

# TABLE OF CONTENTS

## SECTION 5—CURRICULUM AND INSTRUCTION

5.1—EDUCATIONAL PHILOSOPHY _____	1
5.2—PLANNING FOR EDUCATIONAL IMPROVEMENT _____	2
5.3—CURRICULUM DEVELOPMENT _____	3
5.5—SELECTION OF INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS _____	4
5.6—CHALLENGE TO INSTRUCTIONAL/SUPPLEMENTAL MATERIALS _____	5
5.8—USE OF COPYRIGHTED MATERIALS _____	6
5.9—COMPUTER SOFTWARE COPYRIGHT _____	7
5.10—RELIGION IN THE SCHOOLS _____	8
5.10.1—PERIOD OF SILENCE _____	9
5.11—DIGITAL LEARNING COURSES _____	10
5.14—HOMEWORK _____	12
5.15—GRADING _____	13
5.17—HONOR ROLL AND HONOR GRADUATES _____	15
5.18—HEALTH SERVICES _____	17
5.21—ADVANCED PLACEMENT COURSES _____	18
5.22—CONCURRENT CREDIT _____	19
5.23—EQUITY BETWEEN SCHOOLS _____	20
5.26—ALTERNATIVE LEARNING ENVIRONMENTS _____	21
5.26.1—ALE PROGRAM EVALUATION _____	23
5.27—ENGLISH LANGUAGE LEARNERS _____	24

5.29—WELLNESS POLICY \_\_\_\_\_ 25

5.28—NATIONAL SCHOOL LUNCH ACT FUNDING EXPENDITURES \_\_\_\_\_ 25

# **CURRICULUM AND INSTRUCTION**

## **5.1—EDUCATIONAL PHILOSOPHY**

The Jacksonville North Pulaski School District assumes the responsibility of providing students attending its schools a high quality education that challenges each student to achieve to their maximum potential. The District shall endeavor to create the environment within the schools necessary to attain this goal. The creation of the necessary climate shall be based on the following core beliefs:

1. The District commits to all students being successful.
2. Students learn at different rates and in different ways.
3. The education of all citizens is basic to our community's well-being.
4. Student success is influenced by peers, teachers, administrators, staff and the District's practices, policies and environment.
5. The District is responsible for helping cultivate good citizenship skills in its students.
6. Students reflect the moral and ethical values of their environment.
7. All people have a right to a safe environment.
8. Each person is responsible for his/her own actions.
9. Students should be challenged to aspire to the highest academic, social and career goals.
10. Schools are responsible for creating the conditions that promote success.
11. Each person is entitled to retain his/her dignity.
12. All people have the right to be treated with respect.
13. The District will continually develop and deliver programs and services that better serve students.

Date Adopted: 03/07/16

Last Revised:

## 5.2—PLANNING FOR EDUCATIONAL IMPROVEMENT

Each school in the Jacksonville North Pulaski District shall develop a comprehensive school improvement plan to address deficiencies in student performance based on analysis of students' grade-level benchmark assessments and other relevant data. The purpose of each plan shall be to ensure all students meet the state assessment standards established by the State Board of Education, as well as student achievement goals established by the District. A cumulative review of all academic improvement plans shall also be part of the data used to develop the comprehensive school improvement plan. Each plan shall be developed with administrator, teacher, other school staff, parent, community, and student (when appropriate) input and shall have as one of its components a plan for a parental involvement program. Professional development activities are to be designed to meet the needs identified in each schools' plan. Each plan is to be reviewed annually and revised to meet the changing needs reflected in student data.

Any school in the District identified by the Arkansas Department of Education (ADE) as failing to meet the established levels of academic achievement on the state's criterion-referenced tests shall revise its school improvement plan.

The District shall develop, with appropriate staff and community input, a comprehensive District improvement plan. The plan shall coordinate the actions of the various comprehensive school improvement plans within the District. The District plan shall align district resources to help ensure all of its students attain proficiency on the Benchmark exams.

Legal References: A.C.A. § 6-15-404 (i)(1)  
A.C.A. § 6-15-404 (i)(2)(B)  
A.C.A. § 6-15-404 (i) (2)(A)(i)(ii)  
A.C.A. § 6-15-419(2)(B)(iii)  
A.C.A. § 6-15-419(9)  
A.C.A. § 6-15-419(12)  
ADE Rules Governing the ACTAAP and the Academic Distress Program 3.10, 3.16, 8.0 – 8.04, and 9.04  
Arkansas Department of Education Rules for Governing Standards for Accreditation of Arkansas Public Schools and School Districts 7.0, 8.01, and 16.0 – 16.03.5 (The old Standards required the Student Services Plan be included in the ACSIP. While the new Standards do not specifically require it to be included in your ACSIP, prudence would still recommend it.)

Date Adopted: 03/07/16

Last Revised:

### **5.3—CURRICULUM DEVELOPMENT**

The District shall review each curriculum area annually to address the continued relevancy, adequacy, and cost effectiveness of individual courses and instructional programs and to ensure each area is aligned with the current curriculum frameworks and course content standards approved by the State Board of Education. Each school's administration shall implement a monitoring process to ensure the instructional content of each course offered is consistent with the content standards and curriculum frameworks approved by the State Board of Education.

Legal References:       Standards of Accreditation 9.01.2, 7.04.2  
                              ADE Rules Governing the ACTAAP and the Academic Distress Program 4.05  
                              A.C.A. § 6-15-101  
                              A.C.A. § 6-15-1505(a)

Date Adopted:           03/07/16

Last Revised:

## 5.4—SELECTION OF INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS

The Jacksonville North Pulaski School District Board of Education shall delegate the Superintendent the authority and responsibility for selection of all print and non-print materials, technological materials and other resources. Responsibilities for actual selection may be delegated to appropriate professionally trained personnel who shall discharge this obligation consistent with the District’s Instructional Materials Selection and Challenge Procedures.

Selection procedures shall involve representatives of the professional staff directly affected by the selections and persons qualified by preparation to aid in wise selection. The professional staff shall select and use instructional resources appropriate for the curriculum. These resources will represent a wide range of abilities, interests, and diverse points of view. Principles will be placed above personal opinion and reason above prejudice in the selection of materials of the highest quality and appropriateness.

The library media specialist will work cooperatively with staff members, students, parents and the community to interpret and guide the application of the procedures in making selections for the media center.

The Superintendent shall develop and publish procedures for implementing this policy and related state rules and regulations including procedures for challenging the appropriateness of instructional materials. These procedures will be available through the principal’s office of library at each school.

Legal Reference: 20 USC § 1232h (a), (b), (c) [NCLB Act of 2001, Part F, Section 1061 (c) (1)(C)(i)(ii), (2)(A)(i), (5)(B), (6)(A)(C)]

Date Adopted: 03/07/16

Last Revised:

## **5.6—CHALLENGE TO INSTRUCTIONAL/SUPPLEMENTAL MATERIALS**

Library/media center materials are selected for their compatibility with the District’s education program and their ability to help fulfill the District’s educational goals and objectives. Individuals wishing to challenge or express concern about instructional or supplemental materials may do so by following the Instructional Materials Selection and Challenge Procedure.

Copies of the Instructional Materials Selection and Challenge Procedure may be obtained by contacting the principal at any District school.

Legal Reference:       20 USC 1232(h)(c)(C)  
                              A.C.A. § 6-25-101 et seq.

Date Adopted:         03/07/16

Last Revised:

## 5.8—USE OF COPYRIGHTED MATERIALS

The Jacksonville North Pulaski School District encourages the enrichment of the instructional program through the proper use of copyrighted works. Procedures governing the use and reproduction of copyrighted works fall under federal copyright law. To help ensure the appropriate use of copyrighted materials, the Superintendent, or designee, will provide district personnel with information.

While the application of copyright law to the use and/or reproduction of works can be difficult to determine, it is essential for District personnel and students to use works in an ethical manner. A complete reading of U.S. Copyright Law is available at <http://copyright.gov/title17/>. One of the important aspects of the copyright law is the application of “fair use,” which is located in section 107 of copyright law. The section specifying “fair use” guidelines from Section 107 of the copyright law is stated as follows:

“Section 107 also sets out four factors to be considered in determining whether or not a particular use is fair.

1. The purpose and character of the use, including whether such use is of commercial nature or is for nonprofit educational purposes
2. The nature of the copyrighted work
3. The amount and substantiality of the portion used in relation to the copyrighted work as a whole
4. The effect of the use upon the potential market for, or value of, the copyrighted work

The distinction between what is fair use and what is infringement in a particular case will not always be clear or easily defined. There is no specific number of words, lines, or notes that may safely be taken without permission. Acknowledging the source of the copyrighted material does not substitute for obtaining permission. When it is impracticable to obtain permission, teachers should consider avoiding the use of copyrighted material unless they are confident that the doctrine of fair use would apply to the situation. (<http://www.copyright.gov/fls/fl102.html>)

***Practices such as photocopying, scanning, or digitally transmitting works to solely avoid paying for additional books, workbooks, and multimedia is a violation of copyright law.*** The building principal or the library/media specialist should be contacted for additional assistance concerning use and/or reproduction of works if unsure of copyright compliance. The Jacksonville North Pulaski School District will not be responsible for any employee or student violations of the use of copyrighted works.

Cross Reference: 5.11—DIGITAL LEARNING COURSES

Legal Reference: 17 USC § 101 to 1010 (Federal Copyright Law of 1976)

Date Adopted: 03/07/16

Last Revised:

## **5.9—COMPUTER SOFTWARE COPYRIGHT**

The District shall observe copyright laws governing computer software reproduction. Unless specifically allowed by the software purchase agreement, the Copyright Act allows the purchaser of software to:

1. Make one copy of software for archival purposes in case the original is destroyed or damaged through mechanical failure of a computer. However, if the original is sold or given away, the archival copy must be destroyed;
2. Make necessary adaptations to use the program; and/or
3. Add features to the program for specific applications. These improvements may not be sold or given away without the copyright owner's permission.

The District shall abide by applicable licensing agreements before using computer software on local-area or wide-area networks.

Legal Reference: 17 USC § 117 Amended Dec. 12, 1980

Date Adopted: 03/07/16

Last Revised:

## **5.10—RELIGION IN THE SCHOOLS**

It is the Board's policy that the school system, as an agency of the government, shall be neutral in matters regarding religion and will not engage in any activity that either advocates or belittles religion. The District shall assume no role or responsibility for the religious training of any student.

The need for neutrality does not diminish our school system's educational responsibility to address the historical role of religion in the development of our culture. Since we live in a diverse society, the District's goal shall be to address the subject of religion objectively in such a way that it promotes an understanding of, and tolerance for, each other's religious or non-religious views.

Discussions concerning religious concepts, practices, or disciplines are permissible when presented in a secular context in their relation to an inclusive study of religion or to the study of a particular region or country. The discussions shall be such that they are objective and academically informational and do not advocate nor belittle any particular form of religious practice.

Date Adopted: 03/07/16

Last Revised:

### **5.10.1—PERIOD OF SILENCE**

The teacher in charge of each classroom shall, at the opening of school each day following the Pledge of Allegiance, conduct a one-minute period of silence with the participation of all students in the classroom who desire to participate.

Students and employees may engage in personal religious practices, such as prayer, at any time, and shall do so in a manner and at a time so that the educational process is not disrupted.

Legal Reference: A.C.A. 6-10-115

Date Adopted: 03/07/16

Last Revised:

## 5.11—DIGITAL LEARNING COURSES

The Jacksonville North Pulaski School District recognizes that advances in technology have resulted in the need for guidelines for the use of copyrighted materials that are transmitted to students through a digital network. While the requirements to use a copyrighted work in a digital transmission have many similarities to those required to use a copyrighted work in a face-to-face classroom, Federal law places additional updates on the District’s personnel for the use of a digitally transmitted copyrighted work. The District is dedicated to providing personnel with the tools necessary to meet the additional updates from the Technology, Education and Copyright Harmonization (“TEACH”) Act (<http://copyright.gov/docs/regstat031301.html>).

The District shall make sure the server where materials are stored is secured, whether the server is located locally or remotely.

The District’s Informational Technologies staff shall develop the proper protocols and train teachers on their use in order to ensure the following:

1. The transmission of the copyrighted work is limited to only the students enrolled in the course;
  - Each student shall have a unique ID and password for accessing digital courses/materials; or
  - Each course shall have a unique password to access course materials; and
  - The password to access the course materials shall be changed immediately following the close of the course.
2. To prevent students from retaining or further disseminating the copyrighted work for more than one class session;
  - The print function will be disabled;
  - A transparency shall be placed over any literary work, sheet music, or photograph;
  - Audio and video transmissions will be set to be streamed; and
  - The link to the webpage with a copyrighted work shall be deactivated at the end of the applicable class session.

Teachers who wish to provide copyrighted works to students through a digital transmission as part of a digital course as well as teachers wishing to supplement a face-to-face classroom course with a digital transmission must meet applicable copyright statutes as well as the following requirements in order to use a copyrighted work:

- A. The use of the copyrighted work(s), whether in whole or in part, must be a part of regular classroom instruction and must be directly related and of material assistance to the course content;
- B. The extent of a copyrighted work that is used must comply with one or more of the following criteria:
  - The entirety of a nondramatic literary or musical work may be used. A nondramatic literary work includes poems and short stories. A nondramatic musical work covers all music that is not part of an opera or musical and does not cover the use of the music video format of a song.
  - Dramatic literary and musical works as well as videos may only be used in limited portions. Dramatic literary and musical works may only be used in the same amount as set forth in the

requirements for a face-to-face classroom while videos, including music videos, may only have the portion used that is directly related to the subject of the class session and may not be transmitted in their entirety.

- Still images or slides that a teacher would have used in the ordinary course of a face-to-face classroom session on a projector or a transparency may be used in a transmission.
  - Works primarily produced or marketed for use in the digital education market may not be transmitted.
  - Works the teacher had knowledge or reasonably believes to be unlawfully made or acquired may not be used.
  - Mediated Instructional activities may not be transmitted.
- C. A statement that works may be subject to copyright shall be placed in at least one of the following areas to provide notice to students of copyright status:
- Course syllabus;
  - Home webpage for the course;
  - Webpage for the particular class session; and/or
  - Webpage with the copyrighted work.

The teacher and the school librarian(s) shall work together when making digital copies of copyrighted work from physical or analog versions and shall fulfill the following requirements:

- I. The amount converted is only the amount allowed by law; **and**
- II. The District has no digital copy of the copyrighted work available; **or**
- III. The District's digital copy of the copyrighted work that is available has technological protections that prevent the use of the copyrighted work in the manner prescribed by law.

The District will not be responsible for any employee violations of the use of copyrighted materials.

Cross References:      4.45—SMART CORE CURRICULUM AND GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS  
FOR THE CLASS OF 2018 AND THEREAFTER  
4.45.1—SMART CORE CURRICULUM AND GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS  
FOR THE CLASSES OF 2015, 2016, AND 2017  
5.8—USE OF COPYRIGHTED MATERIALS

Legal References:      A.C.A. § 6-16-1401 et seq.  
ADE RULES GOVERNING THE DIGITAL LEARNING ACT OF 2013

Date Adopted:          03/07/16

Last Revised:

## **5.14—HOMEWORK**

Homework is considered to be part of the educational program of the District. Assignments shall be an extension of the teaching/learning experience that promotes the student's educational development. As an extension of the classroom, homework must be planned and organized and should be viewed by the students as purposeful.

Teachers should be aware of the potential problem students may have completing assignments from multiple teachers and vary the amount of homework they give from day to day.

Parents shall be notified of this policy at the beginning of each school year.

Legal Reference: State Board of Education Rules & Regulations: Accreditation Standards 10.07

Date Adopted: 03/07/16

Last Revised:

## 5.15—GRADING

Parents or guardians shall be kept informed concerning the progress of their student. Parent-teacher conferences are encouraged and may be requested by parents, guardians, or teachers. If the progress of a student is unsatisfactory in a subject, the teacher shall attempt to schedule a parent-teacher conference. In the conference, the teacher shall explain the reasons for difficulties and shall develop, cooperatively with the parents, a plan for remediation, which may enhance the probability of the student succeeding. The school shall also issue grades for each nine-week grading period to keep parents/guardians informed of their student's progress. At the half-way point in the nine-week period, a progress report will be sent home with students who are in grades 2-12 and making a D or F. Students who are in K-1 grade levels will receive a standards based progress report each nine-week period.

The evaluation of each student's performance on a regular basis serves to give the parents/guardians, students, and the school necessary information to help effect academic improvement. Students' grades shall reflect only the extent to which a student has achieved the expressed educational objectives of the course.

The grades of a child in foster care shall not be lowered due to an absence from school due to:

- (1) A change in the child's school enrollment;
- (2) The child's attendance at a dependency-neglect court proceeding; or
- (3) The child's attendance at court-ordered counseling or treatment.

The grading scale for all schools in the district shall be as follows.

A = 100 – 90

B = 89 – 80

C = 79 – 70

D = 69-60

F = 59 and below

For the purpose of determining grade point averages, the numeric value of each letter grade shall be

A = 4 points

B = 3 points

C = 2 points

D = 1 point

F = 0 points

The grade point values for Advanced Placement (AP) and approved honor courses shall be one point greater than for regular courses with the exception that an F shall still be worth 0 points.

The final grades of students who transfer in for part of a semester will be determined by blending the grades earned in the District with those earned outside the District.

Legal References:       A.C.A. § 6-15-902

A.C.A. § 9-28-113(f)  
State Board of Education: Standards of Accreditation 12.02  
Arkansas Department of Education Rules and Regulations Governing Uniform  
Grading Scales for Public Secondary Schools

Date Adopted: 03/07/16

Last Revised: 10/03/16

## **5.17—HONOR ROLL AND HONOR GRADUATES**

### **HONOR ROLL**

Students in grades 2-5 who maintain A's and B's for the grading period will be recognized as honor roll students for that grading period. Semester grades will determine the honor roll at the end of each semester. Students who are in K-1 grade levels and have met their academic goals will also receive honor roll designation.

To recognize growth and progress, students in grades 2-5 who have no grade below C in any subject will be listed on the Merit Roll for that grading period. Students who are in K-1 grade levels and have shown academic growth and progress in their academic goals will receive merit list designation.

Students in grades 7-12 who participate in the Smart Core Curriculum and maintain a 3.5 GPA for the grading period will be recognized as honor roll students for that grading period. Semester grades will determine the honor roll at the end of each semester.

To recognize growth and progress, students in grades 7-12 who have no grade below C in any subject will be listed on the Merit Roll for that grading period. The student must have a minimum GPA of 3.0 for the quarter.

### **HONOR GRADUATES**

Students who have successfully completed the minimum core of courses recommended for preparation for college as defined by the State Board of Higher Education and the State Board of Education and have a cumulative GPA of 3.5 will be designated as honor students. The GPA shall be derived from courses taken in public schools in grades nine (9) through twelve (12).

### **VALEDICTORIAN AND SALUTATORIAN**

The honor student with the highest GPA and who has been enrolled in public school in grades 9 through 12 and in Jacksonville North Pulaski's high school for his/her entire junior and senior year shall serve as the valedictorian of his/her graduating class.

The honor student with the second highest GPA and who has been enrolled in public school in grades 9 through 12 and in Jacksonville North Pulaski's high school for his/her entire junior and senior year shall serve as the salutatorian of his/her graduating class.

Parents or guardians of a student, or a student eighteen (18) years of age or older, who choose to not have the student publicly identified as an honor roll or honor graduate student must submit a written request that the student not be so identified.

Legal References:      A.C.A. § 6-18-101 (a) (1)  
                                 A.C.A. § 6-18-101 (a) (2)  
                                 A.C.A. § 6-18-101 (b)  
                                 A.C.A. § 6-18-101(e)

A.C.A. § 6-61-217(a)

Date Adopted: 03/07/16

Last Revised:

## **5.18—HEALTH SERVICES**

The Board believes that healthy children promote a better learning environment, are more capable of high student achievement, and will result in healthier, more productive adults. Therefore, the goal of the District's health services is to promote a healthy student body. This requires both the education of students concerning healthy behaviors, as well as providing health care services to pupils.

School nurses shall be under the general supervision of the District nursing supervisor and the direct supervision of building principals.

Date Adopted: 03/07/16

Last Revised:

## 5.21—ADVANCED PLACEMENT COURSES

Students in grades 7-12 who take advanced placement courses or concurrent credit college courses approved for weighted credit by the Arkansas Department of Education shall be graded according to the following schedule:

A = 100 – 90

B = 89 – 80

C = 79 – 70

D = 69-60

F = 59 and below

For the purpose of determining grade point averages, the numeric value of each letter grade shall be:

A = 5 points

B = 4 points

C = 3 points

D = 2 point

F = 0 points

For a student to be eligible to receive weighted credit for an AP course, the student's course must have been taught by an Arkansas licensed teacher who has received the appropriate training required by Arkansas statute and ADE Rule or, for an AP teacher, is in the process of completing an additional training plan.

Additionally, for students taking AP to receive weighted credit they must take the applicable AP examination after completing the entire course. Credit shall be given for each grading period during the course of the year, but shall be retroactively removed from a student's grade for any course in which the student fails to take the applicable AP exam. Students who do not take the AP exam shall receive the same numeric value for the grade he/she receives in the course as if it were a non-AP course.

Students who transfer into the District will be given weighted credit for the Advanced Placement courses approved by the Arkansas Department of Education and concurrent college courses taken for weighted credit at his/her previous school(s) according to the preceding scale.

Legal References:       Arkansas Department of Education Rules and Regulations Governing Uniform Grading Scales for Public Secondary Schools  
ADE Rules for Advanced Placement and International Baccalaureate Diploma Incentive Program  
A.C.A. § 6-15-902(c)(1)  
A.C.A. § 6-16-806

Date Adopted:         03/07/16

Last Revised:

## 5.22—CONCURRENT CREDIT

A 9-12 grade student who successfully completes a college course(s) from an institution approved by the Arkansas Department of Education (ADE) shall be given credit toward high school grades and graduation at the rate of one high school credit for each three (3) semester hours of college credit. Unless approved by the school's principal, **prior to enrolling for the course**, the concurrent credit shall be applied toward the student's graduation requirements as an elective.

A student who takes a three-semester hour remedial/developmental education course, as permitted by the ADE Rules Governing Concurrent College and High School Credit, shall be the equivalent of one-half unit of credit for a high school career focus elective. The remedial/developmental education course cannot be used to meet the core subject area/unit requirements in English and mathematics.

Participation in the concurrent high school and college credit program must be documented by a written agreement between:

- The District's student, and his or her parent(s) or guardian(s) if the public school student is under the age of eighteen (18);
- The District; and
- The publicly supported community college, technical college, four-year college or university, or private institution the student attends to take the concurrent credit course.

Students will retain credit earned through the concurrent credit program which was applied toward a course required for high school graduation from a previously attended, accredited, public school.

Any and all costs of higher education courses taken for concurrent credit are the student's responsibility.

Legal References:       A.C.A. § 6-15-902(c)(2)  
ADE Rules and Regulations: Concurrent College and High School Credit for Students  
Who Have Completed the Eighth Grade

Date Adopted:         03/07/16

Last Revised:

## **5.23—EQUITY BETWEEN SCHOOLS**

The Jacksonville North Pulaski School District is committed to providing a quality education for all students in each of the District's schools. The equitable distribution of District resources is one means the District shall use to ensure all of its students receive a quality education. The Board directs that services in Title I schools, when taken as a whole, be at least comparable to services in schools that are not receiving Title I funds. Curriculum materials, instructional supplies, and the percentages of highly qualified personnel shall be equivalent between all schools in the District when compared on a school-by-school basis. Specifically, the goal of the district is to have its students given an equitable opportunity to learn regardless of the school they attend within the District.

Equity between schools shall not be measured by such things as

1. Changes in enrollment after the start of the school year;
2. Varying costs associated with providing services to children with disabilities,
3. Unexpected changes in personnel assignments occurring after the beginning of the school year;
4. Expenditures on language instruction education programs and;
5. Other expenditures from supplemental State or local funds consistent with the intent of Title I.

Legal Reference: 20 USC § 6321(a),(b), and (c) [NCLB Act of 2001 Section 1120A ]

Date Adopted: 03/07/16

Last Revised:

## 5.26—ALTERNATIVE LEARNING ENVIRONMENTS

The District shall provide an eligible alternative learning environment (ALE) for each eligible ALE student enrolled in a District school. The ALE shall be part of an intervention program designed to provide guidance, counseling, and academic support to students who are experiencing emotional, social, or academic problems. Placement of a student in an ALE shall not be punitive in nature.

The Superintendent or designee shall appoint an alternative education placement team, which shall have the responsibility of determining student placement in the ALE. A student may be enrolled in an ALE only on the referral of the alternative education placement team. The team's placement decision is final and may not be appealed.

The team is to be comprised of the following:

- a school counselor from the referring school;
- the ALE administrator and/or ALE teacher;
- the building principal or assistant principal from the referring school;
- a parent or legal guardian (if they choose to participate);
  - The District shall document its efforts to contact the student's parent or guardian to schedule a meeting or a phone call for a placement meeting at the parent or guardian's convenience, and maintain such documentation in the student's Student Action Plan (SAP).
- LEA special education/504 representative (if applicable);
- at least one (1) of the student's regular classroom teacher(s); and
- if the District so chooses, the student.

Students who are placed in the ALE shall exhibit at least two of the following characteristics (a through m):

- a) Disruptive behavior;
- b) Dropping out from school;
- c) Personal or family problems or situations;
- d) Recurring absenteeism;
- e) Having difficulty with learning in the regular classroom environment;

For the purposes of the ALE, personal or family problems or situations are conditions that negatively affect the student's academic and social progress. These may include, but are not limited to:

- f) Ongoing, persistent lack of attaining proficiency levels in literacy and mathematics
- g) Abuse: physical, mental, or sexual;
- h) Frequent relocation of residency;
- i) Homelessness;
- j) Inadequate emotional support;
- k) Mental/physical health problems;
- l) Pregnancy; or
- m) Single parenting.

The District's ALE program shall follow class size, staffing, curriculum and expenditure requirements identified in the ADE Rules.

Legal References: A.C.A. § 6-20-2305(b)(2)  
A.C.A. § 6-48-101 et seq.  
ADE Rules Governing the Distribution of Student Special Needs Funding and the  
Determination of Allowable Expenditure of These Funds – 3.01, 4.00, and 8.0

Date Adopted: 03/07/16

Last Revised:

### **5.26.1—ALE PROGRAM EVALUATION**

The ALE program shall be evaluated at least annually to determine its overall effectiveness. The evaluation shall specifically address how the use of ALE funds is in alignment with the District’s ACSIP in addressing identified achievement gaps and student performance deficiencies.

Legal Reference:       A.C.A. § 6-15-426(f)

Date Adopted:         03/07/16

Last Revised:

## **5.27—ENGLISH LANGUAGE LEARNERS**

The District shall utilize the special needs funding it receives for identified English Language Learners on activities, and materials listed in the ADE Rules Governing the Distribution of Student Special Needs Funding and the Determination of Allowable Expenditure of These Funds.

The expenditures of ELL supplemental funding shall be evaluated at least annually to determine their overall effectiveness. The evaluation shall specifically address how the use of ELL funds is in alignment with the district's ACSIP in addressing identified achievement gaps and student performance deficiencies.

Legal References:       A.C.A. § 6-20-2305(b)(3)  
                              A.C.A. § 6-15-426(f)  
                              ADE Rules Governing the Distribution of Student Special Needs Funding and the  
                              Determination of Allowable Expenditure of These Funds – 3.09, 5.00, 8.00

Date Adopted:         03/07/16

Last Revised:

## **5.29—WELLNESS POLICY**

The health and physical wellbeing of our students directly affects their ability to learn. Childhood obesity increases the incidence of adult diseases occurring in children and adolescents such as heart disease, high blood pressure and diabetes. The increased risk carries forward into their adulthood. Research indicates that a healthy diet and regular physical activity can help prevent obesity and the diseases resulting from it. It is understood that the eating habits and exercise patterns of students cannot be magically changed overnight, but at the same time, the Board of Education believes it is necessary to strive to create a culture in our schools that consistently promotes good nutrition and physical activity.

The problem of obesity and inactivity is a public health issue. The Board of Education is keenly aware that it has taken years for this problem to reach its present level and will similarly take years to correct. The responsibility for addressing the problem lies not only with the schools and the Arkansas Department of Education, but with the community and its residents organizations and agencies. Therefore, the District shall enlist the support of the larger community to find solutions, which improve the health and physical activity of our students.

### **Goals**

In its efforts to improve the school nutrition environment, promote student health, and reduce childhood obesity, the District will adhere to the Arkansas Rules Governing Nutrition and Physical Activity Standards in Arkansas Public Schools. To promote nutrition, physical activity, and other school based activities that will improve student wellness, the District has established the following goals.

1. Appoint a District school health coordinator (designated District official) who shall be responsible for ensuring that each school fulfills the requirements of this policy;
2. Implement a grade appropriate nutrition education program that will develop an awareness of and appreciation for nutrition and physical activity throughout the curriculum;
3. Enforce existing physical education requirements and engage students in healthy levels of vigorous physical activity;
4. Strive to improve the quality of physical education curricula and increase the training of physical education teachers;
5. Follow the Arkansas Physical Education and Health Education Frameworks in grades K-12;
6. Not use food or beverages as rewards for academic, classroom, or sports performances;
7. Ensure that drinking water is available without charge to all students;
8. Establish class schedules and bus routes that do not directly or indirectly restrict meal access;
9. Provide students with ample time to eat their meals in pleasant cafeteria and dining areas;
10. Establish no more than nine (9) school wide events, which permit exceptions to the food and beverage limitations established by Rule. The schedule of the events shall be by school, approved by the principal, and shall be part of the annual school calendar;
11. Abide by the current allowable food and beverage portion standards;
12. Meet or exceed the more stringent of Arkansas' or the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Nutrition Standards for reimbursable meals and a la' carte foods served in the cafeteria;
13. Restrict access to vended foods, competitive foods, and foods of minimal nutritional value (FMNV) as required by law and Rule;

14. Conform new and/or renewed vending contracts to the content restrictions contained in the Rules and reduce district dependence on profits from the sale of FMNV.
15. Provide professional development to all district staff on the topics of nutrition and/or physical activity;
16. Utilize the School Health Index available from the Center for Disease Control (CDC) to assess how well the district is doing at implementing this wellness policy and at promoting a healthy environment for its students;

### **Advisory Committee**

To enhance the District's efforts to improve the health of our students, a School Nutrition and Physical Activity Advisory Committee (SNPAAC) shall be formed. It shall be structured in a way that ensures age-appropriate recommendations are made which correlate to our district's grade configurations. The SNPAAC shall have the powers and responsibilities delegated to it by statute and Rule and are incorporated into this policy by reference. The overarching goal of the committee shall be to promote student wellness by monitoring how well the District is doing at implementing this policy. The SNPAAC shall use modules 1, 2, 3, 4, and 8 of the CDC's School Health Index as a basis for assessing each school's progress toward meeting the requirements of this policy. The results of the annual assessment shall be included in each school's ACSIP, provided to each school's principal, and reported to the board. Goals and objectives for nutrition and physical activity shall also be included in the ACSIP.

Parents, students, the District's teachers of physical education, school health professionals, the District Board of Education, the District's school administrators, members of the community, and representatives of the District's school food authority shall be included in the development, implementation, and periodic review of the District's wellness policy to the extent interested persons from each group desire to be included.

The SNPAAC shall provide recommendations to the District concerning menus and other foods sold in the school cafeteria. Such recommendations shall be based, at least in part, on the information the Committee receives from the District on the requirements and standards of the National School Lunch Program and information and from menus for the National School Lunch Program and other food sold in the school cafeteria on a quarterly basis.

The District shall periodically assess, with input from the SNPACC, the District and individual schools' status regarding implementing this policy. The assessment shall be based, at least in part, on:

- the extent to which District schools are in compliance with this policy;
- the extent to which this policy compares to other model local school wellness policies; and
- a description of the progress made in attaining the goals of this policy.

The assessment results along with the content of this policy shall be periodically reported to the public, including parents, students, and other members of the community.

Legal References:        Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act 42 U.S.C. § 1751 et seq. as amended by PL 111-296 (Section 204) of 2010. (Section 204 is codified at 42 U.S.C. § 1758(b))  
Child Nutrition Act of 1966 42 U.S.C. § 1771 et seq.  
A.C.A. § 6-20-709  
A.C.A. §§ 20-7-133, 134, and 135  
ADE Rules Governing Nutrition and Physical Activity Standards in Arkansas Public Schools

Allowable Competitive Foods/Beverages - Maximum Portion Size List for Middle,  
Junior High, and High School  
Nutrition Standards for Arkansas Public Schools

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## **5.28—NATIONAL SCHOOL LUNCH ACT FUNDING EXPENDITURES**

Funding received from the state based on the number of students eligible for free and reduced-priced meals under the National Student Lunch Act shall be expended in accordance with guidelines outlined in the ADE Rules Governing the Distribution of Student Special Needs Funding and the Determination of Allowable Expenditure of These Funds.

The District shall at least annually evaluate programs supported by NSLA funds to determine the effectiveness of the programs and to ensure they are providing intervention/prevention services designed to increase student achievement which are in alignment with the district's ACSIP.

Legal References:       A.C.A. § 6-20-2305(b)(4)  
                              A.C.A. § 6-15-426(f)  
                              ADE Rules Governing the Distribution of Student Special Needs Funding and the  
                              Determination of Allowable Expenditure of These Funds 3.12, 3.17, 3.18, 6.00, and  
                              8.00

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