents or legal guardian of a student, adult student (eighteen (18) years of age or older), and those authorized by federal law and state and district regulations.

A parent or adult student has the right to:

- A. Inspect and review the student's education records within forty-five (45) days after receipt of the request. The school has a form which can be used to submit a request. The Custodian of Records will notify the parent or adult student of the time and place where the records can be inspected.
- B. Request amendments if the parent or adult student believes the record are inaccurate, misleading, or otherwise in violation of the student's rights. The school has a form which may be used to identify which information in the record the parent or adult student believes is inaccurate or misleading and to specify why it is inaccurate or misleading.

- C. Consent to disclosures of personally-identifiable information contained in the student's education records, except to those disclosures allowed by the law. The school's administrative guideline 8330 describes those exceptions and is available upon request.
- D. Challenge district noncompliance with a parent's request to amend the records through a hearing. If the Custodian of Records decides not to amend the record, the parent or adult student will be so notified and provided the opportunity for a hearing. Additional information concerning the hearing will be provided when notified of the opportunity for a hearing.
- E. File a complaint with the Family Policy Compliance Office, U.S. Department of Education, 400 Maryland Avenue S.W., Washington, D.C. 20202 - 4605.
- F. Obtain a copy of the District's Policy 5309 on student records.

**Sexual Harassment Complaint Form.** This form is available in the school office and can be downloaded from our website at [www.eriemason.k12.mi.us](http://www.eriemason.k12.mi.us).

Name of Complainant: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Accused: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_

Description of Incident:

Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Time: \_\_\_\_\_ Place: \_\_\_\_\_

Incident:

[illegible]

Witness(es): \_\_\_\_\_ Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_

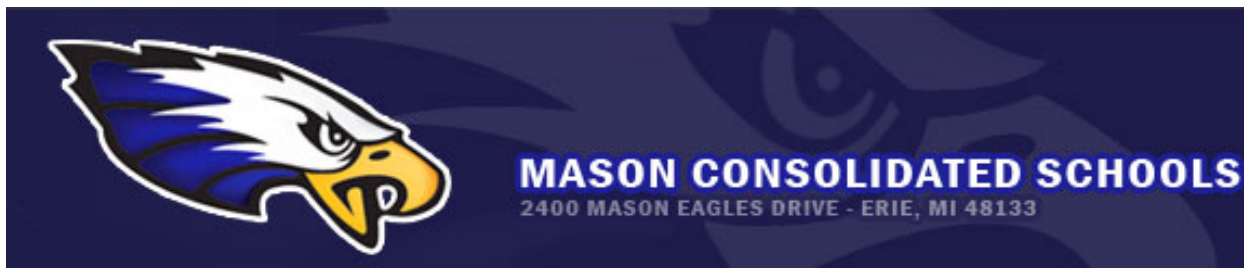
Complainant's reaction to the incident: \_\_\_\_\_

Accused's reaction to the incident: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of the Complainant: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Person Receiving Complaint: \_\_\_\_\_ Position: \_\_\_\_\_

School District Complaint Officer – Superintendent of Schools, 2400 Mason Eagles Drive, Erie, MI 48133. Telephone (734) 848-9304. The state agency for investigation of complaints: Michigan Department of Civil Rights, Executive Office, Capitol Tower Bldg., Ste. 800, Lansing, MI 48913. Telephone (517) 335-3165. The federal office for investigation of complaints: U.S. Department of Education, Office of Civil Rights, 600 Superior Ave., Room 750, Cleveland, OH 44114



*Soaring to Excellence...*

Brandon Bates, High School Principal

## REQUEST TO TAKE EARLY EXAM(S)

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

Name of Student: \_\_\_\_\_ Grade: \_\_\_\_\_ Hr(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Name of parent or guardian making request: \_\_\_\_\_

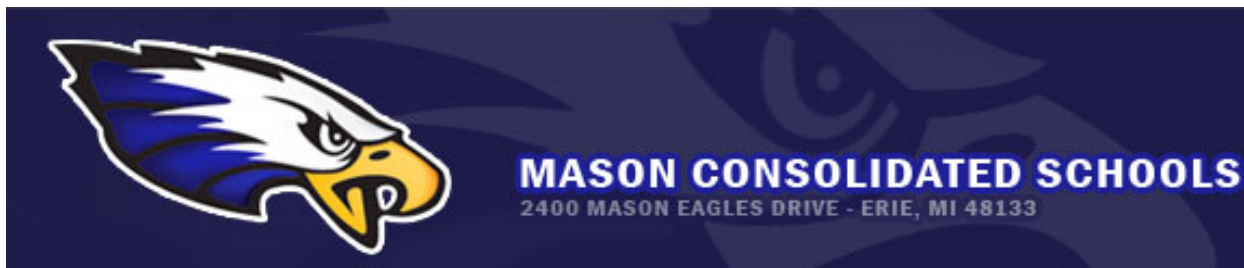
Reason for request [please summarize why there is a need to take the exam(s) early...family, medical, legal or emergency situations only will be approved]:

Note: the principal's pre-approval for this request is required, but even then there may be extenuating or special circumstances whereby the individual teacher may need to make an additional adjustment in order to accommodate the student-parent-guardian request, including but not limited to taking the exam after the exam date, taking an "I" until the exam can be made up at a time conducive to the instructor, and/or mutually agreeing to forfeit the exam and accepting the grade earned at time of request.

Signature of parent/guardian: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Not approved / Approved by

Signature of building principal: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_



*Soaring to Excellence...*

Brandon Bates, High School Principal

### REQUEST FOR SCHOOL-RELATED ABSENCE

\_\_\_ college visit    \_\_\_ college/school event    \_\_\_ job/career shadowing    \_\_\_ other

Date of request: \_\_\_/\_\_\_/\_\_\_

Name of Student: \_\_\_\_\_ Grade: \_\_\_\_\_

List date(s) requested: \_\_\_\_\_ total = \_\_\_\_\_ days

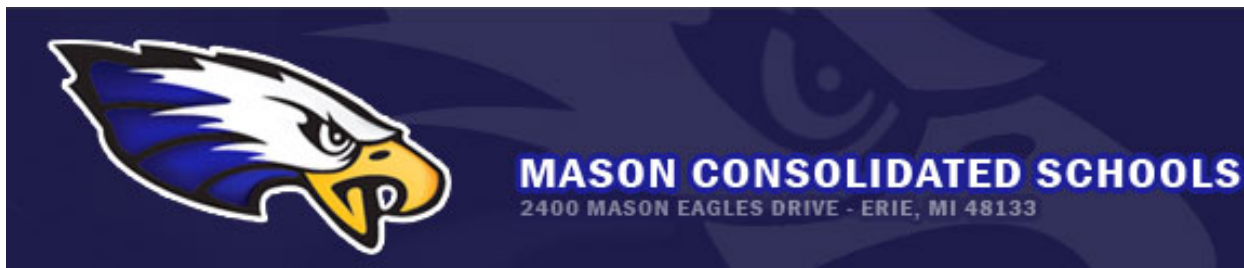
Name of parent or guardian making request: \_\_\_\_\_

Please summarize reason for request in the space below or attach written explanation. Include an itinerary of the proposed absence dates as well as signatures of instructors, points of contact, or activity supervisors. Any coursework missed as a result of missing school during this time period must be made up. Student will be allowed to make up missing work day-for-day plus one day (example: missed two days of school, days to make up work equals three days—two days out plus one day).

Signature of parent/guardian: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

not approved    /    approved by

Signature of building principal: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_



*Soaring to Excellence...*

Brandon Bates, High School Principal

### REQUEST FOR VACATION/SPECIAL TRIP/NEED FOR EXAM CHANGE

Dates of requested vacation/trip: \_\_\_/\_\_\_/\_\_\_ to \_\_\_/\_\_\_/\_\_\_

Name of Student: \_\_\_\_\_ Grade: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of parent or guardian making request: \_\_\_\_\_

Reason for request [please summarize why there is a need to take vacation during scheduled school day(s), need to take exam(s) early or late...family, medical, legal or emergency situations only will be approved]:

Note: the principal's pre-approval for this request is required, but even then there may be extenuating or special circumstances whereby the individual teacher may need to make an additional adjustment in order to accommodate the student-parent-guardian request, including but not limited to taking the exam after the exam date, taking an "I" until the exam can be made up at a time conducive to the instructor, and/or mutually agreeing to forfeit the exam and accepting the grade earned at time of request.

Signature of parent/guardian: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Not approved / Approved by

Signature of building principal: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_





# MASON SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL POSTSECONDARY, DUAL ENROLLMENT OPTIONS and CONTRACT

Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Grade (during enrollment): \_\_\_\_\_

Updated 5/24/2012

## DUAL ENROLLMENT DESCRIPTION

This program offers eligible students an opportunity to enroll in postsecondary or career and technical preparation courses that is offered for postsecondary credit or an occupational training program leading to an industry-recognized credential. The student must be attending Mason Senior High School/MAVA, live in the district or be otherwise eligible. Students are responsible for their own transportation, activity fees, and for purchasing books required for their course(s). The district is required to pay mandatory course fees, material fees, and registration fees. If the course is taken for high school credit only, then the district is responsible for the cost of textbooks. Students will discuss with their counselor at the time of application the type of credit they plan to receive – high school and/or college.

## PROCEDURES AND GUIDELINES

- Eligible students are those who are in grade 9, 10, 11 or 12, are enrolled in at least 1 high school course, and who have received a qualifying score on all the areas of the PSAT, ACT-PLAN, ACT, MME, or a qualifying readiness score in mathematics and a qualifying score on a nationally- or industry-recognized job skills assessment. Eligible students may take courses offered by a postsecondary career and technical preparation center where there is postsecondary credit offered or at a credit-granting community college or other postsecondary institution. Students are responsible for bearing the cost of tests not offered for free at the district. Eligible courses are not hobby craft or recreational, physical education, theology, divinity, or religious education (and lead normally to a degree or certification).
- Where an eligible student has not recorded a qualifying score in each subject area on a readiness assessment or the MME, an eligible course is limited to a course in a subject area for which he or she has achieved a qualifying score, a course in computer science or foreign language not offered by the District or a course in fine arts as permitted by the District.
- Mason High School is not obligated to support a course that is offered by the school, but is obligated if that course is not available to the student because of a scheduling conflict beyond the student's control.
- Admission to the career and technical preparation institution or credit-granting college is based upon high school performance and subject to the individual postsecondary institution's requirements.
- **Students who dual enroll in the fall are encouraged to also dual enroll in the winter.**
- **Students who do not successfully complete the eligible course "shall repay to the school district any funds that were expended by the school district for the course...the school district may impose sanctions against the eligible student as determined by school district policy" (Michigan P.A. 133 of 2012, Sec. 4, Subsection (9)(b)).**

Limits include: 1) not more than 10 courses overall, 2) when the eligible student is in grade 9, not more than 2 courses during each academic year in the student's 9<sup>th</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup>, and 11<sup>th</sup> grade years, 3) if the eligible student's first course is taken in grade 10 under this program, not more than 2 course during the first academic year and not more than 4 courses in the 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> grade, 4) if in grade 11 or 12 when the first course is taken, then no more than 6 courses (must be enrolled in one full period at Mason) in each academic year may be taken, 5) "5th year" seniors limited to 2 courses per semester. These limits do not apply to courses where the eligible student does not receive tuition and fee support.

- At the time the eligible student enrolls in a post-secondary course, he/she must designate whether the course is for high school or post-secondary credit (student and parent initials required for chosen option below).

\_\_\_\_\_ A. Course taken for college credit only (**Course grade will be calculated into cumulative point average, and placed on high school transcript. No credit will be given.**)

-or-

\_\_\_\_\_ B. Course will be taken for college and high school credit (**Course grade will be calculated into cumulative point average, and placed on high school transcript. Credit will be given.**)

**IMPORTANT NOTICE: College course grades will be calculated into cumulative grade point average (GPA). Dropped courses and Withdrawals are entered as F's (0.0 GPA) on student's Mason Senior High School/MAVA transcripts.**

- The National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) requires that all core courses used for collegiate athletic eligibility must indicate a grade and be calculated into the student's high school GPA. This requirement only pertains to Division I or II collegiate athletics.
- Counselors discussed the type of course(s) which can be taken and the benefits, risks and possible consequences of enrolling in a post-secondary course while verifying the student's ability to complete their high school graduation requirements.
- Courses must be taken during the regular school year. If taking a spring/summer class the course must fall within 50% or more of Mason High School's regular academic year to be allowed to receive tuition/fee support.
- The student is responsible for scheduling an assessment date if required by the attending college (f.g., Compass Test).
- A copy of the student's official transcript will be issued by the Counseling Department to the postsecondary institution.

**APPLICATION DEADLINE**

Fall Term \_\_\_\_\_

Winter Term \_\_\_\_\_

- **After eligibility has been determined, the student must submit a completed Dual Enrollment Application to the Counseling Office AT LEAST TWO WEEKS PRIOR to the deadline for registration at the postsecondary institution.**

**AUTHORIZATION AND BILLING:**

\_\_\_\_\_ A. Mason Consolidated School District is responsible for tuition and fee support.

\_\_\_\_\_ B. Student/Family is responsible for all costs.

**IMPORTANT NOTICE**

It is the student's responsibility to watch drop/add timelines very closely. If a student drops a dual enrolled class during the 100% Refund Schedule (end of the first week), and communicates such, he/she will be placed in another high school class. If the dual enrolled class is dropped beyond this deadline date the student must seek approval from the administrator or he/she may not be placed in a replacement high school class. Students must communicate with office to ensure a full schedule is maintained for the purpose of fulfilling graduation requirements.

**CAUTION**

If any classes are failed or dropped, it could negatively affect the student's graduation status. Be sure to consult the Counseling Office regarding graduation requirements before dropping any class.

**We fully understand all of the above criteria and agree to comply with State and District requirements related to Dual Enrollment.**

Student Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

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

Counselor Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Principal Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## UNDERSTANDING CONCUSSION

### Some Common Symptoms

<b>HEADACHE</b> <i>Pressure in the Head</i> <i>Nausea/Vomiting</i> <i>Dizziness</i>	Balance Problems Double Vision Blurry Vision Sensitive to Light  Sensitive to Noise Sluggishness	Haziness <b>FOGGINESS</b> Grogginess <b>POOR</b> <b>CONCENTRATION</b> Memory Problems	Confusion "Feeling Down"  Not "Feeling Right" Feeling Irritable Slow Reaction Time Sleep Problems
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### WHAT IS A CONCUSSION?

A concussion is a type of traumatic brain injury that changes the way the brain normally works. A concussion is caused by a fall, bump, blow, or jolt to the head or body that causes the head and brain to move quickly back and forth. A concussion can be caused by a shaking, spinning or a sudden stopping and starting of the head. Even a "ding," "getting your bell rung," or what seems to be a mild bump or blow to the head can be serious. A concussion can happen even if you haven't been knocked out.

You can't see a concussion. Signs and symptoms of concussions can show up right after the injury or may not appear or be noticed until days or weeks after the injury. If the student reports any symptoms of a concussion, or if you notice symptoms yourself, seek medical attention right away. A student who may have had a concussion should not return to play on the day of the injury and until a health care professional says they are okay to return to play.

### IF YOU SUSPECT A CONCUSSION:

- 1. SEEK MEDICAL ATTENTION RIGHT AWAY** – A health care professional will be able to decide how serious the concussion is and when it is safe for the student to return to regular activities, including sports. Don't hide it, report it. Ignoring symptoms and trying to "tough it out" often makes it worse.
- 2. KEEP YOUR STUDENT OUT OF PLAY** – Concussions take time to heal. Don't let the student return to play the day of injury and until a health care professional says it's okay. A student who returns to play too soon, while the brain is still healing, risks a greater chance of having a second concussion. Young children and teens are more likely to get a concussion and take longer to recover than adults. Repeat or second concussions increase the time it takes to recover and can be very serious. They can cause permanent brain damage, affecting the student for a lifetime. They can be fatal. It is better to miss one game than the whole season.
- 3. TELL THE SCHOOL ABOUT ANY PREVIOUS CONCUSSION** – Schools should know if a student had a previous concussion. A student's school may not know about a concussion received in another sport or activity unless you notify them.

### SIGNS OBSERVED BY PARENTS:

- Appears dazed or stunned
- Is confused about assignment or position
- Forgets an instruction
- Can't recall events prior to or after a hit or fall
- Is unsure of game, score, or opponent
- Moves clumsily
- Answers questions slowly
- Loses consciousness (even briefly)
- Shows mood, behavior, or personality changes

### CONCUSSION DANGER SIGNS:

In rare cases, a dangerous blood clot may form on the brain in a person with a concussion and crowd the brain against the skull. A student should receive immediate medical attention if after a bump, blow, or jolt to the head or body s/he exhibits any of the following danger signs:

- One pupil larger than the other
- Is drowsy or cannot be awakened
- A headache that gets worse
- Weakness, numbness, or decreased coordination
- Repeated vomiting or nausea
- Slurred speech
- Convulsions or seizures
- Cannot recognize people/places
- Becomes increasingly confused, restless or agitated
- Has unusual behavior
- Loses consciousness (even a brief loss of consciousness should be taken seriously.)

### HOW TO RESPOND TO A REPORT OF A CONCUSSION:

If a student reports one or more symptoms of a concussion after a bump, blow, or jolt to the head or body, s/he should be kept out of athletic play the day of the injury. The student should only return to play with permission from a health care professional experienced in evaluating for concussion. During recovery, rest is key. Exercising or activities that involve a lot of concentration (such as studying, working on the computer, or playing video games) may cause concussion symptoms to reappear or get worse. Students who return to school after a concussion may need to spend fewer hours at school, take rests breaks, be given extra help and time, spend less time reading, writing or on a computer. After a concussion, returning to sports and school is a gradual process that should be monitored by a health care professional.

Remember: Concussion affects people differently. While most students with a concussion recover quickly and fully, some will have symptoms that last for days, or even weeks. A more serious concussion can last for months or longer.

To learn more, go to [www.cdc.gov/concussion](http://www.cdc.gov/concussion).

**Parents and Students Must Sign and Return the Educational Material Acknowledgement Form**

## **CONCUSSION AWARENESS**

### **EDUCATIONAL MATERIAL ACKNOWLEDGEMENT FORM**

By my name and signature below, I acknowledge in accordance with Public Acts 342 and 343 of 2012 that I have received and reviewed the Concussion Fact Sheet for Parents and/or the Concussion Fact

Sheet for Students provided by **Mason Consolidated Schools**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Student Name Printed

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent or Guardian Name Printed

\_\_\_\_\_  
Student Name Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent or Guardian Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

Return this signed form to the sponsoring organization that must keep on file for the duration of participation or age 18.

Participants and parents please review and keep the educational materials available for future reference.

## **SECTION VI – TECHNOLOGY USE POLICIES**

## **CODE OF CONDUCT**

### **Rights**

Members have the following rights:

1. Free and equal access to available technology and network services to facilitate learning and enhance educational information exchange;
2. Use of all authorized hardware and software;
3. Access to information from outside resources;
4. Free and open expression subject to the Student Code of Conduct/Teacher Contract;
5. Conditional privacy in e-mail, listserv and bulletin board communications. If a user is believed to be in violation of the guidelines stated in this Technology Code of Conduct, a school administrator or teacher may gain access to private correspondence or files. An attempt will be made to notify the user of such inspections whenever possible.
6. Conditional privileges to sign up for listservs, bulletin boards and news groups.

### **Responsibilities**

Members have the following responsibilities:

1. Use of appropriate language. Profanity or obscenity will not be tolerated on the Network. All members should use language appropriate for school situations as indicated by school Codes of Conduct and Teacher Contracts.
2. Utilization of resources that support the school's mission. Keep all files free of pornographic and other offensive materials.
3. Utilization of non-offensive and non-inflammatory speech. Members must respect the rights of others both in the local community and in the Internet at large. Personal attacks are an unacceptable use of the Network. You are to bring the incident to the attention of a teacher or school administrator.
4. Appropriate use of technology in the school. Use of the technology for private business, for product advertisement or political lobbying is prohibited.
5. Attendance at appropriate training sessions in the use and care of hardware, software and networks and refraining from using any technology for which they have not received training.
6. Following the rules established for the use of hardware, software, labs and networks in the school through remote access outside of the school.
7. Legal use of technology. Use of technology for any illegal activities is prohibited. Illegal activities include tampering with computer hardware or software, unauthorized entry into computers, or knowledgeable vandalism or destruction of computer files. Such activity is considered a crime under State and Federal Law.
8. Keeping passwords private. All violations of this guideline that can be traced to an individual account name will be treated as the sole responsibility of the owner of that account. Under no conditions should you give your password to another user.
9. Maintaining the integrity of district technology. Deliberate attempts to degrade or disrupt system performance of the Network or any other computer system in cyberspace by spreading computer viruses is considered criminal activity under State and Federal Law.
10. Notification of threatening or unwelcome communications to a school administrator or teacher. Members must, however, be aware that there are many services available on the Internet that could potentially be offensive to certain groups of users. Mason Consolidated School District cannot eliminate access to all such services, nor could they even begin to identify them. Thus, individual users must take responsibility for their own actions in navigating the Network.
11. Ethical use of technology. Malicious use of technology to disrupt the use of technology by others, to harass or discriminate against others, and to infiltrate unauthorized computer systems is prohibited.
12. Appropriate use of e-mail, listservs, bulletin boards or news groups.
13. Obtaining prior approval from a school administrator or designee to develop a Web page or create a bulletin board.
14. Adherence to copyright guidelines in the use of software, information, and attributions of authorship and in the transmission or copying of text or files on the Internet or from other resources.
15. Obtaining the original author's prior consent before re-posting personal communications. To re-post personal communications without the original author's prior consent is a violation of the author's privacy. However, all

messages posted in a public forum such as news groups or listservs may be copied in subsequent communications, so long as proper attribution is given.

16. Use of real names. Impersonation, anonymity and pseudonyms are not allowed. Individuals must take responsibility for their actions and words.
17. Use of exemplary behavior on "virtual" field trips. When "visiting" locations in cyberspace, members must conduct themselves as representatives of their school and of the community as a whole.
18. Observation of safety precautions. Members must never send home addresses or home phone numbers over cyberspace, nor provide credit card or social security numbers. Once information is released in cyberspace, there is no way to limit or control its usage. It is important that members recognize that there is no such thing as total security in network communications.

### **Consequences of inappropriate behavior**

Any member who does not comply with the Technology Code of Conduct may lose Network privileges. Repeated or severe infractions of the policy may result in permanent termination of privileges. Members will be required to make full financial restitution for any unauthorized expenses incurred or any damages caused.

The school administrator will determine what is inappropriate use based on the Technology Code of Conduct. The school administrator may close an account at any time for infractions.

Members violating any of these rights and responsibilities may face additional disciplinary action deemed appropriate in keeping with the adopted disciplinary policies and guidelines of the school district. Discipline may include requirements for additional training sessions and/or legal action.

### **Definitions**

The Following definitions are used in the Administrative Guidelines.

- Technology: District equipment includes but is not limited to computers, disk drives, printers, scanners, networks, video and audio recorders, cameras, photocopiers, phones, and other related electronic resources.
- Software: Software includes, but is not limited to, computer software, print and non-print resources.
- Networks: Networks include but are not limited to all voice, video and data systems.
- Network Members: All account holders on the Mason Consolidated School District network will be granted access to network services. The following people may hold accounts on the Mason Consolidated School District network:
  1. Students. Students who are currently enrolled in the district may be granted a network account upon agreement to the terms stated in the Technology Code of Conduct.
  2. Employees. Staff members currently employed by the district may be granted a network account upon agreement to the terms stated in these guidelines.
  3. Others. These requests will be granted on a case-by-case basis, depending on need and resource availability.
- Cyberspace: The "area" in which computer users travel when "navigating" around on a network.

### **COMPUTER AND COMPUTER NETWORK SAFETY AND USE POLICY**

In compliance with the Federal Children's Internet Protection Act (47 USC 254(h)(1)), not later than June 30, 2002 there shall be instituted for the School District's computers and computer network a technology protection measure that protects against Internet (which, as used in this policy, includes the World Wide Web) access by both adults and minors to material which is: obscene; child pornography, or: harmful to minors.

- A. The term "minors" means individuals under the age of eighteen (18) years.

- B. The term "child pornography" means any visual depiction, including any photograph, film, video, picture, or computer or computer-generated image or picture, whether made or produced by electronic, mechanical, or other means, of sexually explicit conduct, where:
1. the production of such visual depiction involves the use of a minor engaging in sexually explicit conduct;
  2. such visual depiction is, or appears to be, of a minor engaging in sexually explicit conduct;
  3. such visual depiction has been created, adapted, or modified to appear that an identifiable minor is engaging in sexually explicit conduct; or
  4. such visual depiction is advertised, promoted, presented, described, or distributed in such a manner that conveys the impression that the material is or contains a visual depiction of a minor engaging in sexually explicit conduct.
- C. The term "materials harmful to minors" means any communication, picture, image, graphic image file, article, recording, writing, or other matter of any kind that:
1. taken as a whole and with respect to minors, appeals to a prurient interest in nudity, sex, or excretion;
  2. depicts, describes, or represents, in a patently offensive way with respect to what is suitable for minors, an actual or simulated sexual act or sexual contact, actual or simulated normal or perverted sexual acts, or a lewd exhibition of the genitals; and
  3. taken as a whole, lacks serious literary, artistic, political or scientific value to minors.

The activities of students on School District computers and computer network shall be monitored by the teacher responsible for the class for which the computer activity is being conducted, and/or by School District personnel designated by the Superintendent of Schools.

No person shall use any School District computer, computer equipment, or School District-provided Internet connection to access sexually explicit or obscene material.

When using School district computers, computer equipment or Internet connections for electronic mail, chat rooms, bulletin boards or any other form of direct electronic communication, no student shall disclose any personal information (including, but not limited to, names, addresses, telephone numbers and photographs) about other students or School District staff. Students shall be discouraged from disclosing personal information about themselves in electronic mail, chat rooms, bulletin boards or any other form of direct electronic communication through the Internet.

School District computers, computer equipment and Internet connections shall not be used by any person to access another person's accounts, files, data or information without authorization, or for any unlawful activity. The interference with others' accounts, files, data, or information is prohibited.

The School District reserves the right to monitor and review all use of its computers, computer equipment, and computer network (including, but not limited to, Internet activity and external/internal electronic mail, files and data); no user of the School District's computers, computer equipment or computer network shall have any expectation of privacy with respect to use of the School District's computers, computer equipment or computer network.

No person shall engage in any activity which is detrimental to the stability or security of the School District's computers, computer equipment or computer network, or use of school District computers, computer equipment, or computer network in any way which is detrimental to the stability or security of others' computers, computer equipment or computer networks, including, but not limited to, the intentional or negligent introduction of viruses, or the vandalism or abuse of hardware or software.

No person shall use the School District's computers, computer equipment or computer network in violation of copyright laws, including, but not limited to, the installing, downloading, copying or using of copyrighted software without proper authority.

No person shall, in the course of using the School district's computers, computer equipment or computer network, impersonate another person or user; no person shall reveal a password of another person or user.

No person shall use the School District's computers, computer equipment or computer network for commercial purposes.

Violation of this policy may result in disciplinary action, as well as restriction, suspension or termination of access to the



School District's computers, computer equipment and/or computer network. In addition, referral may be made to law enforcement authorities.

This policy shall not be instituted prior to the giving of reasonable public notice and the holding of at least one (1) public hearing or meeting to address the contents of this policy.

### **ELECTRONIC INFORMATION GUIDELINES**

The network is provided for students to connect with research and communicate with others. Access to network services is given to students who agree to act in a considerate and responsible manner. Access is a privilege--not a right.

Students are responsible for appropriate behavior on school computers and networks just as they are in a classroom or on school property. Communications on the network are often public in nature. General school rules for behavior apply.

Users of the district computers and networks are responsible for their behavior and communications over those technologies. It is presumed that users will comply with district standards and will honor the agreements they have signed. At school, teachers will guide students toward appropriate materials. However, the district may not be able to restrict, monitor or control the communications of individuals utilizing the networks.

Within reason, freedom of speech and access to information will be honored. Information storage areas may be treated like school lockers. School administrators or their designee may review files and electronic communications to maintain system integrity and insure that users are using the system responsibly. Users should not expect that files stored on district servers would always be private. Outside of school, families bear the same responsibility for such guidance as they exercise with information sources such as television, telephones, movies, radio and other potentially offensive media.

As outlined in Board policy and procedures on student rights and responsibilities (Student Code of Conduct), copies of which are available in school offices, the following are not permitted:

- Sending or displaying offensive messages or pictures
- Using obscene language
- Harassing, insulting or attacking others
- Damaging computers, computer systems or computer networks or other technologies
- Violating copyright laws
- Using another's password
- Trespassing in another's folders, work, mail or files
- Intentionally wasting limited resources
- Employing the network for commercial purposes
- Any other actions deemed inappropriate by the administration

*Violations may result in a loss of access as well as other disciplinary or legal action.*

### **PARENT/STUDENT USER AGREEMENT FOR ELECTRONIC INFORMATION TECHNOLOGIES**

We are pleased to offer students of the Mason Consolidated Schools access to electronic information technologies including computer

networks for electronic mail and the Internet. To gain access to technology, e.g., e-mail and the Information Superhighway, all students must complete the attached form and return it to their teacher. Students under the age of 18 must also obtain written parental permission. Students 18 and over must sign their own forms.

Access to electronic information technologies will enable students to explore thousands of libraries, databases and bulletin boards while exchanging messages with other network users throughout the world. Families should be warned that some material accessible via the Internet and other networks might contain items that are illegal, defamatory, inaccurate or potentially offensive to some people. While our intent is to make access available to further educational goals and objectives, students may find ways to access unacceptable materials as well. We believe that the benefits to students from access to the Information Superhighway in the form of information resources and opportunities for collaboration exceed any disadvantages. Ultimately, parents and guardians of minors are responsible for setting and conveying the acceptable standards that their children should follow when using media and electronic information sources.

**MASON SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL/MAVA  
ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF STUDENT HANDBOK, USER AGREEMENT AND PARENT PERMISSION  
FORM**

I have read, understand and agree to abide by the terms and conditions of the Mason Senior High School/MAVA Student Handbook. Furthermore, as a user of Mason Consolidated School District's Electronic Information Technologies, I hereby AGREE to comply with the stated guidelines – use of technology and communicating over networks in a responsible fashion while honoring all relevant laws and restrictions.

\_\_\_\_\_  
\*Student Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

I understand that my student must comply with the terms and conditions of all rules, regulations, policies, and procedures identified in the handbook and regulations herein in accordance with board policy. I further understand that these rules apply to any student who is on school premises, on a school-related vehicle, at a school-sponsored activity, or whose conduct at any time or place directly interferes with the operation, discipline, or general welfare of the school. Additionally, as the parent or legal guardian of the student signing above, I GRANT permission for my child to access district computer services such as electronic mail and the Internet. I UNDERSTAND that students and parents/guardians may be held liable for violations. I UNDERSTAND that some materials on networks may be objectionable, but I ACCEPT responsibility for guidance of use setting and conveying standards for my child to follow when selecting, sharing or exploring information and media.

\_\_\_\_\_  
\*Parent Signature of Student under 18 or emancipated student

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name of Student

\_\_\_\_\_  
Birth Date

\*Note: Failure to sign does NOT change the student or parent/guardian requirement for compliance with the handbook, rules, regulations, procedures, or policies of the district. Additionally, failure to sign does NOT change the enforcement of the handbook, rules, regulations, procedures, or policies of the district.