



The Journey Begins Here

Family Handbook

2020-2021

Authorized by *Friends of Education*, 200 East Lake Street, Wayzata, MN 55391

For general information please call the main office at 612-843-5050 between 8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Haddii aad doonaysid turjumaad soowac (612) 843-5054.

Para ayuda en español marque al (612) 843-5084.

Dear Students and Parents/Guardians:

WELCOME TO HENNEPIN SCHOOLS!

The entire staff is looking forward to the new school year with enthusiasm and anticipation. We are eager to work with you and your child in providing a meaningful learning environment. We encourage parents/guardians to become involved in their child's education. This year we are focusing everything we do through a lens of Equity, Empathy, and Excellence.

The policies and procedures contained in this handbook are the result of a concerted effort on the part of the faculty and administration. This information has been carefully prepared and presented so that it will be of great value to you and your family. Please feel free to contact us with any questions you may have about this handbook.

The ultimate goal of education is to help each student become an effective citizen in our democracy and to give students the tools they need to be successful in school and in life. By developing and accepting the responsibilities and obligations of good citizenship, they will be better able to participate successfully in the world of tomorrow. Students are encouraged to participate in a wide variety of activities to help realize this goal. Remember, your child's successes in school will be directly proportional to his/her efforts.

Have a great year!

The Hennepin Schools Administration and Staff

THE HENNEPIN SCHOOLS DISTRICT STAFF

Department Title	Name	Email
Executive Director	Dr. Julie Henderson	jhenderson@hennepinschools.org
Elementary School Director	Ashley Feehan-Kapsner	afeehan-kapsner@hennepinschools.org
Acting Middle School Director	Kim Knuttila	kknuttila@hennepinschools.org
Special Education Director	Jen Heieie	jheieie@indigoed.org
Special Education Coordinator	Yassin Mahmud	ymahmud@hennepinschools.org
Human Resources Manager	Merita Haliti	mhaliti@hennepinschools.org

THE HENNEPIN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL TEACHING STAFF

Department Title	Name	Email
Elementary School Director	Ashley Feehan-Kapsner	afeehan-kapsner@hennepinschools.org
Assistant Director of Operations	Amal Mohamed	amohamed@hennepinschools.org
Assistant Director of School Culture and Outreach	Matt Haraway	mharaway@hennepinschools.org
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Instructional Coach	Dr. Jacqueline Krohn	jkrohn@hennepinschools.org
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First Grade	Kelsey Beedle	kbeedle@hennepinschools.org
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First Grade Interventionist	Sylvia Carlson	scarlson@hennepinschools.org
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Second Grade	Sarah Haas	shaas@hennepinschools.org
Third Grade	Christina Lacina	clacina@hennepinschools.org
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Fifth Grade	Noelle Neubauer	nneubauer@hennepinschools.org
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Building Sub
 Special Education
 Special Education
 Special Education
 Speech Therapy
 Social Worker
 Science
 Science/Social Studies
 Physical Education/DAPE

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THE HENNEPIN MIDDLE SCHOOL TEACHING STAFF

Department Title	Name	Email
Acting Middle School Director	Kim Knuttila	kknuttila@hennepinschools.org
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Dean of Students	Marlon Chopra	mchopra@hennepinschools.org
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5-8 Language Arts Specialist	Rita Brown	rbrown@hennepinschools.org
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ELL	Andrea Wenker	awenker@hennepinschools.org
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5-8 Mathematics Specialist	David Diaz	ddiaz@hennepinschools.org
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Social Worker	Whitney Moore	wmoore@hennepinschools.org
Physical Education/DAPE	John Slavik	jslavik@hennepinschools.org



ELEMENTARY SCHOOL CREED

EST. 2012

Who are we proud to be?
HENNEPIN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

And why are we here?
TO LEARN & TO GROW

And who is responsible for your success?
**WE ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR OUR BEHAVIOR.
WE CONTROL OUR ACTIONS. WE SHAPE OUR DESTINIES!**

And what does it take to succeed?
WE SHOW UP EVERY DAY & WORK HARD

And how do we treat each other?
WE RESPECT & HELP OUR CLASSMATES & ALL SCHOOL STAFF

And how do we care for the school?
WE KEEP IT SAFE & CLEAN

And then what will we do?
**WE WILL GIVE BACK – TO OUR FAMILY,
OUR FRIENDS & OUR COMMUNITY**

And when will we do all of this?
TODAY & TOMORROW & EVERYDAY

And what is our School Motto?
THE JOURNEY BEGINS HERE



MIDDLE SCHOOL CREED

EST. 2018

Who are we proud to be?
HENNEPIN MIDDLE SCHOOL

And why are we here?
TO PREPARE FOR OUR FUTURE

And who is responsible for your success?
WE ARE!

And what does it take to succeed?
SHOW UP & WORK HARD

And how do we treat each other?
WITH PRIDE & RESPECT

And how do we care for the school?
WE KEEP IT SAFE & CLEAN

And then what will we do?
**WE WILL GIVE BACK – TO OUR FAMILY,
OUR FRIENDS & OUR COMMUNITY**

And when will we do this?
EVERYDAY

And what is our School Motto?
THE JOURNEY CONTINUES HERE

ASSEMBLIES

During assemblies, each classroom has an assigned seating area in the gym. Proper etiquette and behavior by students will be taught and emphasized by teachers prior to an assembly program.

ATTENDANCE POLICY

It is our belief that regular attendance at school is essential for an educational program to be successful. Make-up work does not duplicate the dynamics of a classroom. It does not afford the opportunities for interaction and discussion that many times defines the “learning moment.”

Parents and school staff must work cooperatively to ensure that students attend school. Parents are encouraged to use sound judgment when excusing their child from attendance at school.

ATTENDANCE AND ABSENCE PROCEDURE

Parents must notify the school by phone call or written note by 9:00 a.m. if their child will be absent that day.

The elementary school attendance line is (612) 843-5050. The middle school attendance line is (612) 509-5201. Parents should state the child’s name, grade and reason for the absence. It is ok to leave a voicemail message.

A written note or phone call must be presented to the office upon return to school. The notice must be dated and include the reason for the absence. If written verification is not received within five school days of return to school, the student’s absence will be unexcused.

Make-up work is required for all work missed due to absences. Make-up work is the responsibility of the student, not the teacher. Thus, it is the student’s responsibility to contact teachers to determine the work to be made up.

Work missed due to absence will be issued at parent’s request through the office for students who are absent two or more days. Parents are asked to call the office by 10:30 a.m. to request work.

EXCUSED ABSENCES

The following are examples of excused absences:

- Illness (A doctor’s note may be required.)
- Death or serious illness in the immediate family.
- Medical or dental appointments. Whenever possible, these appointments should be made outside of school hours. If it is impossible to schedule appointments out of school time, a written doctor’s excuse is required.
- Religious occasions.

No excuses will be given for missed school bus, hair appointments, babysitting, shopping, traffic, etc.

A written excuse from parents **does not necessarily** constitute an excused absence. School administration has the right to request documentation for excused absences or tardies at any given point throughout the school year.

FAMILY VACATIONS

If parents find it necessary to remove students from school for vacation purposes, a written request must be submitted to the office five days in advance.

Work may be requested in advance, however, it is the classroom teacher's discretion to determine if work will be issued before the departure.

Work missed due to absence must be made up within the same number of calendar days missed plus one from the date of return to school.

TARDIES

Late to School

School starts at 8:45 a.m. Students are tardy when arriving at school after 9:05 a.m.

When students are late to school, the office staff will give them an office pass and send them to class. The office will mark the child tardy in their attendance record. Three tardies are the equivalent of one unexcused absence. Tardies would only be excused with a doctor's note or for religious events or funerals.

Leaving School During the Day

Students are required to remain in school the entire day unless excused by the office.

BOMB THREATS

Anyone making a bomb threat will be reported to the proper authorities. Disciplinary action will follow according to school policy.

BUILDING HOURS AND USE

The school building will be open at 8:00 A.M. and will be closed at 4:30 P.M. Students without parent supervision are not allowed in the building before 8:30 A.M. or after 4:30 P.M.

BULLYING PROHIBITION POLICY

PURPOSE

Hennepin Schools strives to provide safe, secure, and respectful learning environments for all students in school buildings, on school grounds, on school buses, and at school-sponsored activities. Bullying is conduct that interferes with a student's ability to learn and a teacher's ability to educate.

This policy protects students against bullying and retaliation by other students. This policy also protects any student who voluntarily participates in any district function or activity from prohibited conduct, whether the student is enrolled in the district or not. This policy includes the misuse of electronic devices and applications, even off school grounds.

This policy can be found in the school's student handbook, within the school and district administrative offices, and electronically at <http://www.hennepinschools.org>. The policy is also provided to all school employees, independent contractors, and volunteers who interact with students.

DEFINITIONS

"Bullying" is objectively offensive intimidating, threatening, abusive or harmful conduct directed by a student toward one or more students: when either (1) there is a real or perceived imbalance of power between those involved and the conduct reoccurs or forms a pattern; or, (2) the conduct materially and substantially interferes with the student's educational opportunities, performance, or ability to participate in school functions, activities or programs.

Bullying can be, but need not be, based on an individual's actual or perceived race, ethnicity, color, creed, religion, national origin, immigration status, sex, marital status, familial status, socioeconomic status, physical appearance, sexual orientation, including gender identity and expression, academic status related to student performance, disability, status with regard to public assistance, age, or any additional characteristic defined in Minnesota Statutes, Chapter 363A (commonly referred to as the Minnesota Human Rights Act). Bullying in this policy includes "cyberbullying," as defined below.

"Cyberbullying" is bullying that occurs when an electronic device, including, but not limited to, a computer or cell phone, is used to transfer a sign, signal, writing, image, sound or data and includes a post to a social network, Internet website or forum.

"Intimidating, threatening, abusive, or harming conduct" may involve, but is not limited to, conduct that causes physical harm or reasonable fear of harm to a student or a student's property, violates a student's reasonable expectation of privacy under Minnesota common law, defames a student, or constitutes intentional infliction of emotional distress against a student or retaliation for, or knowingly making a false report.

"Prohibited conduct" means bullying or cyberbullying as defined under this subdivision or retaliation for asserting, alleging, reporting, or providing information about such conduct or knowingly making a false report about bullying.

“Remedial response” is appropriately prompt action taken to intervene, investigate, correct and prevent bullying from recurring, including protecting and supporting a student subjected to bullying and those who provided aid and support to the student.

“School” means a public or public charter school.

“Student” means a student enrolled in a public or charter school.

PROHIBITED CONDUCT

Bullying is prohibited:

- On school property, school district-provided transportation, or at designated locations for students to wait for school district-provided transportation.
- During any school-sponsored or school-sanctioned program, activity, event or trip.
- Using school computers, electronic technology, networks, forums or mailing lists.
- Using electronic technology off the school premises that materially and substantially disrupts a student’s learning or school environment.

Apparent permission or consent by a student does not mean that bullying should be tolerated or allowed.

Retaliation is prohibited by any student or district employee against anyone who in good faith asserts, alleges, reports, or provides information pertaining to an alleged incident of prohibited conduct. The school district will take appropriate action against any student or district employee who engages in retaliation. Filing a false accusation of bullying is also prohibited.

INITIAL RESPONSE AND REPORTING

School Principal

School principal or designee is the person responsible for receiving reports of bullying at the school level. The principal/designee will ensure this policy and its procedures are fairly and fully implemented and serve as the primary person to address policy and procedural matters. If the complaint involves the principal/designee, the complaint shall be made to the superintendent.

Students

Students who believe that they have been bullied or have witnessed bullying are strongly encouraged to bring their concerns to the principal/designee but may bring their concerns to any school employee.

School Employees

Any employee who witnesses an incident or who possesses reliable information that would lead a reasonable person to believe that bullying has occurred shall:

- Immediately intervene to protect the safety of the student subjected to the incident and other students involved, as appropriate to the context.

- Make reasonable efforts to address and resolve the incident, including reporting the incident to the principal/designee, as deemed appropriate.
- Cooperate fully in any investigation and resolution of the bullying incident.

Independent Contractors/Volunteers

Any independent contractor or volunteer who witnesses bullying or who possesses reliable information that would lead a reasonable person to believe that bullying has occurred is strongly encouraged to report the bullying incident to the principal/designee or any school employee and cooperate fully in any investigation and resolution of the bullying incident. Anonymous reports will be accepted by the principal/designee. However, no disciplinary action will be determined solely on the basis of an anonymous report.

INVESTIGATION

Information Pertaining to Bullying Incidents

The use of, access to, and disclosure of information pertaining to reports and investigations of prohibited conduct are subject to state and federal data practices laws. The school will notify affected individuals, including students and parents, of their rights related to information provided to and obtained by the school, in accordance with the school's legal obligations.

Information you provide to the district or school is subject to the Minnesota Government Data Practices Act. This law classifies certain information as available to the public on request.

Procedure: Investigation of an alleged bullying incident shall be initiated as soon as possible, but in no instance after more than three school days of receipt of a report, and completed in a timely manner. Investigative records shall be maintained and regulated by the principal/designee.

Procedure

The investigation should determine whether the reported incident constitutes a case of bullying. The determination should take into consideration the totality of the facts and circumstances surrounding the incident, including, but not limited to:

1. The developmental ages and maturity levels of the parties involved.
2. The level of harm, surrounding circumstances, and nature of the behavior.
3. Past incidences or past or continuing patterns of behavior.
4. The relationship between the parties involved.
5. The context in which the alleged incidents occurred.

In all cases, the alleged actor will be entitled to raise a defense and any other recourse in the district discipline policy.

REMEDIAL RESPONSE

The principal/designee shall design and implement remedial measures to correct and prevent further prohibited conduct, protect and provide support for the target of the bullying, and take corrective action for documented systemic problems related to bullying.

Many student conflicts can be resolved immediately and do not require reporting or creation of an incident report. Schools must respond to bullying in a manner tailored to the individual incident, considering the nature of the behavior, the developmental age of the student, and the student's history of prohibited conduct and performance.

When a student engages in bullying, a school should use multi-tiered levels of response that are individualized, consistent, reasonable, fair, age-appropriate, and should match the severity of the student's behavior and developmental age.

When appropriate, the school district shall provide the target, actor, and other affected individuals with information about available community resources to aid in the remedial process.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT AND EDUCATION

School Employees

The school district shall require employees to receive ongoing professional development training to build their skills to implement this policy. Training will be required for new employees and on a training cycle that does not exceed once every three years for all employees who regularly interact with students. The content of the training will include, but not be limited to:

1. Strategies to prevent, intervene, and effectively stop bullying in a manner developmentally appropriate to the context of an incident.
2. Information about the complex interaction and power differential that can take place between and among an actor, target, and witness to bullying.
3. Research findings on bullying, including information about specific categories of students who have been shown to be particularly at risk, and any specific interventions that may be particularly effective for addressing bias-based bullying.
4. Information about Internet safety issues as they relate to bullying.
5. A review of the district's reporting requirements related to bullying.

Students

The school will encourage character development and other developmentally appropriate programmatic instruction to help students identify, prevent, and reduce bullying and create a safe learning environment. The superintendent or designee shall determine the scope and duration of the units of instruction and topics covered but the training shall include evidence-based, social-emotional learning to prevent and reduce discrimination and other improper conduct and to engage all students in creating a safe and supportive school environment. Where appropriate for a child with a disability, as determined by the child's 504 or Individualized Education Program (IEP) team, the school district shall allow the child's IEP or section 504 plan to address the skills and proficiencies the child needs to respond to or not engage in bullying.

BUS PROCEDURES

Riding the school bus is a privilege, **NOT** a right. Students are expected to follow the same behavioral standards while riding school buses as are expected on school property or at school activities, functions or events. All school rules are in effect while a student is riding the bus or at the bus stop. School bus safety rules are posted in every bus. In addition, students and parents/guardians will receive a copy of the school bus policies, and consequences for violating the policies, at the beginning of each school year. Failure to follow the rules will result in bus suspension.

If a student is suspended from the bus three times during the course of the year, it may be grounds for the removal of bus privileges for the rest of the school year.

CELL PHONES

Hennepin Schools do not allow the use of cell phones during the school day (including on buses). Hennepin Schools will not be held responsible for the loss or theft of cell phones brought to school by students. Sharing of inappropriate material via cell phones is grounds for discipline, including, but not limited, to school suspension or bus suspension. Cell phones will be confiscated by staff if used, heard, or seen during the school day, and will only be returned to parents after meeting with staff or the school director.

DISCIPLINE

Our specific discipline policy is as follows:

You are responsible for your behavior and actions. The main goal in this school is education; therefore, anyone who distracts or prevents others from reaching this goal will be disciplined. Whatever steps are necessary to correct the problem will be taken. Students who do well or go above and beyond in their behavior or actions will receive reward points, at the discretion of the teacher.

Hennepin Schools use a point system to reward student behaviors. Each day, students earn points when they meet learned expectations. Students need to earn points in order to participate in special privileges such as choice time or Fun Friday.

A discipline referral is used to communicate the details of a specific instance by the staff person present, to administration and goes on record for the student. This private data will not be shared with other families, except the student being referred. The disciplinary action is determined by administration, and communication to families will follow the completed investigation.

The following behaviors or actions would grounds for discipline referrals:

Minor Infractions		Major Infractions/Direct to Administrator
Blurting/Talking Out of Turn Failure to say “excuse me” Dress code violation Unprepared for class Failure to follow directions promptly Off-task Talking during class Failure to follow hallway procedures Interrupting the speaker Out of seat Arguing with peers	Gum chewing Failure to follow directions (intentional) Inappropriate response Laughing at peer/adult Hurtful language/action Misuse of materials Disrespect of hallway decor Zero participation/effort Repetitive behavior Back talk Play fighting/pushing/kicking Lying Running in hallway	Cheating/copying Refusal to work Refusal to follow consequence Talking/safety during fire drill Disrespect to parent, teacher, staff, student Bullying Foul language Temper tantrum Fighting/harassment (classroom, hallway, recess, lunchroom, bus, etc.) Electronics Abuse/Cyberbullying Use or possession of any tobacco/drugs

(All suspensions will be in accordance with the Pupil Fair Dismissal Act of 1974, sec. 127.26-27.40)

Reasons for suspension or expulsion might include, but are not limited to:

1. Theft
2. Assault
3. Fighting
4. Destruction of property
5. Harassment/Intimidation
6. Weapons
7. Disrespect to staff
8. Tobacco/drug possession or use

If a student is suspended three times during the course of the year, it may be grounds for expulsion. In the event of an expulsion, parents or guardian have the right to a meeting with the board.

EMERGENCY DRILLS – FIRE AND SEVERE WEATHER

Fire drills (5) and severe weather drills (1) will be held at intervals throughout the year. It is important that you regard these drills seriously and know the procedure to follow in case of an actual emergency. You should know the exit route to use from each of your classrooms. Your teachers will cover evacuation procedures with you at the beginning of the school year.

HARASSMENT AND VIOLENCE

Everyone at Hennepin Schools has a right to feel respected and safe. Therefore, we want you to know about our policy to prevent harassment and violence of any kind based upon race, religion, or gender.

A harasser may be a student or an adult. Harassment may include, but is not limited to the following when related to religion, race, or gender:

1. Name calling, jokes, or rumors, either in person or online
2. Pulling on clothing
3. Graffiti
4. Notes or cartoons
5. Unwelcome touching of a person or clothing
6. Offensive or graphic posters or book covers

If any words or actions make you feel uncomfortable or fearful, you need to tell a teacher or the school director.

You may also make a written report. It should be given to a teacher or the school director.

Your right to privacy will be respected as much as possible.

We take seriously all reports of harassment or violence based upon religion, race, or gender and will take all appropriate actions based on your report.

Hennepin Schools will also take action if anyone tries to intimidate you or take action to harm you because you have reported the situation. Complete policies are available in the school director's office upon request.

HAZING PROHIBITION

The purpose of this policy is to maintain a safe learning environment for students and staff, free from hazing. Hazing activities of any type are inconsistent with the educational goals of Hennepin Schools and are prohibited at all times.

“Hazing” means committing an act against a student, or coercing a student into committing an act, that creates a substantial risk of harm to a person, in order for the student to be initiated into or affiliated with a student organization, or for any other purpose.

No student, teacher, administrator, volunteer, contractor, or other employee of Hennepin Schools shall plan, direct, encourage, aid or engage in hazing.

No teacher, administrator, volunteer, contractor or other employee of Hennepin Schools shall permit, condone or tolerate hazing.

Apparent permission or consent by a person being hazed does not lessen the prohibitions contained in this policy.

This policy applies to behavior that occurs on or off school property and during and after school hours.

A person who engages in an act that violates school policy or law in order to be initiated into or affiliated with a student organization shall be subject to discipline for that act.

Hennepin Schools will act to investigate all complaints of hazing and will discipline or take appropriate action against any student, teacher, administrator, volunteer, contractor or other employee of the school who is found to have violated this policy.

HEALTH SERVICES

Health services are available to all students attending Hennepin Schools. Students are required to use the services of the main office for the care of any accident, for illness, or for questionable health difficulty. Each student must remember to report any type of accident to any school authority.

When students do not feel well, they need to stay home from school if they have symptoms such as fever, diarrhea, vomiting, etc. *They must stay home from school until they have been free of these symptoms for **at least 24-72 hours without use of fever reducing medicines.*** The school will make the final determination and reserves the right to send a student home based on failure to comply with health services guidelines and if warranted.

Exclusions from school need to be taken care of immediately so the child may receive proper medical attention. Students may return to school upon doctor's orders, with the doctor's note present. Exclusions include signs of: COVID19, Bronchitis, Chickenpox, Conjunctivitis (Pinkeye), Hand Foot Mouth Disease, Head Lice, Impetigo, Influenza, Measles, Pertussis (Whooping Cough), Pneumonia, Ringworm, and Strep Throat.

INTERNET USAGE POLICY

Access to the Internet is a privilege, **not** a right. Computers, computer storage areas and disks are school property and officials may review files and communications to ensure that users are engaging in responsible activities. The school has measures restricting minors' access to materials harmful to them. Any unauthorized materials access, hacking, and/or other unlawful activities by minors online, will result in disciplinary action ranging from loss of privilege to detention/suspension/expulsion and possible legal action involving the authorities. All children will be allowed access to the Internet. If parents/guardians wish to revoke their access, please notify the school director in writing.

MEDICATION

All medications taken by students during the school day must be dispensed under the direction of the school health office or the person assigned and trained to do health services, and in accordance with Minnesota State Law and School Board Policy. No prescription medication may be

administered without: (1) the written order of a physician/licensed health prescriber and (2) the written or oral authorization of the student's parent/legal guardian. If the parent's/legal guardian's authorization is oral, then the oral authorization must be reduced to writing within two school days. Prescribed medication shall be administered to and taken by only the person for whom the prescription has been written.

The *Administration of Medication* Form MUST be completed for the prescription. All student medications MUST be current and clearly labeled with the student's name, doctor's contact information, and be accompanied by the health record from your health provider.

Under no circumstances are students to be carrying prescription drugs of any kind. Cough drops or Chapstick will be allowed at the discretion of the teacher, so long as they do not interfere with the learning environment.

NOON LUNCH PROCEDURES

All lunches, whether hot or bag lunch, must be eaten in the cafeteria or other teacher designated space. If you child has a food allergy, please make sure you notify the school nurse aide, the school office, and the child's teacher.

Certain types of behavior are unacceptable. These include: throwing and spitting out food, yelling, running, tripping or pushing others, showing disrespect to school staff, refusing to follow instructions of cafeteria supervisors, or leaving a mess on the table or floor. Students who violate the lunchroom rules are subject to disciplinary action and restriction from the cafeteria.

After students are finished eating, they must remain in the cafeteria until a teacher has excused them. Students are not allowed to leave the school grounds during the lunch period.

NOVELTY/NUISANCE DEVICES

The only items students are allowed to bring to school include a backpack, schoolbooks, school supplies, and additional clothing or gym shoes. Radios, iPods, DVD/CD players, pagers, laser pointers, headphones, Gameboys and other electronic games, skateboards, rollerblades, cameras, toys, cell phones, and other novelty items designated by the executive director or school directors will not be permitted in school. The school is not responsible for the loss or theft of these items while on school property.

REPORT CARDS

Report cards will be issued two times per year. Markings made by teachers become a part of the permanent records of the school and represent the teacher's best judgment. These ratings are made from the pupil's performance on a daily basis, from short tests, and from results of unit and final examinations.

Individual teachers will send additional progress reports home periodically. Parents/Guardians are welcome to arrange a time to come in and discuss student progress with teachers and/or the school director at any time during the school year. Individual daily reports, notes or phone calls can be arranged with the classroom teacher.

SCHOOL AUTHORITY

All employees of Hennepin Schools have the responsibility and authority to enforce school regulations. This includes: the executive director, school directors, teachers, office managers, nurses, librarians, cooks, custodians, bus drivers, educational assistants, and anyone else employed by the school.

SCHOOL CLOSING DUE TO BAD WEATHER

If it is decided that school will be delayed or closed due to bad weather, the following will happen:

1. The School will make a decision by 6:00 a.m. as to whether or not school will be delayed or cancelled.
2. Parents/Guardians should listen to KARE 11, WCCO TV (Channel 4), or KSTP TV (Channel 5). The school will also send out an automated call to all families, using our automated phone system, by 6 am, if the school will be closed or buses will be delayed.

SCHOOL UNIFORMS

Students are required to come to school in uniforms that are clean, pressed, and in good repair. No tight or body-hugging clothing is allowed in school. All clothing should be clearly labeled with the student's name.

TOPS MUST BE SOLID RED, AND CAN BE WORN WITH OR WITHOUT THE HENNEPIN SCHOOLS LOGO

- ☆ Short or long sleeve polo
- ☆ Short or long sleeve t-shirt
- ☆ Turtleneck
- ☆ Sweatshirt

The following guidelines must be met for students to earn their daily point/star.

- Visible undershirts must solid red, navy blue, black or white
- Tucked neatly into bottoms

BOTTOMS MUST BE NAVY BLUE OR BLACK WITH NO OTHERS COLORS, LINES, AND/OR WRITING

- ☆ Uniform slacks
- ☆ Sweatpants and track pants, no white stripes or additional colors
- ☆ Uniform skirt
- ☆ Shorts

The following guidelines must be met for students to earn their daily point/star.

- Bottoms must be worn at the waist, NO sagging.
- Bottoms cannot have cargo pockets or stripes or other decorative colors
- Jeggings/Jeans are not allowed

SWEATERS/SWEATSHIRTS WILL BE AVAILABLE FOR COLD WEATHER WEAR

- ☆ Sweaters or Sweatshirts must be solid red or navy blue
- ☆ Uniform sweatshirts and zip-up jackets can be worn during the school day.
- ☆ Hooded sweatshirts and/or jackets are not allowed during the school day.

The following guidelines must be met for students to earn their daily point/star.

- Hooded sweatshirts and/or jackets are not allowed during the school day.
- Non-uniform items, such as hooded sweatshirts or non-uniform sweaters, must be taken off when the student arrives in the classroom, and stored in the student's bag or coat rack until the end of the day.

SHOES/SOCKS

- ☆ Shoes must be closed-toe; sandals are not allowed
- ☆ Shoes with non-scuff soles are to be fastened, with laces tied securely
- ☆ Tennis shoes are required to participate in Physical Education
- ☆ Socks, tights or leggings that are visible must be solid navy blue, black or white

The following guidelines must be met for students to earn their daily point/star.

- Boots may not be worn during the day
- Heels may be no higher than 2 inches
- Jeggings/Jeans are not allowed

HAIR/JEWELRY GUIDELINES MUST BE MET FOR STUDENTS TO EARN THEIR DAILY POINT/STAR.

- ☆ Hair must be worn neatly.
- ☆ The school director will determine all final decisions regarding hair requirements.
- ☆ Earrings less than one inch in length; no other facial or visual body piercing is allowed.

SECTION 504/INDIVIDUAL EDUCATION PLAN: PARENT/GUARDIAN & STUDENT RIGHTS

The following is a description of the rights granted by federal law to students with 504 plans or Individual Education Plans (IEPs). The intent of the law is to keep you fully informed concerning decisions about your child and to inform you of your rights if you disagree with any of these decisions.

You have the right to:

- Have your child take part in and receive benefits from public education programs without discrimination because of his/her handicapping conditions;
- Have the school district advise you of your rights under federal law;
- Receive notice with respect to identification, evaluation, or placement of your child;
- Have your child receive a free, appropriate public education. This includes the right to be educated with other students to the maximum extent appropriate. It also includes the right to

have the school district make reasonable accommodations to allow your child an equal opportunity to participate in school and school related activities;

- Have your child educated in facilities and receive services comparable to those provided to other students;
- Have your child receive special education and related services if he/she is found to be eligible under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (PL 101-476) or Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act;
- Have evaluation, educational, and placement decisions made based upon a variety of information sources, and by persons who know the student, the evaluation date, and placement options;
- Have transportation provided to and from an alternative placement setting at no greater cost to you than would be incurred if the student were placed in a program operated by the district;
- Have your child be given an equal opportunity to participate in non-academic and extracurricular activities offered by the district;
- Examine all relevant records relating to decisions regarding your child's identification, evaluation, educational program, and placement;
- Obtain copies of educational records at a reasonable cost unless the fee would effectively deny you access to the records; obtain a response from the school district to reasonable requests for explanations and interpretations of your child's records;
- Request amendment of your child's educational records if there is reasonable cause to believe that they are inaccurate, misleading or otherwise in violation of the privacy rights of your child. If the school district refuses this request for amendment, it shall notify you within a reasonable time and advise you of the right to a hearing;
- Request mediation or an impartial hearing related to decisions or actions regarding your child's identification, evaluation, educational program or placement. You and the student may take part in the hearing and have an attorney represent you. Hearing requests may be made with the Special Education Coordinator;
- Ask for payment of reasonable attorney fees if you are successful on your claim;
- File a local grievance.

STUDENT PUBLISHED INFORMATION

Student published information includes (but is not limited to) student directories, photos and names of students who have received awards and participated in classroom and extracurricular activities. These may be published in local newspapers, school district publications and appear internally within the school on bulletin boards and other recognition showcases. If you do not want your child's name or photo to be used for these purposes, please contact the school office.

TOBACCO-FREE ENVIRONMENT POLICY

Hennepin Schools Board recognizes that the use of tobacco products is a health, safety, and environmental hazard for students, staff, visitors and school facilities.

The Board embraces its obligation to promote positive role models in schools, and to provide an environment for learning and working that is safe, healthy, and free from unwanted smoke and tobacco use for the students, staff, and visitors. Therefore the HS Board adopts the following tobacco-free policy.

DEFINITIONS

“**Any time**” means during normal school and non-schools: 24 hours a day, seven days a week, 365 days a year.

“**Electronic cigarette**” means any oral device that provides a vapor of liquid nicotine, and/or other substance, and the use or inhalation of which simulates smoking. The term shall include any such devices, whether they are manufactured, distributed, marketed or sold as e-cigarettes, e-cigars, e-pipes, or other product name or descriptor

“**Lighter**” means a mechanical or electrical device typically used for lighting tobacco products.

“**Off-campus, school-sponsored event**” means any event sponsored by the school or school district that is not on school property, including but limited to, day camps, field trips, sporting events, theatrical productions.

“**School property**” means all facilities and property, including land, whether owned, rented, or leased by Hennepin Schools and all vehicles owned, leased, rented, contracted for, or controlled by Hennepin Schools used for transporting students, staff, or visitors.

“**Signage**” means signs declaring that all Hennepin Schools property is tobacco-free.

“**Smoking**” means inhaling, exhaling, burning or carrying any lighted or heated cigar, cigarette or any other lighted or heated tobacco or plant product intended for inhalation, in any manner or in any form. “Smoking” also includes the use of an e-cigarette that creates vapor, in any manner or in any form, or the use of any oral smoking device for the purpose of circumventing the prohibition of smoking.

GENERAL STATEMENT OF POLICY

a. It shall be a violation of this policy for any student of Hennepin Schools to possess, use, consume, display or sell any tobacco products, tobacco-related devices, imitation tobacco products, lighters, or electronics cigarettes at any time on school property or at off-campus, school sponsored events.

- b. It shall be a violation of this policy for any staff or visitor of Hennepin Schools to use, consume, display or sell any tobacco products, tobacco-related devices, imitation tobacco products, lighters, or electronic cigarettes at any off-campus, school sponsored events.
- c. Hennepin Schools shall act to enforce this policy and to take appropriate action against any student, staff, administrator, or visitor who is found to have violated this policy.

ENFORCEMENT

- a. Students
 - i. The first violation shall result in any or all of the following: confiscation of tobacco product, meeting and assessment with the Dean of Students, parent notification and suspension.
 - ii. The second violation shall result in confiscation of tobacco products, notification of parents and offering student information about available cessation programs, meeting and assessment with the Dean of students, parent notification and suspension or expulsion.
- b. Staff
 - i. The first violation shall result in a verbal warning to the staff member.
 - ii. The second violation shall result in a written warning to the staff member with a copy placed in his or her file.
 - iii. The third violation shall be considered insubordination and grounds for suspension and or dismissal.
- c. Visitor
 - i. The first violation shall result in a verbal warning to the visitor.
 - ii. The second violation will be grounds for removal from campus.

TELEPHONE

Should parents/guardians need to contact students during school hours, we will be glad to take the message and deliver it to the teacher. If it is an emergency, we will contact the student immediately. Hennepin Elementary School phone number is 612-843-5050; Hennepin Middle School is 612-509-5201.

Students may use the office telephone for illness or emergency, with staff permission.

VISITORS

Parents/Guardians of Hennepin Schools students are invited to visit the school at any time but are requested to notify the school office at least one day in advance. Upon arrival, registration in the

office is required of all visitors and a visitor's badge worn. Hennepin Schools students are not permitted to bring other students with them to school as visitors.

WEAPONS POLICY

It is unlawful and against school policy to have a weapon on one's person or in an area subject to one's control on school property or at a school activity.

"Weapon" refers, but is not limited, to firearms or any device that is designed as a weapon or through its use capable of threatening or causing bodily harm.

Possession of a weapon will result in:

- An initial suspension for five (5) days.
- Confiscation of the weapon and possible notification of the Minneapolis Police Department.
- A recommendation to the executive director that the student be expelled for the remainder of the semester or school year may follow.

WELLNESS AND HEALTHY EATING

ACTIVE SCHOOLS & HEALTHY FOOD

At Hennepin Schools we believe in creating a close community, and our staff sees the benefit in allowing classroom celebrations. Hennepin School staff also believes in creating a healthy food environment for the students. For all families which bring in food, the following is required:

- ☆ Only store bought food, clearly marked with ingredients
- ☆ Smaller size items for celebrations i.e. cupcakes
- ☆ No pop/soda, candy, gum or food snacks are allowed
- ☆ No items that contain nuts

We also believe that good nutrition and adequate physical activity can help improve our students' attention span, increase concentration and learning capacity, and improve behavior. Active Recess is quality recess, where all students are engaged and active on the playground. There are many practices that make up active recess which include:

- ☆ 20 minutes of recess daily
- ☆ Positive playground expectations
- ☆ Student choice and universal participation through multiple activity options
- ☆ Playground or area is mapped to designate different areas of play and activities
- ☆ Quality play equipment
- ☆ Actively led and supervised by adults

WITHDRAWAL

Students planning to withdraw from school for any reason must bring a written statement from their parents/guardians to the school director's office before the last day of attendance. An official transcript will be sent upon request to the school to which the student is transferring.



HENNEPIN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

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HENNEPIN MIDDLE SCHOOL

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