



**Student / Parent  
Handbook  
2019-2020**

4434 ROLAND ROAD

SAN ANTONIO, TX 78222

(210) 333-6227 FAX (210) 337-235



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## Preface

To Students and Parents:

Welcome to Jubilee Academies! We wish this year to be an especially productive experience for each student. For this to happen, we must all work together: students, parents, and staff. This Student/Parent Handbook (“the Handbook”) is designed to help us accomplish this goal.

The Handbook is an overview of our school’s goals, services, and rules. It is an essential reference book describing what we expect of our students and parents, what they can expect of us, and how we will achieve our educational mission. We have attempted to make the language in this Handbook as straightforward as possible. Please note that the term “parent” is used to refer to the parent, legal guardian, or other person who has agreed to assume school-related responsibility for a student.

The Handbook is divided into several sections. The first section includes general information regarding school policy and procedures. The second section provides important health and safety information. The third section provides information about academics and grading. The fourth section is especially for parents, with information regarding parental rights. Finally, the fifth section contains important notices regarding student information, computer resources, and electronic communication devices.

This Handbook is designed to be in harmony with Board Policy. Please be aware that the Handbook is updated yearly, while policy adoption and revision may occur throughout the year. Changes in policy and procedure that affect Handbook provisions will be made available to students and parents through newsletters and other communications. **In case of conflict between Board Policy and any provision of this Handbook, the provision that was most recently adopted by the Board of Directors will be followed.**

We ask our parents to review the entire Handbook with their students and to keep it as a reference during this school year. Parents or students with questions about the material in this Handbook should contact their Principal.

**Finally, you must complete and return the last page of the Handbook – “Acknowledgement and Approval of Student/Parent Handbook” – to the school office at your campus.**

On behalf of the entire Jubilee Academies staff and community, best wishes for a great 2019–2020 school year!

## **SECTION 1: GENERAL INFORMATION**

### **1.1 Mission**

The mission and vision of Jubilee Academies is to provide a Nurturing Community Focused on Leadership and Educational Excellence.

### **1.2 Board of Directors**

Tom Koger, Chairman of the Board  
Zach Lutz, Vice-Chairman  
Gloria Gover, Secretary

### **1.3 About the School**

The school started operations on a single campus in San Antonio, Texas for the spring semester of the 2000-2001 school year and served approximately 50 students. Initially, the school primarily served families from the surrounding neighborhoods and Jubilee Outreach Church, which previously had operated a private school at the site of the first Charter School campus. A group of parents from the private school approached the church about transitioning the private school into a charter school rather than close the private school due to low enrollment. Tom Koger at the time was active in the administration of Jubilee Outreach Church and was asked to be the director of the proposed charter school. In the early school years, the student population grew to serve students from a broader segment of the community, and the school became known as a safe haven and place of academic excellence for families seeking options for their students compared to the local traditional school districts. As the school expanded and its popularity increased, additional sites and campuses were added to accommodate its growing student population. In 2019–2020, Jubilee Academies will serve students in twelve campuses located in Austin, Brownsville, Harlingen, Kingsville, and San Antonio.

### **1.4 Statement of Non-Discrimination**

Jubilee Academies does not discriminate on the basis of race, religion, color, national origin, sex or gender, disability, or age in providing educational services, activities, and programs, including vocational and career technology programs. Jubilee Academies complies with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended; Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972; Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (“ADA”), as amended, which incorporates and expands upon the requirements of Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended; the Age Discrimination Act of 1975, as amended; and any other legally-protected classification or status protected by applicable law.

Any questions or concerns about Jubilee Academies’ compliance with these federal programs should be brought to the attention of the following persons designated as being responsible for coordinating compliance with these requirements:

- The Title IX Coordinator, for concerns regarding discrimination on the basis of sex/gender, is Sam Cofer, HR Director, 4434 Roland Rd, San Antonio, TX 78222, and may be reached at 210-333-6227.



- The ADA/Section 504 Coordinator, for concerns regarding discrimination on the basis of disability, is Daniel Amador, Superintendent of Schools, 4434 Roland Rd, San Antonio, TX 78222, and may be reached at 210-333-6227.
- The Age Discrimination Coordinator, for concerns regarding discrimination on the basis of age, is Sam Cofer, HR Director, 4434 Roland Rd, San Antonio, TX 78222, and may be reached at 210-333-6227.
- All other concerns regarding discrimination may be directed to Sam Cofer, HR Director, 4434 Roland Rd, San Antonio, TX 78222, and may be reached at 210-333-6227.

## **1.5 Admissions and Enrollment Information**

Admission and enrollment of students shall be open to persons who reside within the geographic boundaries stated in the school's charter, or as otherwise allowed by state law, and who are eligible for admission based on lawful criteria identified in the charter and in state law. The total number of students enrolled in Jubilee Academies shall not exceed the number of students approved in the charter or subsequent amendments. Total enrollment may further be limited by Jubilee Academies based on occupancy limitations, code compliance and staffing requirements as deemed necessary.

*In accordance with state law, Jubilee Academies does not discriminate in its admissions policy on the basis of sex; national origin; ethnicity; religion; disability; academic, artistic, or athletic ability; or the district the child would otherwise attend.*

### **Exclusion from Admission**

As authorized by the Jubilee Academies charter and Texas Education Code § 12.111(a)(5)(A), students with a documented history of a criminal offense, a juvenile court adjudication, or other discipline problems under Texas Education Code Chapter 37, Subchapter A may be excluded from admission and enrollment in Jubilee Academies.

### **Submission of Applications and Admissions Lottery**

Students wanting to attend Jubilee Academies must submit an application during the school's open enrollment period, which takes place during the months of January and February each year, or as otherwise set by the administration. Enrollment forms are available at each campus location and online through the Jubilee Academies website.

Applications for reenrollment from currently enrolled students will be accepted from December 1st through the first Friday in January.

If fewer applications than spots available are received, students will be offered admission on a first-come, first-served basis. If Jubilee Academies receives more applications than it has spots available in any grade level, it will conduct a random lottery. Each applicant selected during the lottery (until all open seats are filled) will be offered admission. Once all enrollment spots have been filled by the lottery, the lottery will continue and applicants will be placed on a waiting list in the order in which they are drawn. If a vacancy arises before the commencement of the next school year, the individual on the waiting list with the lowest number assignment will be offered admission and then removed from the waiting list.

If an application is received after the application period has passed, the applicant's name will be added to the waiting list behind the names of the applicants who timely applied.

Families offered an enrollment seat will be sent a registration packet with instructions for registering. Families must complete and return the registration packet by the published deadline in order to secure enrollment. If an enrollment offer is declined or if you do not complete the registration packet by the established deadline, your child's seat will be offered to the next potential student on the waiting list.

**Exceptions to Lottery Process:** Federal guidelines permit Jubilee Academies to exempt from the lottery students who are already attending Jubilee Academies; siblings of students already admitted to or attending Jubilee Academies; and children of Jubilee Academies' founders, teachers, and staff, so long as the total number of students allowed under this exemption constitutes only a small percentage of Jubilee Academies' total enrollment.

**Orientation Following Admission:** After admission, students and parents may attend an orientation session and/or a personal orientation with the Director or his/her designee. At the orientation, the school's rules, responsibilities, and expectations for students will be clearly outlined. Students, parents, and teachers will sign the Jubilee Academic Center Parent Compact, a document that outlines the responsibilities of teachers, parents, and students.

## **1.6 Attendance**

Regular attendance is expected of all Jubilee Academies students due to the rigor of our curriculum. Consistent school attendance is an essential component of each student's education. Official attendance is taken each day and recorded each instructional period. Tardies and early checkouts are also recorded each day.

Absence from school will affect a student's ability to succeed in class; therefore, students and parents should make every effort to avoid unnecessary absences. Additionally, state law mandates compulsory school attendance for children of a certain age, and Jubilee Academies policy deals with attendance for course credit and a student's final grade. These items laws are discussed below.

### **Texas Compulsory Attendance Law**

The state compulsory attendance law, along with the Jubilee Academies Executive Board Student Policy for compulsory attendance, requires that a student between the ages of 6 and 19 must attend school and any applicable accelerated instruction programs and school-required tutorial sessions, unless the student is otherwise legally exempted or excused. School employees must investigate and report violations of the state compulsory attendance law. A student absent from school without permission – including absence from any class, required special programs, or required tutorials – will be considered truant and subject to disciplinary action.

Pre-Kindergarten and Kindergarten students are required to attend school and are subject to compulsory attendance requirements as long as they remain enrolled.

A student who voluntarily attends or enrolls after his or her 19th birthday is also required to attend each school day. If a student 19 years of age or older has more than five unexcused absences in a semester, the School may revoke the student's enrollment, except that the School may not revoke the enrollment on a day on which the student is physically present at school. The student's presence on school property thereafter would be unauthorized and may be considered trespassing. Prior to revoking the student's enrollment, the School shall issue a warning letter to the student after the third unexcused absence stating that the student's enrollment may be revoked for the remainder of the school year if the student has more than five unexcused absences in a semester. As an alternative to revoking enrollment, the School may impose a behavior improvement plan.

**Notice to Parents:** *Under Texas Education Code § 25.095(a), you are hereby notified that if a student is absent from school on ten or more days or parts of days within a six-month period in the same school year, the student's parent is subject to prosecution under Texas Education Code § 25.093; and the student is subject to referral to a truancy court for truant conduct under Texas Family Code § 65.003(a).*

*The School shall notify a student's parent if the student has been absent from school, without excuse, on three days or parts of days within a four-week period. The notice will inform the parent that it is the parent's duty to monitor the student's school attendance and require the student to attend school; the student is subject to truancy prevention measures under Texas Education Code § 25.0915; and that a conference between school officials and the parent is needed to discuss the absences. Failure to attend the conference will result in disciplinary action for the student, up to and including in-school suspension.*

### **Attendance for Credit or Final Grade**

To receive credit or a final grade in a class, a student must attend at least 90% of the days the class is offered. These days include both excused and unexcused absences. Additionally, students with more than nine unexcused absences in a school year will not receive a final grade or class credit, or be promoted to the next grade. Students who attend fewer than 90% of the days the class is offered may be referred to the Attendance Review Committee to determine whether the absences were due to extenuating circumstances and how the student may regain credit or earn a final grade.

The Attendance Review Committee will consider the following factors when determining whether there are extenuating circumstances for an absence:

- All absences will be reviewed, both excused and unexcused, with consideration given to special circumstances defined by the Texas Education Code and discussed in the Jubilee Academies Executive Board Student Policies.
- For a student transferring into Jubilee Academies after school begins, including a migrant student, only those absences after enrollment will be considered.
- The committee will attempt to reach a decision that is in the student's best interest.
- The committee will consider whether the absences were for reasons over which the student or parent could exercise control.
- The committee will consider the acceptability and authenticity of documentation expressing reasons for the student's absences.
- The committee will consider the extent to which the student has completed all assignments, mastered the essential knowledge and skills, and maintained passing grades in the course or subject.
- The student, parent, or other representative will be given an opportunity to present any information to the committee about the absences and to discuss ways to earn or regain credit.

If credit is lost or a final grade is not earned due to excessive absences, the Attendance Review Committee will decide how the student may regain credit or earn a final grade. If the committee determines that there are no extenuating circumstances and that credit and/or a final grade may not be earned, the student or parent may appeal the committee's decision to the Board of Directors by filing a written request with the Superintendent. The appeal notice must be postmarked to the following address within fifteen (15) days following the last day of instruction in the semester for which credit was denied or a final grade was not earned:

Jubilee Academies Executive Board, 4434 Roland Rd., San Antonio, Texas 78222

The appeal will then be placed on the agenda of the next regularly scheduled Board meeting. The Principal or designee shall inform the student or parent of the date, time, and place of the meeting.

### **Absence and Tardiness**

When a student must be absent from school, parents are asked to call the school each day the student will be absent. Upon returning to school, the student must bring a note, signed by the parent, that describes the reason for the absence. A note signed by the student, even with the parent's permission, will not be accepted. **Notes must be received within two days of the absence, or the absence will be unexcused.** Because excessive absences are considered truancy under state law, the School reserves the right to: Impose a behavior improvement plan including the specific behavior required or prohibited of the student and the period of time the plan will be in place; impose school-based community service; refer the student to counseling, mediation, or other in-school or out-of-school service aimed at addressing the truant behavior; and to take extreme absence cases to court.

### **Types of Absences**

Jubilee Academies recognizes two kinds of absences: excused and unexcused. Students and parents should read this section carefully to understand the School's expectations. Students and parents should also be aware of the School's policy regarding homework, quizzes, and tests following an absence.

#### **Excused Absences**

State law provides several exemptions to the compulsory attendance law for certain absences, so long as the student makes up all work missed. This includes absence for the following reasons:

- Religious holy days;
- Required court appearances;
- Activities related to obtaining United States citizenship;
- Service as an election clerk;
- Documented health-care appointments for the student or a child of the student, including absences for recognized services for students diagnosed with autism spectrum disorders. A note from the health-care provider must be submitted upon the student's arrival or return to campus;
- For students in the conservatorship (custody) of the state who need to attend:
  - an activity required under a court-ordered service plan; or
  - any other court-ordered activity, provided it is not practicable to schedule the student's participation in the activity outside of school hours.

A junior or senior student may also be absent for up to two days per school year for purposes of visiting a college or university, so long as the student obtains permission for the visit from the Principal, follows the school's procedures to verify the visit, and makes up any work missed due to the absence.

Absences of up to five days will be excused for a student to visit with a parent, stepparent, or legal guardian who has been called to duty for, is on leave from, or immediately returned from certain deployments.

Additionally, Jubilee Academies may excuse up to four days of school for a high school student who is 17 years of age or older to pursue enlistment in a branch of the armed services of the United States or the Texas National Guard, provided that the school verifies the student's activities relating to pursuing enlistment.

For religious holy days, required court appearances, activities related to obtaining citizenship, and services as an election clerk, one day of travel to the site and one day of travel from the site shall also be excused by Jubilee Academies.

### **Unexcused Absences**

Any absence not listed above will be considered an unexcused absence. Examples of unexcused absences include, but are not limited to:

- Car trouble.
- Failure to bring a written note within 3 school days following an absence.
- Leaving school without the permission of the Campus Administrator or other administrator.
- Oversleeping.
- Personal business.
- Vacations.

### **Tardies**

Students must be on time for all of their classes. The following steps will be followed to assure proper documentation of tardiness:

1. Students will get a tardy slip from the school office upon arrival to school if they are one minute late.
2. Excessive tardies will constitute referral to the Attendance Officer and will be subject to the appropriate actions outlined in the Student Code of Conduct.
3. All tardies will be documented in the grade book by the classroom teacher.

### **Tardies and Late Arrival**

1. Two tardies – Teacher conference with parent by telephone or in person
2. Three tardies – 1st Written Notice to Parents that six tardies equal one unexcused absence.
3. Five tardies – 2nd Written Notice to Parents/ Discipline Referral
4. Six tardies – Notice to Parent that the student has an unexcused absence due to six tardies.

### **Saturday School to Recover Unexcused Absence**

Students may be offered an opportunity to “make up” an unexcused absence by attending Saturday School. This is an opportunity for the student to make up missed class assignments and receive full credit for their work. In addition, attendance at Saturday School removes an unexcused absence, thus the student is given an opportunity to meet the attendance requirement for class credit and promotion to the next grade.

Additionally, students who successfully complete all assigned truancy prevention measures as part of an Individual Attendance Plan for excessive absences/truancy may recover up to three unexcused absences by attending Saturday School. Students participating in a Behavior Intervention Plan as part of an Individual Attendance Plan can attend up to three Saturday School sessions to recover unexcused absences, and each successfully completed Saturday School session shall count as recovery of one unexcused absence. Students attending Saturday School to recover unexcused absences must successfully complete all truancy prevention measures in order to recover the unexcused absence. Opportunities for recovery of unexcused absences for students having completed truancy prevention measures shall be offered in accordance with Jubilee Academies Executive Board Policy on Unexcused Absences.

### **Make-Up Work**

If a student misses class for any reason, a teacher may assign make-up work that incorporates the instructional objectives for the class and that will assist the student to master the essential knowledge and skills necessary to meet subject or course requirements. Students are responsible for obtaining and completing the make-up work in a satisfactory manner and within the time specified by the teacher.

Teachers will provide students and parents with additional information regarding penalties for failure to complete make-up work within the time allotted, and the process for making up tests missed due to absence.

### **Driver's License Attendance Verification**

The Texas Department of Public Safety ("DPS") is required to verify the attendance records of a student between the ages of 16 and 18 that is seeking to obtain or renew a driver's license. In order for DPS to access this information or, in certain circumstances, for a school administrator to provide the attendance information to DPS, written parental permission must be obtained. Students may obtain the required Verification of Enrollment ("VOE") form from the school office.

## **1.7 Closed Campus**

Students are not permitted to leave campus for lunch. Parents are welcome to eat lunch with their child in the cafeteria. Parents may only bring lunch for their own children. Students and adults may not bring in or give away food to other students during lunch times.

## **1.8 Displaying a Student's Artwork, Projects, Photos, and Other Original Work**

Teachers may display student work in classrooms or elsewhere on campus as recognition of student achievement. However, Jubilee Academies will seek parental consent before displaying student artwork, special projects, photographs taken by students, and other original works on the Jubilee Academies website, on any campus or classroom website, in printed materials, by video, or by any other method of mass communication. Jubilee Academies will also seek consent before displaying or publishing an original video or voice recording in this manner.

## **1.9 Distribution of Materials or Documents**

### **School Materials**

Publications prepared by and for Jubilee Academies may be posted or distributed with prior approval by the Principal and/or teacher. Such items may include school posters, brochures, murals, etc.

### **Non-School Materials**

Students must obtain express prior approval of the Superintendent or designee before distributing, posting, selling, or circulating written materials, handbills, photographs, pictures, petitions, films, tapes, posters, or other visual or auditory materials on campus.

Non-school literature shall not be distributed by students on Jubilee Academies property if:

- The materials are obscene, vulgar, or otherwise inappropriate for the age and maturity of the audience.
- The materials endorse actions endangering the health or safety of students.
- The materials promote illegal use of drugs, alcohol, or other controlled substances.
- The distribution of such materials would violate the intellectual property rights, privacy rights, or other rights of another person.
- The materials contain defamatory statements about public figures or others.
- The materials advocate imminent lawless or disruptive action and are likely to incite or produce such action.

- The materials are hate literature or similar publications that scurrilously attack ethnic, religious, or racial groups or contain content aimed at creating hostility and violence, and the materials would materially and substantially interfere with school activities or the rights of others.
- There is reasonable cause to believe that distribution of the non-school literature would result in material and substantial interference with school activities or the rights of others.

Any student who posts material without prior approval will be subject to disciplinary action in accordance with the Student Code of Conduct. Materials displayed without approval will be removed.

Written or printed materials, handbills, photographs, pictures, films, tapes, or other visual or auditory materials over which Jubilee Academies does not exercise control shall not be sold, circulated, or distributed by persons or groups not associated with Jubilee Academies or a school support group on school premises unless the person or group obtains specific prior approval from the Superintendent or designee. To be considered, any non-school material must include the name of the sponsoring organization or individual. The requestor may appeal the Superintendent or designee's decision in accordance with Board policy.

### **1.10 Dress and Grooming**

The school's dress and grooming standards are designed to teach grooming and hygiene, prevent disruption, minimize safety hazards, and provide a dress standard that offers flexibility for the parent and student. Students must come to school cleanly and neatly groomed and wearing clothing that will not be a health or safety hazard to the student or others, and that will not distract from the educational atmosphere of the school. Students are required to arrive in proper attire every day.

As authorized by state law and the Jubilee Academies charter, students are required to wear uniforms to school. Parents must provide their student(s) with the required uniform, except in the case of educationally disadvantaged students as provided in the Texas Education Code. Jubilee Academies may provide a uniform for economically disadvantaged students. A request for school assistance for purchasing uniforms must be made in writing to the Principal and include evidence of the inability to pay. Further details are available in the Principal's office. A parent may choose for his or her student(s) to be exempted from the requirement of wearing a uniform if the parent provides a written statement that, as determined by the Board of Directors, states a bona fide religious or philosophical objection to the requirement.

Students who do not follow the school's guidelines for personal attire and appearance may be subject to discipline under the Student Code of Conduct. Additionally, a parent may be contacted to bring an acceptable change of clothing to school, and the student may be assigned to in-school suspension for the remainder of the day until a change of clothes is brought to the school.

Jubilee Academies students are expected to dress in a manner that conveys respect for their learning community and communicates a message of personal confidence and pride. Specific guidelines are found in the Campus Handbook.

Jubilee Academies will periodically review its dress and grooming policies, and make changes as needed.

**While it is inevitable that there will be differences of opinion as to the appropriateness of dress, grooming, and/or determining whether or not a student's attire is disruptive or distracting to the educational environment of the school, the final determination will be made by the Principal. Any student who does not comply with the dress code will be removed from the regular school setting until the student complies with this code.**

## **1.11 Drop-off and Pick-up Procedures**

All students must be dropped off and picked up ONLY in the designated areas. Parents can also park and walk to drop off and pick up their child from the designated areas. The current drop off and pick up maps are available in the front office.

## **1.12 Electronic Devices and Technology Resources**

### **Possession and Use of Personal Telecommunications Devices, Including Mobile Telephones**

For safety purposes, Jubilee Academies permits students to possess personal mobile telephones; however, **these devices must remain turned off during the instructional day, including during all testing**, unless they are being used for approved instructional purposes. A student must have approval to possess other telecommunications devices such as netbooks, laptops, tablets, or other portable computers.

The use of mobile telephones or any device capable of capturing images is strictly prohibited in locker rooms or restroom areas while at school or at a school-related or school-sponsored event.

If a student uses a telecommunications device without authorization during the school day, the device will be confiscated. If a student and parent have executed a waiver permitting the student to possess an electronic communication device at school, school officials may power on and search the device if there is a reasonable cause to believe that the device has been used in the transmission or reception of communications prohibited by law, policy, or regulation.

A parent will be contacted to pick up the item and pay the applicable fine. A \$15 fee will be assessed before the parent is able to retrieve a telecommunication device. An additional \$15 fee will be assessed each subsequent time a telecommunication device is confiscated. Any disciplinary action will be in accordance with the Student Code of Conduct.

Jubilee Academies is not responsible for damaged, lost, or stolen telecommunications devices.

### **Possession and Use of Other Personal Electronic Devices**

Except as described below, students are not permitted to possess or use personal electronic devices such as MP3 players, video or audio recorders, DVD players, cameras, games, e-readers, or other electronic devices at school, unless prior permission has been obtained. Without such permission, teachers will collect the items and turn them in to the Principal's office. The Principal will determine whether to return items to students at the end of the day or to contact parents to pick up the items.

In limited circumstances and in accordance with law, a student's personal electronic device may be searched by authorized personnel.

Any disciplinary action will be in accordance with the Student Code of Conduct.

Jubilee Academies is not responsible for any damaged, lost, or stolen electronic device.

### **Instructional Use of Personal Telecommunications and Other Electronic Devices**

In some cases, students may find it beneficial or might be encouraged to use personal telecommunications or other personal electronic devices for instructional purposes while on campus. Students must obtain prior approval before using personal telecommunications or other personal electronic devices for instructional use. When students are not using the devices for approved instructional purposes, all devices must be turned off during the instructional day. Violations may result in withdrawal of privileges and other disciplinary



action.

Jubilee Academies is not responsible for any damaged, lost, or stolen personal device.

### **Acceptable Use of Jubilee Academies Technology Resources**

School-owned technology resources for instructional purposes may be issued to individual students. Use of these technological resources, which include the school's network systems and use of school equipment, is restricted to approved purposes only. Students and parents will be asked to sign an Acceptable Use Agreement Acknowledgment Form regarding use of these school resources. Violations of the user agreement may result in withdrawal of privileges and other disciplinary action.

### **Unacceptable and Inappropriate Use of Technology Resources**

Students are prohibited from possessing, sending, forwarding, posting, accessing, or displaying electronic messages that are abusive, obscene, sexually oriented, threatening, harassing, damaging to another's reputation, or illegal. This prohibition also applies to conduct off school property, whether the equipment used to send such messages is district-owned or personally owned, if it results in a substantial disruption to the educational environment.

Any person taking, disseminating, transferring, possessing, or sharing obscene, sexually oriented, lewd, or otherwise illegal images or other content, commonly referred to as "sexting," will be disciplined according to the Student Code of Conduct, may be required to complete an educational program related to the dangers of this type of behavior, and, in certain circumstances, may be reported to law enforcement. Because engaging in this type of behavior can lead to bullying or harassment, as well as possibly impede future endeavors of a student, we encourage you to review with your child the "[Before you Text](#)" Sexting and Bullying Prevention, Education, and Intervention Course, a state-developed program that addresses the consequences of engaging in inappropriate behavior using technology.

In addition, any student who engages in conduct that results in a breach of the school's computer security will be disciplined in accordance with the Student Code of Conduct, and, in some cases, the consequence may rise to the level of expulsion.

## **1.13 Food Service**

Jubilee Academies participates in the National School Lunch Program and offers nutritionally balanced breakfasts and lunches. Guidelines set by the Texas Department of Agriculture ("TDA") and United States Department of Agriculture ("USDA") are followed to meet the nutritional needs of all students. Menus may be obtained at the school office.

Free and reduced-price breakfasts and lunches are available based on financial need. Information about a student's participation is confidential. Applications are available at each campus, online at [www.mymealtime.com](http://www.mymealtime.com) and available on the school website. Students must apply for meal assistance each school year.

### **State-Mandated Nutrition Guidelines**

The TDA places strict limits on any food or drink provided or sold to students other than through Jubilee Academies' food and nutrition services. More detailed information may be obtained at the school office or online at [www.squaremeals.org](http://www.squaremeals.org).

## **1.14 McKinney-Vento Homeless Education Assistance Act of 2001**

Homeless children and youth are ensured specific educational rights and protections, and will be provided flexibility with certain policies and procedure, including proof of residency requirements; immunization requirements; educational program placement; award of credit; graduation requirements; continuing enrollment in the “school of origin” or enrollment in a new school and in the attendance area where the student is currently residing; and other related matters.

“Homeless children and youth” as defined and covered by the McKinney-Vento Homeless Education Assistance Act of 2001:

- Means individuals who lack a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence.
- Includes children and youth who are sharing the housing of other persons due to loss of housing, economic hardship, or a similar reason.
- Are living in motels, hotels, trailer parks, or camping grounds due to the lack of alternative accommodations.
- Are living in emergency or transitional shelters.
- Are abandoned in hospitals, or are awaiting foster care placement.
- Children and youth who have a primary nighttime residence that is a public or private place not designed as a regular sleeping accommodation for human beings.
- Children and youth who are living in cars, parks, public spaces, abandoned buildings, substandard housing, bus or train stations.

Parents of students in homeless situations can keep their students in their schools of origin (the school that the child or youth attended when permanently housed or the school in which the child or youth was last enrolled even if the student is now residing outside the school attendance area or school district) or enroll them in any public school that students living in the same attendance area are eligible to attend.

Additional information concerning assistance available to homeless children and youth may be obtained from Jubilee Academies by contacting Leticia Gutierrez, PEIMS Coordinator, 4434 Roland Rd., San Antonio, TX 78222, 210-333-6227.

## **1.15 Pledges of Allegiance and Moment of Silence**

Each school day, students will recite the Pledge of Allegiance to the United States flag and the Pledge of Allegiance to the Texas flag. Parents may submit a written request to the Superintendent or designee to excuse their student from reciting a pledge.

State law requires that one minute of silence will follow recitation of the pledges. Each student may choose to reflect, pray, meditate, or engage in any other silent activity during that minute so long as the silent activity does not interfere with or distract others. In addition, state law requires that Jubilee Academies provide for the observance of one minute of silence at the beginning of the first class period when September 11 falls on a regular school day in remembrance of those who lost their lives on September 11, 2001.

State law does not allow your child to be excused from participation in the required minute of silence or silent activity that follows.

### **1.16 Prayer and Meditation**

Students have a right to individually, silently, and voluntarily pray or meditate in school in a manner that does not disrupt instructional or other school activities. Jubilee Academies will not require, encourage, or coerce a student to engage in or refrain from such prayer or mediation during any school activity.

### **1.17 Recitation of the Declaration of Independence**

State law requires students in social studies classes in grades 3–12 to recite a portion of the text of the Declaration of Independence during “Celebrate Freedom Week.” A student will be exempted from this requirement if a parent provides a written statement requesting that the student be excused, Jubilee Academies determines that the student has a conscientious objection to the recitation, or the parent is a representative of a foreign government to whom the United States extends diplomatic immunity.

### **1.18 Release of Students from School**

A student will not be released from school at times other than at the end of the school day except with permission from the Principal or designee and in accordance with campus sign-out procedures. Additionally, state rules require that parental consent be obtained before a student under the age of 18 may leave campus at any point in the school day.

Because class time is important, doctor’s appointments or meetings with other professionals should be scheduled at times when the student will not miss instructional time, if possible.

### **1.19 School Calendar**

Jubilee Academies operates according to the school calendar adopted annually by the Board of Directors. Holidays may be used as school make-up days for days lost due to bad weather. The latest changes to the calendar will be available on the school’s website.

### **1.20 Student Drivers and Parking**

All student drivers must hold a valid driver’s license and insurance. Students driving to school must park in the designated lot and have paid any required campus parking fees, if applicable. Students may not go to their cars during the school day. Students must also drive in a manner that is safe and does not disrupt the learning environment or school community in any way. Students who fail to follow these guidelines will have their driving privileges suspended or revoked, and may be subject to discipline under the Student Code of Conduct.

### **1.21 Student Fees**

Materials that are part of the basic educational program are provided with state and local funds at no charge to a student. Students are expected to provide their own consumable items, such as pencils, paper, pens, erasers, notebooks, calculators, headsets, etc. Students may be required to pay certain fees or deposits, including:

1. A fee for materials for a class project that the student will keep, if the fee does not exceed the cost of materials;
2. Membership dues in voluntary student clubs or organizations and admission fees to extracurricular activities;

3. A security deposit for the return of materials, supplies or equipment;
4. A fee for personal physical education and athletic equipment and apparel, although a student may provide the student's own equipment or apparel if it meets reasonable requirements and standards relating to health and safety;
5. A fee for voluntarily purchased items, such as student publications, class rings, pictures, yearbooks, graduation announcements, etc.;
6. A fee for voluntary student health and accident benefit plan;
7. A reasonable fee, not to exceed the actual annual maintenance cost, for the use of musical instruments and uniforms owned or rented by the school;
8. A fee for items of personal apparel used in extracurricular activities that become the property of the student;
9. A parking fee;
10. A fee for replacement of a student identification card;
11. If offered, a fee for a driver training course, not to exceed the actual cost per student in the program for the current school year;
12. A fee for an optional course offered for credit that requires the use of facilities not available on campus or the employment of an educator who is not part of the school's regular staff;
13. A fee for summer school courses that are offered tuition-free during the regular school year;
14. A reasonable fee, not to exceed \$50, for costs associated with an educational program offered outside of regular school hours through which a student who was absent from class receives instruction voluntarily for the purpose of making up the missed instruction and meeting the level of attendance required for class credit, so long as the fee would not create a financial hardship or discourage the student from attending the program;
15. A fee for lost, damaged, or overdue library book; or
16. A fee specifically permitted by any other statute.

Jubilee Academies may waive any fee or deposit if the student and parent are unable to pay. A request for such a waiver must be made in writing to the Superintendent or designee, and include evidence of inability to pay. Contact the campus Principal for details for the fee waiver.

Supply lists are posted on the Jubilee Academies website and are distinct for each of our programs.

Families are responsible for paying all fees associated with extra-curricular programs, including clubs, parking, athletics, fine arts, UIL academics, and academic supervision prior to participation.

## **1.22 Student Information**

Any student admitted to Jubilee Academies must have records, such as a report card and/or transcript from the previous school attended, to verify his or her academic standing. Verification of residency and current immunization records are also required. Every student enrolling in Jubilee Academies for the first time must present documentation of immunizations as required by the Texas Department of State Health Services.

No later than 30 days after enrolling in Jubilee Academies, the parent and school district in which the student was previously enrolled shall furnish records that verify the identity of the student. These records may include the student's birth certificate or a copy of the student's school records from the most recently attended school. Students will not be denied enrollment because they failed to meet this requirement.

Jubilee Academies will forward a student's records on request to at school in which a student seeks or intends to enroll without the necessity of the parents' consent.

### **Food Allergy Information**

The parent of each student enrolled in Jubilee Academies must complete a form provided by Jubilee Academies that discloses (1) whether the child has a food allergy or a severe food allergy that should be disclosed to the school to enable it to take any necessary precautions regarding the child's safety and (2) specifies the food(s) to which the child is allergic and the nature of the allergic reaction.

For purposes of this requirement, the term "severe food allergy" means a dangerous or life-threatening reaction of the human body to a food-borne allergen introduced by inhalation, ingestion, or skin contact that requires immediate medical attention.

Jubilee Academies may also require information from a child's physician if the child has food allergies.

Food allergy information forms will be maintained in the child's student records, and shall remain confidential. Information provided on food allergy information forms may be disclosed to teachers, school counselors, school nurses, and other appropriate school personnel only to the extent consistent with Board policy and as permissible under the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974 ("FERPA").

### **Establishing Identification**

Any of the following documents are acceptable for proof of identification and age: birth certificate; driver's license; passport; school ID card; records, or report card; military ID; hospital birth records; adoption records; church baptismal record; or any other legal document that establishes identity.

### **Undocumented Students**

Enrollment may not be denied to children who are not legally admitted into the United States.

### **Residency Verification**

The Texas Education Code authorizes schools to obtain evidence that a person is eligible to attend public schools. To be eligible for continued enrollment in Jubilee Academies, each student's parent must show proof of residency at the time of enrollment. Residency may be verified through observation, documentation, and other means, including, but not limited to:

1. A recently paid rent receipt,
2. A current lease agreement,
3. The most recent tax receipt indicating home ownership,
4. A current utility bill indication the address and name of the residence occupiers,
5. Mailing addresses of the residence occupiers,
6. Visual inspection of the residence,
7. Interviews with persons with relevant information, or
8. Building permits issued to a parent on or before September 1st of the school year in which admission is sought (permits will serve as evidence of residency for the school year in which admission is sought only).

Falsification of residence on an enrollment form is a criminal offense.

## **1.23 Textbooks and Curriculum Materials**

State-approved textbooks and additional curriculum materials are provided free of charge for each subject or class, except for dual credit courses. Materials must be used by the students as directed by the teacher, and treated with care. A student who is issued damaged materials should report the damage to the teacher.

Students must return all textbooks and supplemental materials to the teacher at the end of the school year or when the student withdraws from school. Any student failing to return issued materials in an acceptable condition loses the right to free textbooks and educational materials until the student and/or parent pay for the damages. However, a student will be provided textbooks and educational materials for use during the school day. Jubilee Academies may reduce or waive the payment requirement if the student is from a low-income family. Release of student records, including official transcripts, will be delayed pending payment for lost or severely damaged textbooks.

A parent is entitled to request that Jubilee Academies allow a student to take home any instructional materials used by the student. Jubilee Academies will honor the request, subject to availability of the instructional materials. A student who takes home instructional materials must return the materials to school at the beginning of the next school day if requested to do so by the student's teacher. Jubilee Academies must provide the instructional materials to the student in printed format if the student does not have reliable access to technology at the student's home. Jubilee Academies also is not required to purchase printed copies of instructional materials that the school would otherwise not purchase; Jubilee Academies may provide the student of relevant electronic instructional materials.

## **1.24 Transportation**

Jubilee Academies does not provide regular transportation to and from school, unless required by a student's Individualized Education Plan ("IEP") for a student with disabilities. However, Jubilee Academies may provide transportation in school vehicles for educational field trips and participation in athletic and other extra-curricular events.

Riding a school vehicle is a privilege. School vehicle drivers have the authority to maintain discipline and require seating charts. When riding a school vehicle, students are held to behavioral standards established in this Handbook and the Student Code of Conduct. Students must:

1. Follow the driver's directions at all times;
2. Enter and leave the vehicle in an orderly manner;
3. Keep feet, books, instrument cases, and other objects out of the aisle;
4. Not deface the vehicle or its equipment;
5. Not put head, hands, arms, legs, or an object out of any window; and
6. Wait for the driver's signal in order to leave or cross in front of the vehicle.

Only designated students are allowed to ride in the vehicle. Students may neither ride the vehicle to a different location nor have friends ride the vehicle to participate in after-school activities.

If a student with a disability is receiving school transportation as a result of an IEP, the Admission Review and Dismissal ("ARD") Committee will have the discretion in determining appropriate disciplinary consequences related to inappropriate behavior in a school vehicle.

## **1.25 Transcripts**

Jubilee Academies maintains an academic achievement record (or transcript) for each student enrolled. Transcripts list complete personal student data, give complete scholastic grades, and report student activities, honors, and scores on standardized achievement tests. Requests for transcripts should be made to the campus registrar. Students are provided with three free official transcripts. Each additional transcript is \$3.00. Payments should be made at the time of the request in either cash or check. Official transcripts may be picked up from the campus registrar five business days after the request is submitted except at the end

of the semester. GPA and class rank are recalculated at the end of each semester and updated transcripts are not available until the end of the third business week after the end of the semester.

## **1.26 Withdrawals**

### **Voluntary Withdrawal**

A student under 18 years of age may be withdrawn from school only by a parent. Jubilee Academies requests notice from the parent at least three days in advance so that records and documents may be prepared. Parents may obtain a withdrawal form from the main office. The parent shall also provide the name of the new school in which the student will be enrolled, and must sign the withdrawal request to document that the student will continue to be enrolled in a school as required by compulsory attendance laws.

A student who is 18 years of age or older, who is married, or who has been declared by a court to be an emancipated minor, may withdraw without parental signature.

Withdrawing students and parents are expected to:

- Return all textbooks and checked-out materials and equipment;
- Complete any make-up work assigned;
- Pay any unpaid balance for student fees, if any; and
- Sign a release of student records.

In all cases, withdrawal forms must be appropriately completed and signed before withdrawal is complete.

### **Involuntary Withdrawal**

Jubilee Academies may initiate withdrawal of a student under the age of 19 for non-attendance if:

1. the student has been absent 10 consecutive school days, and
2. repeated efforts by the school to locate the student have been unsuccessful.

Additionally, Jubilee Academies may revoke the enrollment of a student 19 years of age or older who has more than five unexcused absences in one semester.

## **SECTION 2: STUDENT HEALTH AND SAFETY**

### **2.1 Administration of Medication**

Medication should be administered at home whenever possible. If necessary, medication can be administered at school by the school nurse under the following circumstances:

1. Nonprescription medication brought to school must be submitted to Jubilee Academies by a parent along with a written request. The medication must also be in the original and properly labeled container.
2. Prescription medications administered during school hours must be prescribed by a physician or advanced nurse practitioner (“ANP”) and filled by a pharmacist licensed in the State of Texas. **In accordance with the Texas Board of Nursing’s Nurse Practice Act, Jubilee Academies will not administer medications prescribed or fulfilled in Mexico.**
3. Prescription medications must be submitted in a labeled container showing the student’s name, name of the medication, reason the medication is being given, proper dosage amounts, the time the

medication must be taken, and the method used to administer the medication. Medications sent in plastic baggies or unlabeled containers will NOT be administered.

4. If the substance is herbal or a dietary supplement, it must be provided by the parent and will be administered only if required by the student's Individualized Education Program ("IEP") or Section 504 plan for a student with disabilities.
5. Only the amount of medication needed should be delivered to Jubilee Academies, *i.e.*, enough medication to last one day, one week, etc. In cases of prolonged need, send in the amount for a clearly specified period. Extra medication will not be sent home with the student.
6. In certain emergency situations, Jubilee Academies may administer a nonprescription medication to a student, but only in accordance with the guidelines developed by the school's medical advisor and when the parent has previously provided written consent for emergency treatment.

Changes to daily medications require written instruction from the physician or ANP and written permission from the parent. Parents are responsible for advising Jubilee Academies that a medication has been discontinued.

### **Asthma and Anaphylaxis Medication**

Asthma and anaphylaxis are life-threatening conditions, and students with those conditions are entitled to possess and self-administer prescription medication while on Jubilee Academies property or at school-related events.

Student possession and self-administration of asthma or anaphylaxis medication at school requires the student to demonstrate his or her ability to self-administer the medication to the student's physician or other licensed health care provider and the school nurse, if available. Requirements also include written authorization from the student's parent and physician or other licensed health care provider on file in the school office indicating the student is capable of independently administering his or her own asthma or emergency anaphylaxis medication. Medication in a student's possession must be in an original container with a prescription label. Please note that most pharmacies will place a label on the inhaler device upon request.

## **2.2 Alcohol-Free School Notice**

To provide a safe and alcohol-free environment for students and employees, all alcoholic beverages are prohibited on Jubilee Academies property at all times, and at all school-sanctioned activities occurring on or off school property. Student violators are subject to possible prosecution, as allowed by law, as well as the disciplinary terms of the Student Code of Conduct.

## **2.3 Asbestos Management Plan**

All school facilities have been inspected for asbestos by a licensed Asbestos Hazard Emergency Response Act ("AHERA") inspector. An Asbestos Management Plan has been created for the school in accordance with federal regulations. Parents may view the Asbestos Management Plan at the campus office.

## **2.4 Bacterial Meningitis Information**

State law requires Jubilee Academies to provide the following information:

### What is bacterial meningitis?

Meningitis is an inflammation of the covering of the brain and spinal cord. It can be caused by viruses, parasites, fungi, and bacteria. Viral meningitis is common and most people recover fully. Parasitic and fungal meningitis are very rare. Bacterial meningitis is very serious and may involve complicated medical, surgical, pharmaceutical, and life support management.



### What are the symptoms of bacterial meningitis?

Someone with meningitis will become very ill. The illness may develop over one or two days, but it can also rapidly progress in a matter of hours. Not everyone with meningitis will have the same symptoms. Children (over 2 years old) and adults with bacterial meningitis commonly have a severe headache, high fever, and neck stiffness. Other symptoms might include nausea, vomiting, discomfort looking into bright lights, confusion, and sleepiness. In both children and adults, there may be a rash of tiny, red-purple spots. These can occur anywhere on the body. The diagnosis of bacterial meningitis is based on a combination of symptoms and laboratory results.

### How serious is Bacterial Meningitis?

If diagnosed early and treated promptly, the majority of people make a complete recovery. In some cases, it can be fatal or a person may be left with a permanent disability.

### How is bacterial meningitis spread?

Fortunately, none of the bacteria that cause meningitis are as contagious as diseases like the common cold or the flu, and they are not spread by casual contact or by simply breathing the air where a person with meningitis has been. They are spread when people exchange saliva (such as by kissing, coughing, or sneezing). The germ does not cause meningitis in most people. Instead, most people become carriers of the germ for days, weeks or even months. The bacteria rarely overcome the body's immune system and causes meningitis or another serious illness.

### How can bacterial meningitis be prevented?

Maintaining healthy habits, like getting plenty of rest, can help prevent infection. Using good health practices such as covering your mouth and nose when coughing and sneezing and washing your hands frequently with soap and water can also help stop the spread of the bacteria. It's a good idea not to share food, drinks, utensils, toothbrushes, or cigarettes. Limit the number of persons you kiss.

There are vaccines available to offer protection from some of the bacteria that can cause bacterial meningitis. The vaccines are safe and effective (85–90 percent). They can cause mild side effects, such as redness and pain at the injection site lasting up to two days. Immunity develops within seven to ten days after the vaccine is given and lasts for up to five years.

### What should you do if you think you or a friend might have bacterial meningitis?

You should seek prompt medical attention.

### Where can you get more information?

Your family doctor and the staff at your local or regional health department office are excellent sources for information on all communicable diseases. You may also call your local health department or Regional Texas Department of Health office to ask about meningococcal vaccine. Additional information may also be found at the web sites for the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention: [www.cdc.gov](http://www.cdc.gov) and the Texas Department of State Health Services: [www.dshs.state.tx.us](http://www.dshs.state.tx.us).

**Note:** The Department of State Health Services requires at least one meningococcal vaccination on or after the student's 11th birthday, unless the student received the vaccine at age 10. Also note that entering college students must show, with limited exception, evidence of receiving a bacterial meningitis vaccination within the five-year period prior to enrolling in and taking courses at an institution of higher education.

## **2.5 Child Abuse Reporting and Programs**

Jubilee Academies provides child abuse anti-victimization programs and cooperates with official child abuse investigators as required by law. Jubilee Academies also provides training to its teachers and students in preventing and addressing incidents of sexual abuse and other maltreatment of children, including knowledge of likely warning signs indicating that a child may be a victim of sexual abuse or maltreatment. Assistance, interventions and counseling options are also available.

The school's administration shall cooperate with law enforcement investigations of child abuse, including investigations by the Texas Department of Protective and Family Services. School officials may not refuse to permit an investigator to interview a student who is alleged to be a victim of abuse or neglect at school. School officials may not require the investigator to permit school personnel to be present during an interview conducted at school.

Investigations at school may be conducted by authorized law enforcement or state agencies without prior notification or consent of the student's parent, if necessary.

## **2.6 Communicable Diseases**

To protect other students from contagious illnesses, students infected with certain diseases are not allowed to come to school while contagious. Parents of students with a communicable or contagious disease should notify the Principal or designee so that other students who might have been exposed to the disease can be alerted. School authorities will report those students who are suspected of having a reportable condition. A list of reportable conditions can be found on the Texas Department of State Health Services website at: <http://www.dshs.state.tx.us/idcu/investigation/conditions/>.

Any student excluded from school attendance for reason of communicable disease may be readmitted by one or more of the following methods, as determined by the local health authority:

- Certificate of the attending physician, advanced practice nurse, or physician assistant attesting that the child does not currently have signs or symptoms of a communicable disease or to the disease's non-infectiousness in a school setting;
- Submitting a permit for readmission issued by a local health authority; or
- Meeting readmission criteria as established by the commissioner of health.

Please contact the school nurse if you have questions or if you are concerned about whether a child should stay home.

## **2.7 Disruptions**

To protect student safety and sustain an educational program free from disruption, state law permits Jubilee Academies to act against any person – student or nonstudent – who:

- Disrupts classes while on school property or on public property that is within 500 feet of school property. Class disruption includes making loud noises; trying to entice a student away from, or to prevent a student from attending, a required class or activity; entering a classroom without authorization; and disrupting the activity with profane language or any misconduct.
- Interferes with an authorized activity by seizing control of all or part of a building.
- Interferes with the movement of people at an exit or an entrance to school property.

- Interferes with the movement of people in an exit, an entrance, or a hallway of a school building without authorization from an administrator.
- Interferes with the transportation of students in school vehicles.
- Uses force, violence, or threats in an attempt to prevent participation in an authorized assembly.
- Uses force, violence, or threats in an attempt to prevent people from entering or leaving school property without authorization from an administrator.
- Uses force, violence, or threats to cause disruption during an assembly.

## **2.8 Drills: Fire, Tornado, and Other Emergencies**

Students, teachers, and other staff will participate in drills of emergency procedures. When the alarm is sounded, students should follow the direction of school staff quickly, quietly, and in an orderly manner. Order rather than speed shall be stressed. Defined instructions for vacating each room will be posted in each room, and students should familiarize themselves with these instructions.

## **2.9 Drug-Free School Notice**

Jubilee Academies believes that student use of illicit drugs is both wrong and harmful. Consequently, Jubilee Academies prohibits the use, sale, possession, or distribution of illicit drugs by students on school premises or any school activity, regardless of its location. Jubilee Academies also prohibits the use, sale, possession, or distribution of look-alike substances and/or synthetic substances designed to imitate the look and/or effects of illicit drugs. Student violators are subject to possible prosecution, as allowed by law, as well as the disciplinary terms of the Student Code of Conduct.

## **2.10 Dyslexia and Related Disorders**

From time to time, students may be tested and, where appropriate, treated for dyslexia and related disorders in accordance with programs, rules and standard approved by the state. The program approved by the state must include screening at the end of the school year of each student in kindergarten and each student in the first grade. Parents will be notified should Jubilee Academies determine a need to identify or assess their student for dyslexia and related disorders.

## **2.11 Emergency Closings**

Generally, Jubilee Academies dismisses classes for weather-related events on the same days as surrounding local independent school districts. Any closures for weather will be broadcast on local television and/or radio stations. Jubilee Academies may also need to close during certain emergency situations beyond the control of school officials. The announcement of non-weather related school closings will be broadcast on local television and/or radio stations as early as possible. Any emergency closures will also be posted on the Jubilee Academies website.

## **2.12 Emergency Medical Treatment**

If a student has a medical emergency at school or a school-related activity and the parent cannot be reached, Jubilee Academies staff will seek emergency medical treatment unless the parent has previously provided a written statement denying this authorization. Therefore, parents are asked each year to complete an emergency care consent form. Parents should keep emergency care information up-to-date (name of doctor, emergency phone numbers, allergies, etc.). Please contact the campus registrar to update any information.

## **2.13 Freedom from Bullying and Cyberbullying**

Jubilee Academies prohibits bullying as defined by this section, as well as retaliation against anyone involved in the complaint process. Bullying means a single significant act or a pattern of acts by one or more students directed at another student that exploits an imbalance of power and involves engaging in written or verbal expression, expression through electronic means, or physical conduct that:

- Has the effect or will have the effect of physically harming a student, damaging a student's property, or placing a student in reasonable fear of harm to the student's person or of damage to the student's property;
- Is sufficiently severe, persistent, or pervasive enough that the action or threat creates an intimidating, threatening, or abusive educational environment for a student; or
- Materially and substantially disrupts the educational process or the orderly operation of a classroom or the School; or
- Infringes on the rights of the victim at school.

Bullying also includes cyberbullying, which means bullying that is done through the use of any electronic communication device, including through the use of a cellular or other type of telephone, a computer, a camera, electronic mail, instant messaging, text messaging, a social media application, an Internet website, or any other Internet-based communication tool.

The school's bullying policy applies to:

- Bullying that occurs on or is delivered to school property or to the site of a school-sponsored or school-related activity on or off school property;
- Bullying that occurs on a publicly or privately owned school bus or vehicle being used for transportation of students to or from school or a school-sponsored or school-related activity; and
- Cyberbullying that occurs off school property or outside of a school-sponsored or school-related activity if the cyberbullying:
  - Interferes with a student's educational opportunities; or
  - Substantially disrupts the orderly operation of a classroom, school, or school-sponsored or school-related activity.

### **Reporting Procedures**

Any student who believes that he or she has experienced any form of bullying or believes that another student has experienced bullying should immediately report the alleged acts to the Principal or designee, a teacher, counselor, or other school employee. A report may be made orally or in writing, and may be submitted anonymously. Any school employee who receives notice that a student has or may have experienced bullying shall immediately notify the Principal or designee. The Principal or designee will notify the victim, the student who engaged in bullying, and any student witnesses of available counseling options.

The Principal or designee shall provide notice of incident of alleged bullying to:

- A parent or guardian of the alleged victim on or before the third business day after the date the incident is reported; and
- A parent or guardian of the alleged bully within a reasonable amount of time after the incident.

## **Investigation of Report**

The Principal or designee shall determine whether the allegations in the report, if proven, would constitute prohibited harassment and, if so, proceed under that policy instead. The Principal or designee shall conduct an appropriate investigation based on the allegations in the report, and shall take prompt interim action calculated to prevent bullying during the course of an investigation, if appropriate.

The Principal or designee shall prepare a written report of the investigation, including a determination of whether bullying occurred. If the results of an investigation indicated that bullying occurred, the school shall promptly respond by taking appropriate disciplinary or corrective action reasonably calculated to address the conduct in accordance with the Student Code of Conduct. Jubilee Academies may take action based on the results of an investigation, even if the school concludes that the conduct did not rise to the level of bullying under this policy.

Discipline for bullying of a student with disabilities shall comply with applicable requirements under federal law, including the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (20 U.S.C. Section 1400 *et seq.*). Jubilee Academies may not impose discipline on a student who, after an investigation, is found to be a victim of bullying, based on that student's use of reasonable self-defense in response to the bullying.

The Principal, or the Principal's designee, may make a report to the police department of the municipality in which the school is located or, if the school is not in a municipality, the sheriff of the county in which the school is located if, after an investigation is completed, the Principal or designee has reasonable grounds to believe that a student engaged in conduct that constitutes an offense under Section 22.01 (Assault) or 42.07(a)(7) (Harassment), Texas Penal Code.

## **Confidentiality**

To the greatest extent possible, Jubilee Academies shall respect the privacy of the complainant, persons against whom a report is filed, and witnesses. Limited disclosures may be necessary to conduct a thorough investigation.

## **Appeal**

A student or parent who is dissatisfied with the outcome of the investigation may appeal through the Jubilee Academies grievance procedure.

## **2.14 Freedom from Discrimination, Harassment, and Retaliation**

### **Statement of Nondiscrimination**

Jubilee Academies prohibits discrimination, including harassment, against any student on the basis of race, color, religion, gender or sex, national origin, disability, age, or any other basis prohibited by law. Jubilee Academies also prohibits dating violence, as defined by this Handbook. Retaliation against anyone involved in the complaint process is a violation of school policy.

### **Discrimination**

For purposes of this Handbook, discrimination against a student is defined as conduct directed at a student on the basis of race, color, religion, gender or sex, national origin, disability, age, or any other basis prohibited by law and that adversely affects the student.

### **Prohibited Harassment**

Prohibited harassment of a student is defined as physical, verbal, or nonverbal conduct based on the student's race, color, religion, gender or sex, national origin, disability, age, or any other basis prohibited by law that is so severe, persistent, or pervasive that the conduct:

- Affects a student’s ability to participate in or benefit from an educational program or activity, or creates an intimidating, threatening, hostile, or offensive educational environment;
- Has the purpose or effect of substantially or unreasonably interfering with the student’s academic performance; or
- Otherwise adversely affects the student’s educational opportunities.

Examples of prohibited harassment may include offensive or derogatory language directed at another person’s religious beliefs or practices, accent, skin color, or need for accommodation; threatening or intimidating conduct; offensive jokes; name calling, slurs, or rumors; physical aggression or assault; display of graffiti or printed material promoting racial, ethnic, or other negative stereotypes; or other kinds of aggressive conduct such as theft or damage to property.

### **Sexual Harassment**

In compliance with the requirements of Title IX, Jubilee Academies does not discriminate on the basis of sex in its educational programs or activities. Sexual harassment of a student, including harassment committed by another student, includes unwelcome sexual advances; requests for sexual favors; or sexually motivated physical, verbal, or nonverbal conduct when the conduct is so severe, persistent, or pervasive that it:

- Affects the student’s ability to participate in or benefit from an educational program or activity, or creates an intimidating, threatening, hostile, or offensive educational environment;
- Has the purpose or effect of substantially or unreasonably interfering with the student’s academic performance; or
- Otherwise adversely affects the student’s educational opportunities.

Examples of sexual harassment of a student may include sexual advances; touching intimate body parts or coercing physical contact that is sexual in nature; jokes or conversations of a sexual nature; and other sexually motivated conduct, communications, or contact.

Jubilee Academies also does not tolerate sexual harassment of a student by school employees. Romantic or inappropriate social relationships between students and school employees are prohibited. Any sexual relationship between a student and a school employee is always prohibited, even if consensual.

Sexual harassment of a student by a school employee includes both welcome and unwelcome sexual advances; requests for sexual favors; sexually motivated physical, verbal, or nonverbal conduct; or other conduct or communication of a sexual nature when:

- A school employee causes the student to believe that the student must submit to the conduct in order to participate in a school program or activity, or that the employee will make an educational decision based on whether or not the student submits to the conduct; or
- The conduct is so severe, persistent, or pervasive that it:
  - Affects the student’s ability to participate in or benefit from an educational program or activity, or otherwise adversely affects the student’s educational opportunities; or
  - Creates an intimidating, threatening, hostile, or abusive educational environment.

Gender-based harassment includes harassment based on a student’s gender, expression by the student of stereotypical characteristics associated with the student’s gender, or the student’s failure to conform to stereotypical behavior related to gender.

Examples of gender-based harassment directed against a student, regardless of the student's or the harasser's actual or perceived sexual orientation or gender identity, may include, but not be limited to, offensive jokes, name-calling, slurs, or rumors; physical aggression or assault; threatening or intimidating conduct; or other kinds of aggressive conduct such as theft or damage to property.

### **Dating Violence**

Dating violence occurs when a person in a current or past dating relationship uses physical, sexual, verbal, or emotional abuse to harm, threaten, intimidate, or control the other partner. Examples of dating violence against a student may include physical or sexual assaults, name-calling, put-downs, threats to hurt the student or the student's family members or members of the student's household, destroying property belonging to the student, threats to commit suicide or homicide if the student ends the relationship, attempts to isolate the student from friends and family, stalking, or encouraging others to engaged in these behaviors.

For purposes of this Handbook, dating violence is considered prohibited harassment if the conduct is so severe, persistent, or pervasive that the conduct:

- Affects the student's ability to participate in or benefit from an educational program or activity, or creates an intimidating, threatening, hostile, or offensive educational environment;
- Has the purpose or effect of substantially or unreasonably interfering with the student's academic performance; or
- Otherwise adversely affects the student's educational opportunities.

### **Retaliation**

Jubilee Academies prohibits retaliation against a student alleged to have experienced discrimination or harassment, including dating violence, or another student who, in good faith, makes a report, serves as a witness, or otherwise participates in an investigation. Examples of retaliation may include threats, rumor spreading, ostracism, assault, destruction of property, unjustified punishments, or unwarranted grade reductions. Unlawful retaliation does not include petty slights or annoyances.

A student who intentionally makes a false claim, offers false statements, or refuses to cooperate with a school investigation regarding discrimination or harassment is subject to appropriate discipline.

### **Reporting Procedures**

Any student who believes that he or she has experienced prohibited harassment or believes that another student has experienced prohibited harassment should immediately report the alleged acts to a teacher, counselor, the Principal or designee, or other school employee. Alternatively, a student may report prohibited harassment directly to the appropriate Compliance Coordinator designated on page 7 of this Handbook.

A student shall not be required to report prohibited harassment to the person alleged to have committed the conduct. Reports concerning prohibited conduct, including reports against the Title IX Coordinator, the ADA/Section 504 Coordinator, and/or the Ag Discrimination Coordinator may be directed to Tom Koger, CEO at 210-333-6227. If a report is made directly to person designated immediately before, Jubilee Academies shall appoint an appropriate person to conduct an investigation.

### **Investigation of Complaints**

After receiving a complaint of prohibited discrimination or harassment, Jubilee Academies may, but need not, require the student to prepare a written report. Oral complaints will be reduced to written form. Upon receipt of a complaint, the appropriate Compliance Coordinator or other authorized school official shall promptly authorize and undertake an investigation. Following completion of the investigation, the

Compliance Coordinator or other authorized school official will prepare a written decision regarding the complaint, including a determination of whether prohibited discrimination or harassment occurred.

When appropriate, Jubilee Academies may take interim action to avoid additional opportunities for discrimination or harassment. The investigation may consist of personal interviews with the person making the report, the person against whom the report is filed, and any others with knowledge of the circumstances surrounding the allegations. If the results of the investigation establish that prohibited discrimination or harassment occurred, Jubilee Academies shall promptly respond by taking appropriate disciplinary or corrective action reasonably calculated to address the discrimination or harassment and prevent its recurrence. Jubilee Academies may take disciplinary action based on the results of an investigation, even if Jubilee Academies concludes that the conduct did not rise to the level of harassment prohibited by law or policy.

### **Confidentiality**

To the greatest extent possible, Jubilee Academies shall respect the privacy of the complainant, persons against whom a report is filed, and witnesses. Limited disclosures may be necessary in order to conduct a thorough investigation and comply with applicable law.

### **Appeal**

A student or parent who is dissatisfied with the outcome of the investigation may appeal through the Jubilee Academies grievance procedure. A student shall be informed of his or her right to file a complaint with the United States Department of Education Office for Civil Rights.

## **2.15 Health Screenings**

### **Acanthosis Screening for Diabetes**

Children in certain grades identified by the state must be screened for warning signs of diabetes.

*Exemption:* A student is exempt from screening if the screening conflicts with the tenets and practices of a recognized church or religious denomination of which the individual is an adherent or member. To qualify for the exemption, the student's parent must submit to the Principal on or before the day of the screening procedure an affidavit stating the objections to screening.

### **Fitness Testing**

According to requirements under state law, Jubilee Academies will annually assess the physical fitness of students. Jubilee Academies is not required to assess a student for whom, as a result of disability or other condition identified by rule or law, the assessment exam is inappropriate.

### **Spinal Screening**

All students who meet TDSHS criteria will be screened for abnormal spinal curvature before the end of the school year. Spinal screenings can detect scoliosis at an early stage; early detection is imperative for controlling spinal deformities. Spinal screenings are non-invasive. The screening requirement for students may be met if the child has been screened for spinal deformities during the previous year.

A parent who declines participation in the spinal screening provided by Jubilee Academies must submit to the Superintendent or designee documentation of a professional examination which includes the results of a forward-bend test. This documentation must be submitted to Jubilee Academies during the year the student is scheduled for screening or, if the professional exam is obtained during the following summer, at the beginning of the following school year.



Exemption: A student is exempt from screening if the screening conflicts with the tenets and practices of a recognized church or religious denomination of which the individual is an adherent or member. To qualify for the exemption, the student's parent, managing conservator, or guardian must submit to the Superintendent or designee on or before the day of the screening procedure an affidavit stating the objections to screening.

### **Vision and Hearing Screenings**

All children enrolled in Texas schools must be screened for possible vision and hearing problems in accordance with regulations issued by the Texas Department of State Health Services. Students in certain grade levels identified by state regulations shall be screened for vision and hearing problems annually. A student may be screened using photoscreening to detect vision disorders.

Screening records for individual students may be inspected by the TDSHS or a local health department, and may be transferred to another school without parental consent.

Exemption: A student is exempt from screening requirements if screening conflicts with the tenets and practices of a recognized church or religious denomination of which the individual is an adherent or a member. To qualify for the exemption, the individual or, if the individual is a minor, the minor's parent, managing conservator, or guardian, must submit to the Superintendent or designee on or before the day of admission an affidavit stating the objections to screening.

## **2.16 Immunization Requirements**

The State of Texas requires that every child in the state be immunized against vaccine preventable diseases caused by infectious agents in accordance with an established immunization schedule.

To determine the specific number of doses that are required for your student, please read the "2019–2020 Texas Minimum State Vaccine Requirements for Students in Grades K–12" document issued by the TDSHS. Specific immunization information is available on the TDSHS website at <https://www.dshs.texas.gov/immunize/school/>.

Proof of immunization may be personal records from a licensed physician or public health clinic with a signature or rubber-stamp validation.

### **Provisional Enrollment**

A student may be provisionally admitted to or enrolled in Jubilee Academies if the student has an immunization record that indicates the student has received at least one dose of each specified age-appropriate required vaccine. To remain enrolled, the student must continue to receive the necessary immunizations as rapidly as medically feasible, and complete the required subsequent doses in each vaccine series on schedule and as rapidly as is medically feasible. The student and/or parent must also provide acceptable evidence of vaccination to the school.

A nurse or school administrator shall review the immunization status of a provisionally enrolled student every 30 days to ensure continued compliance in completing the required doses of vaccination. If, at the end of the 30-day period, a student has not received a subsequent dose of vaccine, then the student is not in compliance and Jubilee Academies shall exclude the student from school attendance until the required dose is administered.

*Homeless Students:* A student who is homeless, as defined by federal law, shall be admitted temporarily for 30 days if acceptable evidence of vaccination is not available. Jubilee Academies shall promptly refer the student to appropriate public health programs to obtain the required vaccinations.

*Children in Foster Care:* A student who is a “child in foster care” as defined by 45 C.F.R. § 1355.20(a) shall be admitted temporarily for 30 days if acceptable evidence of vaccination is not available. Jubilee Academies shall promptly refer the student to an appropriate health provider to obtain the required vaccinations.

*Transfer Students:* A student can be enrolled provisionally for no more than 30 days if the student transfers from one Texas school to another, and is awaiting the transfer of the immunization record.

*Military Dependents:* A military dependent can be enrolled provisionally for no more than 30 days if the student transfers from one school to another and is awaiting the transfer of the immunization record. The collection and exchange of information pertaining to immunizations with respect to military dependents shall be subject to confidentiality provisions prescribed by federal law.

### **Exclusions from Immunization Requirements**

Exclusions from immunization requirements are allowable on an individual basis for medical reasons, reasons of conscience (including a religious belief), and active duty with the armed forces of the United States.

To claim exclusion for medical reasons, the student must present a statement signed by the student’s physician (M.D. or D.O.), duly registered and licensed to practice medicine in the United States who has examined the student, in which it is stated that, in the physician’s opinion, the vaccine required is medically contraindicated or poses a significant risk to the health and well-being of the student or any member of the student’s household. Unless it is written in the statement that a lifelong condition exists, the exemption statement is valid for only one year from the date signed by the physician.

To claim an exclusion for reasons of conscience, including a religious belief, a signed Texas Department of State Health Services (“TDSHS”) affidavit must be presented by the student’s parent, stating that the student’s parent declines vaccinations for reasons of conscience, including because of the person’s religious beliefs. The affidavit will be valid for a period of two years. The form affidavit may be obtained by writing the TDSHS Immunization Branch (MC 1946), P.O. Box 149347, Austin, Texas 78714-9347, or online at <https://corequest.dshs.texas.gov/>. The form must be submitted to the Superintendent within 90 days from the date it is notarized. If the parent is seeking an exemption for more than one student in the family, a separate form must be provided for each student. Students, who have not received the required immunizations for reasons of conscience, including religious beliefs, may be excluded from school in times of emergency or epidemic declared by the commissioner of public health.

To claim exclusion for armed forces, the student must prove that he or she is serving on active duty with the armed forces of the United States.

If a parent seeks an exemption for more than one student, a separate form must be provided for each student.

### **Immunization Records Reporting**

The school’s record of a student’s immunization history, while private in most instances, may be inspected by the Texas Education Agency, local health departments, and TDSHS and transferred to other schools associated with the transfer of the student to those schools.

## **2.17 Interrogations and Searches**

In the interest of promoting student safety and attempting to ensure that Jubilee Academies is safe and drug free, school officials may from time to time conduct searches. Such searches are conducted without a warrant and as permitted by law.

Administrators, teachers and other professional personnel may question a student regarding the student's own conduct or the conduct of other students. In the context of school discipline, students have no claim to the right not to incriminate themselves.

Students shall be free from unreasonable searches and seizures by school officials. School officials may search a student's outer clothing, pockets, or property by establishing reasonable cause or securing the student's voluntary consent.

A search is reasonable if (1) the school official has reasonable grounds for suspecting that the search will uncover evidence of a rule violation or a criminal violation and (2) the scope of the search is reasonably related to the circumstances justifying the search, such as the extent of the search, the objectives of the search, the age and sex of the student, and the nature of the infraction.

### **Desk and Locker Searches**

Students should have no expectation of privacy in the contents of their lockers, desks or other school property. Lockers and desks assigned to students remain at all times under the control and jurisdiction of Jubilee Academies. Jubilee Academies will make periodic inspections of lockers and desks at any time, with or without notice or student consent. School officials will remove any item that violates school policy or that may potentially be dangerous.

Students have full responsibility for the security of their lockers and desks, and shall be held responsible for any prohibited items found therein. A student's parent shall be notified if any prohibited articles or materials are found in a student's locker or desk, or on the student's person.

### **Vehicles on Campus**

Vehicles parked on school property and property under school control are under the jurisdiction of Jubilee Academies and may be searched at any time if reasonable suspicion exists to believe that the search will result in evidence that school rules or other laws have been violated. If a vehicle subject to search is locked, the student shall be asked to unlock the vehicle and consent to a search of the vehicle. If the student refuses to permit the vehicle to be searched, Jubilee Academies may contact the student's parents and/or law enforcement officials. A student may be held responsible for and in possession of prohibited items found in his or her vehicle parked on school property or at a school-related event.

### **Random Drug Searches**

In order to ensure a drug-free learning environment, Jubilee Academies conducts random drug searches of all school facilities. Jubilee Academies may use or contract for specially trained nonaggressive dogs to sniff out and alert school officials to the current presence of concealed prohibited or illegal items, including drugs and alcohol. Canine visits may be unannounced. The dogs shall be used to search vacant classrooms, vacant common areas, the areas around student lockers, and the areas where vehicles are parked on Jubilee Academies property or at school-related events. The dogs shall not be asked to alert on students. A dog alert to a locker, vehicle, or item in a classroom, constitutes reasonable grounds for a search by school officials.

## **2.18 Law Enforcement Agencies**

### **Questioning of Students**

When law enforcement officers or other lawful authorities wish to question or interview a student at school, the Principal or designee will cooperate fully regarding the conditions of the interview if the questioning or interview is part of a child abuse investigation. In other circumstances:

1. The Principal or designee shall verify and record the identity of the official and request an explanation of the need to question or interview the student at school.
2. The Principal or designee ordinarily will make reasonable efforts to notify the student's parent, unless the interviewer raises what the Principal or designee considers to be a valid objection.
3. The Principal or designee ordinarily will be present during the questioning or interview, unless the interviewer raises what the Principal or designee considers to be a valid objection.

When the investigation involves allegations of child abuse, special rules apply.

### **Students Taken into Custody**

State law requires Jubilee Academies to permit a student to be taken into legal custody:

1. Pursuant to an order of the juvenile court;
2. Pursuant to the laws of arrest;
3. By a law enforcement officer if there is probable cause to believe the student has engaged in conduct that violates a penal law, delinquent conduct or conduct in need of supervision, or conduct that violates a condition of probation imposed by the juvenile court;
4. By a probation officer if there is a probable cause to believe the student has violated a condition of probation imposed by the juvenile court;
5. Pursuant to a properly issued directive to apprehend;
6. By an authorized representative of the Texas Department of Family and Protective Services ("TDFPS"), a law enforcement officer, or a juvenile probation officer, without a court order, under the conditions set out in Section 262.104 of the Texas Family Code relating to the student's physical health or safety; or
7. To comply with a properly issued directive from a juvenile court to take a student into custody.

Before a student is released to a law enforcement officer or other legally authorized person, the Principal or designee will verify the officer's identity and, to the best of his or her ability, verify the official's authority to take custody of the student.

The Principal or designee will immediately notify the Superintendent and will ordinarily attempt to notify the parent unless the officer or other authorized person raises what the Principal or designee considers to be a valid objection to notifying the parents. Because the Principal or designee does not have the authority to prevent or delay a student's release to a law enforcement officer, any notification will most likely be after the fact.

## **2.19 Pest Control Information**

Jubilee Academies periodically applies pesticides inside school buildings and on school grounds. Except in an emergency, signs will be posted 24 hours before application. Students may not reenter a treated area inside a building or use an area on school grounds for at least 12 hours following application. Parents who want to be notified prior to pesticide application may contact the Superintendent or designee.

## **2.20 Plan for Addressing Sexual Abuse, Sex Trafficking, and Other Maltreatment of Children**

### **What is Sexual Abuse of a Child?**

The Texas Family Code defines “sexual abuse” as any sexual conduct harmful to a child’s mental, emotional, or physical welfare as well as, in certain circumstances, failure to make a reasonable effort to prevent sexual conduct harmful to a child.

### **What is Sex Trafficking?**

Sex trafficking means enticing, luring, recruiting, harboring, transporting, enslaving, selling, or holding captive a child for sexual conduct specified in Texas Penal Code section 20A.01(a)(7). It involves giving or receiving monetary or nonmonetary remuneration, including the child’s sexual services, and a pervasive loss of freedom for the child.

### **What is Other Maltreatment of a Child?**

Under State law, “other maltreatment” of a child includes “abuse” or “neglect,” as defined by Texas Family Code sections 261.001 and 261.401.

### **Reporting Obligation**

Anyone who suspects that a child has been or may be abused or neglected has a legal responsibility, under state law, for reporting the suspected abuse or neglect to law enforcement or to the Texas Department of Family and Protective Services (“DFPS”). Reports may be made by contacting one of the following:

- Texas Abuse Hotline: 1-800-252-5400 or, in non-emergency situations only;
- <http://www.txabusehotline.org>;
- Your local police department; or
- Call 911 for emergency situations.

Jubilee Academies has established a plan for addressing child sexual abuse, sex trafficking, and other maltreatment of children (the “Plan”). The Plan is addressed in this section of the Handbook.

### **Methods for Increasing Awareness Regarding Sexual Abuse, Sex Trafficking, or Other Maltreatment**

**For Staff:** Jubilee Academies annually trains staff in all content areas addressed in the Plan. Training is provided by campus staff, administrative staff, or outside agencies as determined by the campus administration. The training includes prevention techniques for and recognition of sexual abuse, sex trafficking, and all other maltreatment of children, including the sexual abuse, sex trafficking, and other maltreatment of children with significant cognitive disabilities.

**For Students:** School counseling staff will address issues to increase awareness regarding sexual abuse, sex trafficking, and other maltreatment of children and anti-victimization programs with age appropriate conversation and materials no less than once per school year. These discussions will occur in classroom group settings.

**For Parents:** Parents must be aware of warning signs indicating that their child may have been or is being sexually abused, trafficked, or otherwise maltreated. A child who has experienced sexual abuse, sex trafficking, or other maltreatment should be encouraged to seek out a trusted adult. Be aware as a parent or other trusted adult that evidence of sexual abuse, sex trafficking, or other maltreatment may be more indirect than disclosures or signs of physical abuse. It is important to remain calm and comforting if your child, or another child, confides in you. Reassure the child that he or she did the right thing in coming to you.

The fact that the abuser is a parent or other family member does not remove your obligation to protect the child. Parents who permit their child to remain in a situation where he or she may be injured or abused may also be subject to prosecution for child abuse. And, if you are frightened for your own safety or that of your child, you should call 911 or 1-800-252-5400.

Also remember that parents are legally responsible for the care of their children and must provide their children with safe and adequate food, clothing, shelter, protection, medical care and supervision, or arrange for someone else to provide these things. Failure to do so may be considered neglect.

The Principal or designee will provide information regarding counseling options available in your area for you and your child if your child is a victim of sexual abuse, sex trafficking, or other maltreatment. The DFPS also provides early abuse intervention through counseling programs. Services available in your county can be accessed at the following web address:

[http://www.dfps.state.tx.us/Prevention\\_and\\_Early\\_Intervention/Programs\\_Available\\_In\\_Your\\_County/default.asp](http://www.dfps.state.tx.us/Prevention_and_Early_Intervention/Programs_Available_In_Your_County/default.asp).

These websites are also helpful:

- Child Welfare Information Gateway Factsheet:  
<https://www.childwelfare.gov/pubPDFs/whatiscan.pdf>
- KidsHealth, For Parents, Child Abuse:  
<http://kidshealth.org/en/parents/child-abuse.html>
- Texas Association Against Sexual Assault, Resources:  
<http://taasa.org/resources/>
- Texas Education Agency – Prevention of Child Abuse Overview:  
[http://tea.texas.gov/Texas\\_Schools/Safe\\_and\\_Healthy\\_Schools/Child\\_Abuse\\_Prevention/Child\\_Abuse\\_Prevention\\_Overview/](http://tea.texas.gov/Texas_Schools/Safe_and_Healthy_Schools/Child_Abuse_Prevention/Child_Abuse_Prevention_Overview/)
- Sexual Abuse Prevention Programs:  
<https://www.childwelfare.gov/topics/preventing/programs/sexualabuse/>
- Promoting Healthy Families in Your Neighborhood:  
<https://www.childwelfare.gov/pubPDFs/packet.pdf>
- Signs of Child Abuse:  
<http://kidshealth.org/en/parents/child-abuse.html>
- DFPS – Prevent Child Abuse (HelpandHope.org)  
<http://helpandhope.org>
- DFPS – How to Report Child Abuse or Neglect  
[http://www.dfps.state.tx.us/Contact\\_us/report\\_abuse.asp](http://www.dfps.state.tx.us/Contact_us/report_abuse.asp)
- Texas Attorney General – What Can We Do About Child Abuse? (Part 1)  
<https://www.texasattorneygeneral.gov/cvs/what-we-can-do-about-child-abuse-1>
- Texas Attorney General – What Can We Do About Child Abuse? (Part 2)  
<https://www.texasattorneygeneral.gov/cvs/what-we-can-do-about-child-abuse-2>
- Texas Attorney General – Human Trafficking  
<https://www.texasattorneygeneral.gov/initiatives/human-trafficking>
- Texas Association for the Protection of Children  
<http://www.texprotects.org/about/PCAT/>
- Texas Council on Family Violence – Abuse Prevention Links  
<http://www.tcfv.org/>

## Likely Warning Signs of Sexual Abuse, Sex Trafficking, or Other Maltreatment

Psychological and behavioral signs of possible sexual abuse or other maltreatment may include:

- An older child behaving like a young child, for example, bedwetting or thumb sucking.
- Becoming increasingly secretive about Internet or telephone use.
- Changes in school attendance, habits, friend groups, vocabulary, demeanor, and attitude.
- Depression or irritability.
- Developing fear of certain places or resisting being alone with an adult or young person for unknown reasons.
- Developing special relationships with older friends that may include unexplained money, gifts, or privileges.
- Engaging in adult-like sexual activities with toys, objects or other children.
- Intentionally harming him or herself, for example, drug/alcohol use, cutting, burning, running away, and sexual promiscuity.
- Isolation from family, friends, and community.
- Leaving clues that seem likely to provoke a discussion about sexual issues.
- Multiple phones or social media accounts, or lying about the existence of social media accounts.
- 
- Nightmares, sleep problems, extreme fears without an obvious explanation.
- Play, writing, drawings, or dreams of sexual or frightening images.
- Provocative pictures posted online or stored on phones.
- Refillable gift cards.
- Refusal to talk about a secret he or she has with an adult or older child.
- Resistance to routine bathing, toileting, or removing clothes, even in appropriate situations.
- Sexually provocative clothing.
- Social interaction and schedule being strictly controlled by someone else.
- Sudden appearance of luxury items, e.g., manicures, designer clothes, purses.
- Sudden or unexplained personality changes; becoming withdrawn, angry, moody, clingy, “checking out” or showing significant changes in eating habits.
- Thinking of self or body as repulsive, dirty, or bad.
- Truancy (absence) from school.
- Using new or adult words for body parts.

Physical symptoms of possible sexual abuse or other maltreatment include:

- Bruises or other injuries in the genital or rectal area.
- Difficulty in walking or sitting.
- Genital or rectal pain, itching, swelling, redness, or discharge.
- Stained or bloody underwear.
- Stomachaches or illness, often with no identifiable reason.
- Tattoos or branding.
- Unexplained injuries.
- Unexplained soreness, pain or bruises around mouth, sexually transmitted disease, or pregnancy.

Any one sign does not necessarily mean that a child has been sexually abused, trafficked, or maltreated, but the presence of several signs is the time you should begin asking questions and seeking help. Often signs first emerge at other times of stress, such as during a divorce, death of a family member or pet, problems at school or with friends, or other traumatic or anxiety-inducing events.

## **Actions That a Child Who Is a Victim of Sexual Abuse, Sex Trafficking, or Other Maltreatment Should Take**

During student awareness sessions concerning sexual abuse, sex trafficking, and other maltreatment issues, students will be encouraged to tell a trusted adult in a private and confidential conversation if they have been a victim of sexual abuse, trafficking, or other maltreatment or have been in situations that make them feel uncomfortable in any way. School employees are trained to take appropriate actions to help the child obtain assistance and to follow proper reporting procedures. Older students will also be provided with local crisis hotline numbers to obtain assistance.

### **Available Counseling Options**

A list of counseling providers can be found at:

[http://www.dfps.state.tx.us/Prevention\\_and\\_Early\\_Intervention/Programs\\_Available\\_In\\_Your\\_County/default.asp](http://www.dfps.state.tx.us/Prevention_and_Early_Intervention/Programs_Available_In_Your_County/default.asp).

## **2.21 Procedures for Use of Restraint and Time-Outs**

School employees, volunteers or independent contractors are authorized to use restraint in the event of an emergency and subject to the following limitations:

- Only reasonable force, necessary to address the emergency, may be used.
- The restraint must be discontinued at the point at which the emergency no longer exists.
- The restraint must be implemented in such a way as to protect the health and safety of the student and others.
- The student may not be deprived of basic human necessities.

At no time, however, may a student be placed in seclusion.

A student with a disability may not be confined in a locked box, locked closet or other specially designated locked space as either a discipline management practice or a behavior management technique.

## **2.22 Seizure Management Plan**

The parent of a student with a seizure disorder may seek care for the student's seizures while the student is at school or participating in a school activity by submitting to Jubilee Academies a copy of a seizure management and treatment plan developed by the parent and the physician responsible for the student's seizure treatment. The plan must be submitted to and reviewed by Jubilee Academies:

1. Before or at the beginning of the school year;
2. On enrollment of the student, if the student enrolls in Jubilee Academies after the start of the school year; or
3. As soon as practicable following a diagnosis of a seizure disorder for the student.

A seizure management and treatment plan must:

1. Identify the health care services the student may receive at school or while participating in a school activity;
2. Evaluate the student's ability to manage and level of understanding of the student's seizures; and
3. Be signed by the student's parent and the physician for the student's seizure treatment.



## **2.23 Steroid Notice**

State law prohibits students from possessing, dispensing, delivering, or administering an anabolic steroid. Anabolic steroids are for medical use only, and only a physician can prescribe use.

Jubilee Academies does not permit steroid use. A notice shall be posted in a conspicuous location in the school gym or in each other place in a building where physical education classes are conducted.

## **2.24 Student Illness**

When your child is ill, please contact Jubilee Academies to let us know he or she will not be attending that day. Students must be fever-free without the use of fever-reducing medication and must be free of vomiting/diarrhea without the use of diarrhea suppressing medication for at least 24 hours before returning to school.

If a student becomes ill during the school day, he or she must receive permission from the teacher before reporting to the school nurse. If the nurse determines that the child should go home, the nurse will contact the parent.

### **Head Lice**

Head lice (which are not an illness or disease) are common among children, and may spread easily through contact during play or when students share items such as headphones, brushes, combs hats, or other items that come in contact with hair. If Jubilee Academies observes that a student may have head lice, an appropriate administrator will contact the student's parent to determine whether the student needs to be sent home and to discuss a plan for treatment with an FDA-approved medicated shampoo or cream rinse. When a elementary student has head lice, Jubilee Academies will also provide written notice to the student's parent and the parents of each child assigned to the same classroom as required by state law.

## **2.25 Tobacco/Vaping Devices**

Jubilee Academies prohibits the following in accordance with Texas Education Code § 38.006 and Texas Health & Safety Code § 161.081:

1. Any adult and/or student from smoking or using cigarettes, tobacco, tobacco products, electronic cigarettes, vapor, smokeless, or any other substitute form of cigarettes, tobacco, or tobacco-like products, as well as the use of any devices which are used for the purpose of transmitting any type of tobacco or tobacco-like products at a school-related or school-sanctioned activity on or off school property or while on school vehicles.
2. Students from possessing or using cigarettes, tobacco, tobacco products, electronic cigarettes, vapor, smokeless, or any other substitute form of cigarettes, tobacco, tobacco-like products, as well as the use of any devices which are used for the purpose of ingesting or transmitting any type of tobacco or tobacco-like products while in school buildings, vehicles, or on or near Jubilee Academies property, or at school-related or school-sanctioned activities, on or off school property.

Student violators are subject to possible prosecution, as allowed by law, as well as the disciplinary terms of the Student Code of Conduct.

## **2.26 Videotaping of Students**

For safety purposes, including the maintenance of order and discipline, surveillance cameras may be used to monitor student behavior in classrooms, on school vehicles, and in school common areas. Video recordings may be reviewed routinely to document student misconduct and used by Jubilee Academies staff when investigating an incident. Tapes and other video recordings will be available for viewing pursuant to the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (“FERPA”).

## **2.27 Visitor and Volunteer Policy**

Jubilee Academies encourages parents and family members to regularly visit the school and become involved in student activities. The impact that positive parental involvement has on the learning and development of students is immeasurable. With that in mind, the following policies must be adhered to so that a safe, secure, and productive learning environment can be ensured for all.

- Visitors MUST sign in at the main office whenever they are on campus. They will be provided with a visitor ID that must be worn while on campus. Visitors are not permitted to make unscheduled or drop-in visits to classrooms.
- When visiting campus to meet with teaching staff, visitors must have a pre-arranged time set up with the teacher(s) in question except for urgent matters. Times are best arranged via email. An email directory is located on our website. With few exceptions, conferences are scheduled during teacher/team planning time, and/or immediately before or after school. Under no circumstances can a teacher be interrupted while providing instruction before, during, or after the school day to meet with a parent.
- Visitors to campus must be the parent, guardians, or other adult family members with permission of the parent/guardian. Students’ friends, younger siblings, and other non- related individuals cannot visit the campus during school hours.
- Volunteers MUST go through a background check conducted by our district office. Once the check is cleared, volunteers are notified and may begin helping on campus. Until this clearance is obtained, they are not to be involved in any educational or extra-curricular activities.

Additionally, the Principal or designee may take the following actions whenever there is a school visitor:

- Establish an electronic database for storing information concerning visitors. Information stored in the electronic database may be used only for school security, and may not be sold or otherwise disseminated to a third party for any purpose.
- Verify whether the visitor is a sex offender registered with the computerized central database maintained by the Department of Public Safety or any other database accessible by Jubilee Academies.

Any visitor identified as a sex offender shall be escorted by school personnel at all times during a school visit and shall have access only to common areas of the campus.

## **SECTION 3: ACADEMICS AND GRADING**

### **3.1 Academic Integrity**

All students are expected to be honest and to display a high standard of integrity in the preparation and presentation of work for credit in classes. A student's attempt to present the work of another as his or her own will be viewed as a serious offense, and the student may be subject to a grading penalty and/or discipline in accordance with the Student Code of Conduct.

### **3.2 Academic Programs**

The Principal will provide students and parents with information regarding academic programs to prepare for higher education and career choices.

A student removed from the regular classroom to in-school suspension or another setting will have an opportunity to complete his or her daily work just as if they were in the regular learning center.

Students and parents are encouraged to discuss options for ensuring that students complete all work required with a teacher or the Principal.

### **3.3 Career and Technical Education Programs**

Jubilee Academies may offer, from time to time, career and technical education programs in a variety of areas. For a complete listing of CTE courses, please contact the Principal. Admission to these programs is based on student interest and completion of any pre-requisites required by Jubilee Academies.

It is the policy of Jubilee Academies not to discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, or handicap in its vocational programs, services, or activities as required by Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended; Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended.

Jubilee Academies will take steps to ensure that lack of English language skills will not preclude a student from participating in all educational and career and vocational programs.

### **3.4 College Credit Courses**

Students in grades 9–12 have opportunities to earn college credit through the following methods:

- Certain courses taught at Jubilee Academies, which may include courses termed dual credit, Advanced Placement (“AP”), International Baccalaureate (“IB”), or college preparatory;
- Enrollment in an AP or dual credit course through the Texas Virtual School Network;
- Enrollment in courses taught in conjunction and in partnership with a university or community college, which may be offered on or off campus;
- Enrollment in courses taught at colleges or universities; and
- Certain CTE courses.

All of these methods have eligibility requirements and must be approved prior to enrollment in the course. Additionally, not all options are available at each campus. Please see the Principal for more information.

Depending on a student's grade level and the course, a state-mandated end-of-course assessment may be required for graduation.

It is important to keep in mind that not all colleges and universities accept credit earned in all dual credit or AP courses taken in high school for college credit. Students and parents should check with the prospective college or university to determine if a particular course will count toward the student's desired degree plan.

### **3.5 College Days**

High school students who meet the following criteria will be allowed to have two excused days of absence for a college visit during their junior year and two excused days of absence for a college visit during their senior year:

- The student must have passed the required parts of the STAAR/equivalent state assessment for the previous year.
- The student must be on track to graduate on time.
- The student must be classified as a junior or senior based upon credits earned.
- The student must be passing all course work.
- The student must have no truancy or other attendance problems.

Students must submit a written request to the school office at least two days prior to the day requested for a college visit so that eligibility criteria for an excused day of absence can be verified and approval granted prior to the student participating in a college visit. Approval will not be granted for a college visit on a day when major exams are scheduled, and no partial days will be approved.

### **3.6 Computer Resources**

To prepare students for an increasingly computerized society, Jubilee Academies has made a substantial investment in computer technology for instructional purposes. Use of these resources is restricted to students working under a teacher's supervision and for approved purposes only. Students and parents must read and agree to abide by the Student Acceptable Use Policy found in this Handbook.

### **3.7 Counseling**

#### **Academic Counseling**

Students and parents are encouraged to talk with the school counselor to learn about course offerings, graduation requirements, and early graduation procedures. Each spring, students in 8th–12th grade will be provided with information on anticipated course offerings for the next year and other information that will help to make the most of academic and vocational opportunities.

To plan for the future, including attendance at a college, university, or training school or pursuing some other type of advanced education, students should work closely with the school counselor to take the courses that best prepare them for the future. The school counselor can also provide information about entrance exams and application deadlines, as well as information about automatic admission to state colleges and universities, financial aid, housing, and scholarships.

#### **Personal Counseling**

The Principal and the school counselor are available to assist students with a wide range of personal concerns, including social, family, or emotional issues, and substance abuse. The Principal or school counselor may also provide information about community resources to address these concerns. A student

who wishes to meet with the Principal or school counselor should set an appointment through the school secretary.

Please note: Jubilee Academies will not conduct a psychological examination, test, or treatment without first obtaining the parent's written consent, unless required by state or federal law for special education purposes or by the Texas Education Agency for child abuse investigations and reports.

### **3.8 Credit by Exam**

Jubilee Academies uses examinations and guidelines established by the State Board of Education to offer credit and acceleration by exam.

#### **If a Student has Prior Instruction**

A student in grades 6–12 who has previously taken a course or subject (but did not receive credit for it) may, in circumstances determined by the Principal or attendance committee, be permitted to earn credit by passing an exam on the essential knowledge and skills defined for the course or subject. Prior instruction may include, for example, incomplete coursework due to a failed course or excessive absences, homeschooling, or coursework by a student transferring from a nonaccredited school. The opportunity to take an examination to earn credit for a course or to be awarded a final grade in a subject after the student has had prior instruction is sometimes referred to as “credit recovery.” To receive credit, a student must score at least 70% on the exam.

The Attendance Review Committee may also offer a student with excessive absences an opportunity to receive credit for a course by passing an exam.

#### **If a Student Has Not Taken the Course**

A student will be permitted to take an exam to earn credit for an academic course or subject area for which the student has had no prior instruction, i.e., for advancement or to accelerate to the next grade level. The exams offered by Jubilee Academies are approved by the Board of Directors. The dates on which exams are scheduled during the school year will be published in an appropriate school publication and on the Jubilee Academies website.

If a student plans to take an exam, the student (or parent) must register with the Principal no later than 30 days prior to the scheduled testing date. Jubilee Academies will or will not honor a request by a parent to administer a test on a date other than the published dates. If Jubilee Academies agrees to administer a test other than the one chosen by the school, the student's parent will be responsible for the cost of the exam.

Kindergarten Acceleration: Parents should contact the Principal.

Students in Grades 1–5: A student in elementary school will be eligible to accelerate to the next grade level if the student scores at least 80 on each examination in the subject areas of language arts, mathematics, science, and social studies, a school administrator recommends that the student be accelerated, and the student's parent gives written approval of the grade advancement.

Students in Grades 6–12: A student in grade 6 or above will earn course credit with a passing score of at least 80 on the exam, a scaled score of 50 or higher on an examination administered through the College Level-Level Examination Program, or a score of three or higher on an AP examination, as applicable. A student may take an exam to earn course credit no more than twice. If a student fails to achieve the

designated score on the approved exam before the beginning of the school year in which the student would need to enroll in the course according to the school's course sequence, the student must complete the course.

### **3.9 Distance Learning**

Distance learning and correspondence courses include courses that encompass the state-required essential knowledge and skills but are taught through multiple technologies and alternative methodologies, such as mail, satellite, Internet, video-conferencing, and instructional television.

#### **Texas Virtual School Network**

The Texas Virtual School Network ("TxVSN") has been established as one method of distance learning. A student has the option, with certain limitations, to enroll in a course offered through the TxVSN to earn course credit for graduation.

Depending on the TxVSN course in which a student enrolls, the course may be subject to "no pass, no play" rules related to participation in extracurricular activities. In addition, for a student who enrolls in a TxVSN course for which an end-of-course assessment is required, the student must still take the corresponding end-of-course assessment.

If you have questions or wish to make a request that your child be enrolled in a TxVSN course, please contact the Superintendent. Unless an exception is made by the Superintendent, a student will not be allowed to enroll in a TxVSN course if the school offers the same or a similar course.

If a student wishes to enroll in a correspondence course or a distance learning course that is not provided through the TxVSN in order to earn credit in a course or subject, the student must receive permission from the Superintendent prior to enrolling in the course or subject. If the student does not receive prior approval, Jubilee Academies may not recognize and/or apply the course or subject toward graduation requirements or subject mastery.

### **3.10 Extracurricular Activities, Clubs, and Organizations**

Participation in school-related activities is an excellent way for a student to develop talents, receive individual recognition, and build strong friendships with other students. Participation, however, is a privilege and not a right. Eligibility for participation in many school-related activities is governed by state law and rules of the University Interscholastic League ("UIL"), a statewide association overseeing interscholastic competition between public schools. Additional information regarding extracurricular activities, clubs, and organizations may be obtained from the Principal.

Participation in these activities may result in events that occur off-campus. When Jubilee Academies arranges transportation for these events, students are required to use the transportation provide by Jubilee Academies to and from the event. Exceptions may only be made with approval from the activity's coach or sponsor.

**Please note:** Sponsors of student clubs and performing groups such as the band, choir, and drill and athletic teams may establish standards of behavior – including consequences for misbehavior – that are stricter than those for students in general. If a violation of organization rules is also a violation of school rules, the consequences specified by the Student Code of Conduct or by local policy will apply in addition to any consequences specified by the organization.

### **3.11 Graduation Plan**

Jubilee Academies shall ensure that each student enrolls in the courses necessary to complete the curriculum requirements identified by the State Board of Education (“SBOE”) for the foundation high school program or another graduation program appropriate under the law.

#### **Graduation Requirements**

Students must meet the following requirements to receive a high school diploma from Jubilee Academies:

1. Complete the required number of credits established by the State and any additional credits required by Jubilee Academies;
2. Complete any locally required courses in addition to the courses mandated by the State;
3. Achieve passing scores on certain end-of-course (“EOC”) assessments or approved substitute assessments, unless specifically waived as permitted by State law; and
4. Demonstrate proficiency, as determined by Jubilee Academies, in the specific communication skills required by the State Board of Education.

#### **Testing Requirements for Graduation**

Students are required, with limited exceptions, to perform satisfactorily on the following EOC assessments: English I, English II, Algebra I, Biology, and United States History. A student who has not achieved sufficient scores on the EOC assessments to graduate will have opportunities to retake the assessments. State law and state rules also provide for certain scores on norm-referenced national standardized assessments or on the state-developed assessment used for entrance into Texas public universities to substitute for the requirement to meet satisfactory performance on an applicable EOC assessment, should a student choose this option. See the Principal for more information on the State testing requirements for graduation.

If a student fails to perform satisfactorily on an EOC assessment, Jubilee Academies will provide remediation in the content area for which the performance standard was not met. This may require student participation before or after normal school hours, or at times of the year outside of normal school operations.

In limited circumstances, a student who fails to demonstrate proficiency on two or fewer of the required assessments may be eligible to graduate, if an individual graduation committee, formed in accordance with state law, unanimously determines that the student is eligible to graduate. Please see the Principal for more information on the makeup of an individual graduation committee and all other requirements for graduation.

#### **Foundation Graduation Program**

Every student in a Texas public school who entered grade 9 in the 2014–2015 school year and thereafter will graduate under the “foundation school program.” Within the foundation graduation program are “endorsements,” which are paths of interest that include Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (“STEM”); Business and Industry; Public Services; Arts and Humanities; and Multidisciplinary Studies. Endorsements earned by a student will be noted on the student’s transcript and diploma. The foundation graduation program also involves the term “distinguished level of achievement,” which reflects the completion of at least one endorsement and Algebra II as one of the required advanced mathematics credits.

State law and rules prohibit a student from graduating solely under the foundation graduation program without an endorsement unless, after the student’s sophomore year, the student and the student’s parent are advised of the specific benefits of graduating with an endorsement and submit written permission to an appropriate school administrator for the student to graduate without an endorsement. A student who

anticipates graduating under the foundation graduation program without an endorsement and who wishes to attend a four-year university or college after graduation must carefully consider whether this will satisfy the admission requirements of the student's desired college or university.

Graduating under the foundation graduation program will also provide opportunities to earn "performance acknowledgements" that will be acknowledged on a student's diploma and transcript. Performance acknowledgements are available for outstanding performance in bilingualism and biliteracy, in a dual credit course; on an AP or IB exam; on the PSAT, ACT-Plan, SAT, or ACT exam; or for earning a nationally or internationally recognized license or certificate. The criteria for earning these performance acknowledgements are prescribed by state rules, and the Principal can provide more information about these acknowledgments.

***Students with Disabilities:*** Upon the recommendation of the admission, review, and dismissal ("ARD") committee, a student with a disability who receives special education services may be permitted to graduate under the provisions of his or her individualized education program ("IEP") and in accordance with state rules.

A student who receives special education services and has completed four years of high school, but has not met the requirements of his or her IEP, may participate in graduation ceremonies and receive a certificate of attendance. Even if the student participates in graduation ceremonies to receive the certificate of attendance, he or she may remain enrolled to complete the IEP and earn his or her high school diploma; however, the student will only be allowed to participate in one graduation ceremony.

ARD committees for students with disabilities who receive special education services will make instructional and assessment decisions for these students in accordance with state law and rules. To earn an endorsement under the foundation program, a student must perform satisfactorily on the EOC assessments and receive no modified curriculum in the student's chosen endorsement area. A student may still be awarded an endorsement when the student fails to perform satisfactorily on no more than two EOC assessments but meets the other requirements for graduation under state law.

## **Standardized Testing**

STAAR (State of Texas Assessments of Academic Readiness)

Grades 3–8: In addition to routine tests and other measures of achievement, students in grades 3–8 will take state-mandated assessments, such as the STAAR, in the following subjects:

- Mathematics, annually in grades 3–8.
- Reading, annually in grades 3–8.
- Writing, including spelling and grammar, in grades 4–7.
- Science in grades 5 and 8.
- Social Studies in grade 8.

Successful performance on the reading and math assessments in grades 5 and 8 is required by law, unless the student is enrolled in a reading or math course intended for students above the student's current grade level, in order for the student to be promoted to the next grade level. Exceptions may apply for students enrolled in a special education program if the ARD Committee concludes the student has made sufficient progress in the student's individualized education plan ("IEP").

STAAR Alternate 2 is available for eligible students receiving special education services and who meet certain state-established criteria, as determined by the student's ARD committee.



STAAR Spanish is available for eligible students for whom a Spanish version of STAAR is the most appropriate measure of their academic progress.

High School Courses – End-of-Course Assessments: STAAR end-of-course (“EOC”) assessments are administered for the following courses:

- Algebra I;
- Biology;
- English I and II; and
- United States History.

Satisfactory performance on the applicable assessments will be required for graduation, unless otherwise waived or substituted as allowed by state law and rules.

There are three testing windows during the school year in which a student may take an EOC assessment, which will occur during the fall, spring, and summer months. If a student does not meet satisfactory performance, the student will have additional opportunities to retake the assessment.

STAAR Alternate 2 is available for eligible students receiving special education services and who meet certain state-established criteria, as determined by the student’s ARD committee. The student’s ARD committee will determine whether successful performance on the EOC assessments will be required for a student receiving special education services to graduate, in accordance with parameters set in state regulations.

#### Texas Success Initiative Assessment

Prior to enrollment in a Texas public college or university, most students must take a standardized test called the Texas Success Initiative (“TSI”) assessment. The purpose of the TSI assessment is to assess the reading, mathematics, and writing skills that entering freshmen-level students should have if they are to perform effectively in undergraduate certificate or degree programs in Texas public colleges and universities. This assessment may be required before a student enrolls in a dual-credit course offered through Jubilee Academies as well. Achieving certain benchmark scores on this assessment for college readiness may also waive certain end-of-course assessment requirements in limited circumstances.

#### SAT/ACT (Scholastic Aptitude Test and American College Test)

Many colleges require either the American College Test (“ACT”) or the Scholastic Aptitude Test (“SAT”) for admission. Students are encouraged to talk with the Principal early during their junior year to determine the appropriate examination to take; these examinations are usually taken at the end of the junior year. The Preliminary SAT (PSAT) and ACT-Aspire are the corresponding preparatory and readiness assessments for the SAT and ACT, and more information can be obtained on these assessments from the Principal or designee.

Note that participation in these assessments may qualify a student to receive a performance acknowledgment on his or her transcript under the foundation graduation program and may qualify as a substitute for an end-of-course testing requirement in certain circumstances. A student’s performance at a certain level on the SAT or ACT also makes the student eligible for automatic admission to a Texas public institution of higher education.

#### Texas English Language Proficiency Assessment System (“TELPAS”)

The Texas English Language Proficiency Assessment System (“TELPAS”) is a system of statewide assessments administered to all Limited English Proficient (“LEP”) students in grades K–12. The TELPAS

measures English ability based on the stages of language development of second language learners. These results will further the understanding of the educational needs of LEP students by providing a state-level measure of both their current academic English levels and their annual progress in English.

### **3.12 Promotion and Retention**

A student may be promoted on the basis of academic achievement and/or demonstrated proficiency in the subject matter of the course or grade level. To earn credit in a course, a student must demonstrate mastery on grade level standards and meet Jubilee Academies' requirements for attendance. A student in grades 9–12 will be advanced a grade level based on the number of course credits earned.

In addition, at certain grade levels a student – with limited exceptions – will be required to pass the State of Texas Assessments of Academic Readiness (“STAAR”), if the student is enrolled in a public Texas school on any day between January 1 and the date of the first administration of the STAAR.

- In order to be promoted to grade 6, students enrolled in grade 5 must perform satisfactorily on the Mathematics and Reading sections of the grade 5 grade assessment exam in English or Spanish.
- In order to be promoted to grade 9, students enrolled in grade 8 must perform satisfactorily on the Mathematics and Reading sections of the grade 8 assessment exam in English.

If a student in grades 3-8 is enrolled in a course that earns high school credit and for which an end-of-course (“EOC”) assessment will be administered, the student will not be subject to the promotion requirements described above for the relevant grade 5 or 8 assessment. However, for federal accountability purposes, the student may be required to take both the grade level and EOC assessment.

If a student in grade 8 is enrolled in a class or course intended for students above his or her current grade level in which the student will be administered a state-mandated assessment, the student will be required to take an applicable state mandated assessment only for the course in which he or she is enrolled, unless otherwise required to do so by federal law.

Parents of students who do not perform satisfactorily on their STAAR or EOC assessments will be notified that their child will participate in an Accelerated Instructional Program designed to improve performance. A student in grade 5 or 8 will have two additional opportunities to take a failed assessment. If a student fails a second time, a grade placement committee, consisting of the Principal or designee, the student's teacher, and the student's parent will determine the additional special instruction the student will receive.

Students will also have multiple opportunities to retake EOC assessments.

If a student fails after a third attempt, the student will be retained at his or her current grade level. The parent, however, may appeal this decision to the Committee. A decision to promote a student to the next grade level must be unanimous. Regardless of whether the student is retained or promoted, an educational plan for the student will be designed to enable the student to perform at grade level by the end of the next school year.

In addition to the requirements listed above for students in grades 5 and 8, a student may be considered for retention if they have met any of the following criteria:

1. failed one or more core subject areas;
2. failed one or more state assessments
3. is below level in one or more core subject areas;

- missed more than 10% of instructional days in an academic year. The decision must be made by a committee, which is comprised of the child's core subject area teachers, the counselor, and the Principal.

### **3.13 Report Cards**

Report cards with each student's grades or performance and absences in each class or subject are issued to parents at least once every nine weeks. During the fourth week of a nine-week grading period, parents will be given a written progress report if their child's performance in English language arts, mathematics, science, or social studies is near or below 70%, or is below the expected level of performance. If the student receives a grade lower than 70% in any class or subject at the end of a grading period, the parent will be requested to schedule a conference with the teacher of that class or subject. The report card or progress report will state whether tutorials are required for a student who receives a grade lower than 70% in a class or subject. Report cards and progress reports must be signed by the parent and returned to the school within seven days.

Questions about grade calculation should first be discussed with the teacher; if the question is not resolved, the parent or student may request a conference with the Principal. State law provides that a test or course grade issued by a teacher cannot be changed unless the Board determines that the grade was arbitrary or contains an error, or that the teacher did not follow the school's grading policy.

### **3.14 Required Curriculum**

Jubilee Academies offers instruction in the TEKS of the appropriate grade levels. A request for a copy of the required curriculum may be made at the front office.

### **3.15 Special Programs**

#### **Students Who Speak a Primary Language Other than English**

A student may be eligible to receive specialized support if his or her primary language is not English, and the student has difficulty performing regular class work in English. If the student qualifies for these extra services, the Language Proficiency Assessment Committee ("LPAC") will determine the types of services the student needs, including accommodations or modifications related to classroom instruction, local assessments, and state-mandated assessments.

#### **Aiding Students Who Have Learning Difficulties or Who Need Special Education or Section 504 Services**

For those students who are having difficulty in the regular classroom, all school districts and open enrollment charter schools must consider tutorial, compensatory, and other academic or behavior support services that are available to all students, including a process based on Response to Intervention ("RtI"). The implementation of RtI has the potential to have a positive impact on the ability of districts and charter schools to meet the needs of all struggling students.

If a student is experiencing learning difficulties, his or her parent may contact the individual(s) listed below to learn about the school's overall general education referral or screening system for support services. This system links students to a variety of support options, including making a referral for a special education evaluation or for a Section 504 evaluation to determine if the student needs specific aids, accommodations, or services. A parent may request an evaluation for special education or Section 504 services at any time.

### Special Education Referrals

If a parent makes a written request for an initial evaluation for special education services to the director of special education services or an administrative employee of the school district or open enrollment charter school, the district or charter school must respond no later than 15 school days after receiving the request. At that time, the district or charter school must give the parent a prior written notice of whether it agrees to or refuses to evaluate the student, along with a copy of the Notice of Procedural Safeguards. If the school district or charter school agrees to evaluate the student, it must also give the parent the opportunity to give written consent for the evaluation.

Please note that a request for a special education evaluation may be made verbally and does not need to be in writing. Districts and charter schools must still comply with all federal prior written notice and procedural safeguard requirements and the requirements for identifying, locating, and evaluating children who are suspected of being a child with a disability and in need of special education. However, a verbal request does not require the district or charter school to respond within the 15-school-day timeline.

If the district or charter school decides to evaluate the student, it must complete the student's initial evaluation and evaluation report no later than 45 school days from the day it receives a parent's written consent to evaluate the student. However, if the student is absent from school during the evaluation period for three or more school days, the evaluation period will be extended by the number of school days equal to the number of school days that the student is absent.

There is an exception to the 45-school-day timeline. If a district or charter school receives a parent's consent for the initial evaluation at least 35 but less than 45 school days before the last instructional day of the school year, it must complete the written report and provide a copy of the report to the parent by June 30 of that year. However, if the student is absent from school for three or more days during the evaluation period, the June 30th due date no longer applies. Instead, the general timeline of 45 school days plus extensions for absences of three or more days will apply.

Upon completing the evaluation, the district or charter school must give the parent a copy of the evaluation report at no cost.

Additional information regarding special education is available from the district or charter school in a companion document titled Parent's Guide to the Admission, Review, and Dismissal Process.

### Contact Person for Special Education Referrals

The designated person to contact regarding options for a student experiencing learning difficulties or regarding a referral for evaluation for special education services is: Beulah Landeros at 210-333-6227.

### Section 504 Referrals

Each school district or charter school must have standards and procedures in place for the evaluation and placement of students in the district's or charter school's Section 504 program. Districts and charter schools must also implement a system of procedural safeguards that includes notice, an opportunity for a parent or guardian to examine relevant records, an impartial hearing with an opportunity for participation by the parent or guardian and representation by counsel, and a review procedure.

### Contact Person for Section 504 Referrals:

The designated person to contact regarding options for a student experiencing learning difficulties or regarding a referral for evaluation for Section 504 services is: Beulah Landeros at 210-333-6227.

### Additional Information

The following websites provide information and resources for students with disabilities and their families:

- [Legal Framework for the Child-Centered Special Education Process](#)
- [Partners Resource Network](#)
- [Special Education Information Center](#)
- [Texas Project First](#)

*Notification to Parent of Intervention Strategies for Learning Difficulties Provided to General Education Students*

Jubilee Academies will annually notify parents that it provides assistance to students, other than those already enrolled in a special education program, who need assistance for learning difficulties, including intervention strategies.

**Services for Title I Participants**

Information regarding Jubilee Academies' Title I program may be obtained from Ana Lira at 210-333-6227.

**SECTION 4: ESPECIALLY FOR PARENTS**

**4.1 Accommodations for Children of Military Families**

Children of military families will be provided flexibility regarding certain school requirements, including:

- Immunization requirements;
- Grade level, course, or educational program placement;
- Eligibility requirements for participating in extracurricular activities; and
- Graduation requirements.

In addition, absences related to a student visiting with his or her parent, including a stepparent or legal guardian, who has been called to active duty for, is on leave from, or is returning from a deployment of at least four months will be excused by Jubilee Academies. The school will permit no more than five excused absences per year for this purpose. For the absence to be excused, the absence must occur no earlier than the 60th day before deployment or no later than the 30th day after the parent's return from deployment.

**4.2 Notice of Teacher Qualifications**

Jubilee Academies will provide parents with the qualifications of each teacher employed by the school. Parents may also request, and Jubilee Academies will provide in a timely manner, information regarding the professional qualifications of their student's classroom teachers. Information provided in response to a parent request will include, at a minimum:

1. Whether a teacher has met state qualification and licensing criteria for the grade levels and subject areas in which the teacher provides instruction;
2. Whether the teacher has an emergency permit or other provisional status through which state qualification or licensing criteria have been waived;
3. Whether the teacher is teaching in the field of discipline of the certification of the teacher; and
4. Whether the child is provided services by paraprofessionals and, if so, their qualifications.

### **4.3 Parent Contact Information**

Parents are responsible for notifying Jubilee Academies of any changes in their address, telephone number, and/or email address so that we can update our records accordingly. Parents are encouraged to check the campus website on a regular basis as it is our primary means of communication. It is important for parent communication that Jubilee Academies has a valid, working parent email address.

### **4.4 Student or Parent Complaints and Concerns**

Jubilee Academies values the opinions of its students and parents. Parents and students have the right to express their views through appropriate informal and formal processes. The purpose of this grievance policy is to resolve conflicts in an efficient, expeditious, and just manner.

The Board of Directors encourages parents and students to discuss their concerns and complaints through informal meetings with the Principal. Concerns and complaints should be expressed as soon as possible to allow early resolution at the lowest possible administrative level.

Neither the Board of Directors nor any Jubilee Academies employee shall unlawfully retaliate against a parent or student for voicing a concern or complaint.

For purposes of this policy, “days” shall mean school days, and announcement of a decision in the student’s or parent’s presence shall constitute communication of the decision.

#### **Informal Conferences**

A parent or student may request an informal conference with the Principal, teacher, or other campus administrator within seven days of the time the parent or student knew or should have known of the event(s) giving rise to the complaint. If the person is not satisfied with the results of the informal conference, he or she may submit a written grievance form to the Principal. Grievance forms may be obtained from the Principal’s office.

#### **Formal Grievance Process**

The formal grievance process provides all persons with an opportunity to be heard up to the highest level of management if they are dissatisfied with an administrative response. Once all administrative procedures are exhausted, a person can bring concerns or complaints to the Board, as outlined below.

A grievance must specify the harm alleged by the parent and/or student, and the remedy sought. A parent or student should not submit separate or serial grievances regarding the same event or action. Multiple grievances may be consolidated at the school’s discretion. All time limits shall be strictly complied with; however, if an administrator determines that additional time is needed to complete a thorough investigation of the complaint and/or to issue a response, the administrator shall inform the parent or student in writing of the need to extend the response time and provide a specific date by which the response will be issued. Costs of any grievance shall be paid by the grievant.

#### ***Level One Complaint –Principal Review***

A parent or student shall submit a written Level One Grievance Form to the Principal or designee within the later of (i) 15 school days from the time the event(s) causing the complaint were or should have been known, or (ii) within 15 school days following an informal conference with the Principal. The school reserves the right to require the grievant to begin the grievance process at Level Two.

The Principal or designee must meet with the complaining parent or student. Following this conference, the Principal will issue a written Level One Decision within ten days of the Principal's receipt of the complaint.

*Note: A complaint against the Superintendent shall begin at Level Four.*

***Level Two Complaint – Review by Associate Superintendent***

If the parent or student is not satisfied with the Level One Decision, or if no decision is provided, the parent or student may file a written appeal to the Associate Superintendent. The appeal must include a signed statement of the complaint, any evidence supporting the complaint, and a copy of the written complaint to the Principal and a copy of the Level One Decision, if issued. The appeal shall not include any new issues or complaints unrelated to the original complaint. The appeal must be filed within ten days of the Level One Decision or the response deadline if no decision is made.

The Associate Superintendent or designee will meet with the complaining parent or student and issue a Level Two Decision within 10 days of the written appeal.

***Level Three Complaint – Review by Superintendent of Schools***

If the parent or student is not satisfied with the Level Two Decision, or if no decision is provided, the parent or student may file a written appeal to the Superintendent. The appeal must include the documentation submitted to the Associate Superintendent or designee, and a copy of the Level Two Decision, if issued. The appeal shall not include any new issues or complaints. The appeal must be filed within ten days of the Level Two Decision or the response deadline if no decision is made.

The Superintendent or designee will meet with the complaining parent or student and issue a Level Three Decision within 10 days of the written appeal.

***Level Four – Board of Directors Review***

If the student or parent is not satisfied with the Level Three Decision, or if no decision is provided, the parent or student may submit to the Superintendent or designee a written appeal to the Board of Directors. The request must be filed within ten days of the Level Three Decision or the response deadline if no decision is made. The Superintendent or designee will inform the student or parent of the date, time, and place of the Board meeting at which the complaint will be placed on the agenda for consideration by the Board.

The Board of Directors will consider the appeal, and may allow a presentation by the parent or student and the school administration. The appeal will be limited to the issues and documents considered at Level Three, except that if the administration intends to rely on evidence not included in the grievance record, the administration shall provide the student or parent notice of the nature of the evidence at least three days before the Board meeting.

Jubilee Academies will determine whether the appeal will be presented in open or closed session in accordance with the Texas Open Meetings Act and other applicable law.

The presiding officer may set reasonable time limits and guidelines for any presentation of evidence, including an opportunity for the student or parent and administration to each make a presentation and provide rebuttal and an opportunity for questioning by the Board. The Board shall hear the complaint and may request that the administration provide an explanation for the decisions at the preceding levels.

The Board will consider the complaint. It may give notice of its decision, if any, orally or in writing before or during the next regularly scheduled Board meeting. If no decision is made by the end of the next regularly scheduled Board meeting, the decision being appealed shall be upheld. The Board may not delegate its authority to issue a decision, and any decision by the Board of Directors is final and may not be appealed.

## **Additional Complaint Procedures**

This Parent and Student Complaints and Grievances process does not apply to all complaints:

1. Complaints alleging discrimination or harassment based on race, color, gender, national origin, disability, religion, or any other characteristic protected by law shall be submitted as described in “Freedom from Discrimination, Harassment, and Retaliation,” section of this Handbook.
2. Complaints concerning retaliation related to discrimination and harassment shall be submitted as described in “Reporting Procedures,” section of this handbook.
3. Complaints concerning bullying or retaliation related to bullying shall be submitted as described in “Freedom from Bullying and Cyber-Bullying,” section of this Handbook.
4. For complaints concerning loss of credit on the basis of attendance.
5. For complaints concerning disciplinary long-term suspensions and/or expulsions.
6. Complaints concerning the identification, evaluation, or educational placement of a student with a disability within the scope of Section 504 shall be submitted as described in “Student or Parent Complaints and Concerns” above, except that the deadline for filing an initial Level One grievance shall be 30 calendar days and the procedural safeguards handbook.
7. Complaints concerning the identification, evaluation, educational placement, or discipline of a student with a disability within the scope of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act shall be submitted in accordance with applicable Board policy and the procedural safeguards provided to parents of all students referred to special education.
8. Complaints regarding the Free and Reduced Price Meal Program. In accordance with federal law and U.S. Department of Agriculture policy, the school is prohibited from discriminating on the basis of race, color, religious creed, sex, political beliefs, age, disability, national origin, or limited English proficiency. (Not all bases apply to all programs.) Reprisal is prohibited based on prior civil rights activity. If you wish to file a Civil Rights program complaint of discrimination, complete the USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form, which is available online at the following website: [http://www.ascr.usda.gov/complaint\\_filing\\_cust.html](http://www.ascr.usda.gov/complaint_filing_cust.html), or at any USDA office, or call (866) 632-9992 to request the form. You may also write a letter containing all of the information requested in the form. Send your completed complaint form or letter by mail to U.S. Department of Agriculture, Director, Office of Adjudication, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, D.C. 20250-9410, by fax (202) 690-7442 or email at [program.intake@usada.gov](mailto:program.intake@usada.gov). Individuals who are deaf, hard of hearing, or have speech disabilities may contact USDA through the Federal Relay Service at (800) 877-8339, or (800) 845-6136 (Spanish). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

## **4.5 Surveys and Activities**

Students will not be required to participate without parental consent in any survey, analysis, or evaluation – funded in whole or in part by the U.S. Department of Education – that concerns:

1. Political affiliations or beliefs of the student or the student’s parent;
2. Mental or psychological problems of the student or the student’s family;
3. Sexual behavior or attitudes;
4. Illegal, antisocial, self-incriminating or demeaning behavior;
5. Critical appraisals of individuals with whom the student has close family relationship;
6. Relationships privileged under law, such as relationships with lawyers, physicians and ministers;
7. Religious practices, affiliations, or beliefs of the student or parents; or
8. Income, except when the information is required by law and will be used to determine the student’s eligibility to participate in a special program or to receive financial assistance under such a program.



Parents will be able to inspect the survey or other instrument and any instructional materials used in connection with such a survey, analysis, or evaluation.

### **“Opting Out” of Surveys and Activities**

Parents have the right to receive notice of and deny permission for their student’s participation in:

1. Any survey concerning the private information listed above, regardless of funding;
2. School activities involving the collection, disclosure, or use of personal information gathered from their student for the purpose of marketing or selling that information;
3. A non-emergency, invasive physical examination, or screening required as a condition of attendance, administered and scheduled by the school in advance and not necessary to protect the immediate health and safety of the student (exceptions are hearing, vision, or scoliosis screenings, or any physical exam of screening permitted or required under state law.)

## **4.6 Your Involvement as a Parent**

A child’s education succeeds best when there is a strong partnership between home and school, a partnership that thrives on communication. Your involvement in this partnership may include:

1. Encouraging your student to put a high priority on education and working with your student on a daily basis to make the most of the educational opportunities the school provides. Be sure your child comes to school each day prepared, rested, in appropriate attire, and ready to learn.
2. Becoming familiar with all of your child’s school activities and with the academic programs, including special programs, offered by Jubilee Academies. Discuss with the Principal any questions you may have about the options and opportunities available to your child.
3. Monitoring your student’s academic progress and contacting teachers as needed.
4. Attending scheduled conferences and requesting additional conferences as needed. To schedule a conference or in-person conference with a teacher or Principal, please call the school office for an appointment. A teacher will usually return your call or meet with you at a mutually convenient time before or after school.
5. Becoming a school volunteer. For further information, contact the Principal. All volunteers must complete a Volunteer Application and criminal background check prior to volunteering.
6. Offering to serve as a parent representative on a planning committee to assist in the development of educational goals and plans to improve student achievement. For further information, contact
7. Attending Board meetings to learn more about Jubilee Academies’ operations.

## **SECTION 5: IMPORTANT NOTICES**

### **Annual Notice of Parent and Student Rights (Annual FERPA Confidentiality Notice)**

The Family Education Rights and Privacy Act (“FERPA”) affords parents and students over 18 years of age (“eligible students”) certain rights with respect to the student’s educational records. These rights include the following:

#### **The Right to Inspect and Review**

Parents and/or eligible students have the right to inspect and review the student’s educational records within 45 days of the day the school receives an access. Parents or eligible students should submit to the Principal or designee a written request that identifies the record(s) they wish to inspect. Jubilee Academies will make

arrangements for access and notify the parent or eligible student for the time and place where the records may be inspected.

If circumstances effectively prevent they parent or eligible student from exercising the right to inspect and review the student's educational records, Jubilee Academies shall provide the parent or eligible student with a copy of the records requested to make arrangements for the parent or eligible student to inspect and review the requested records.

If the student's educational records contain information on more than one student, the parent or eligible student may inspect and review or be informed of only the specific information about the parent's child and/or eligible student.

### **The Right to Seek Amendment of the Student's Educational Records**

Parents or eligible students may ask Jubilee Academies to amend a record that they believe is inaccurate, misleading, or in violation of the student's privacy rights. Parents or eligible students should submit to the Principal or designee a written request that clearly identifies the part of the record they want changed, and specifies why it is inaccurate, misleading, or in violation of the student's privacy rights. Jubilee Academies will decide whether to amend the record as requested within a reasonable time after receiving the request. If Jubilee Academies decides not to amend the record as requested by the parent of eligible student, the school will notify the parent of eligible student of the decision and advise them to their right to a hearing to challenge the content of the student's education records on the grounds that the information contained in the educational records is inaccurate, misleading, or in violation of the student's privacy rights.

If, as a result of the hearing, Jubilee Academies decides that the information in the educational record is not inaccurate, misleading, or in violation of the student's privacy rights, it shall inform the parent or eligible student of the right to place a statement in the record commenting on the contested information in the record or stating why he or she disagrees with the decision of Jubilee Academies. If the school places an amended statement in the student's educational records, Jubilee Academies is obligated to maintain the amended statement with the contested part of the record for as long as the record is maintained and disclose the statement whenever it discloses the portion of the record to which the statement relates.

### **The Right to Consent Prior to Disclosure**

Parents and/or eligible students have the right to consent to disclosures of personally identifiable information contained in the student's educational records, except to the extent that FERPA authorizes disclosure without consent.

One exception that permits disclosure without consent is disclosure to school officials with legitimate educational interest. A "school official" is a person employed by Jubilee Academies as an administrator, supervisor, instructor, or support staff member (including health or medical staff and law enforcement unit personnel); a person serving on the Board of Directors; a person or company with whom Jubilee Academies has outsourced services or functions it would otherwise use its own employees to perform (such as an attorney, auditor, medical consultant, or therapist); a parent or student serving on an official committee, such as a disciplinary or grievance committee; or a parent, student, or other volunteer 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 educational record in order to fulfill his or her professional responsibility.

Upon request, Jubilee Academies discloses educational records without consent to officials of another school in which a student seeks or intends to enroll or is already enrolled, so long as the disclosure is for purposes related to the student's enrollment or transfer.

### **The Right to File a Complaint**

Parents and/or eligible students have the right to file a complaint with the Family Policy Compliance Office of the U.S. Department of Education (“Office”) concerning alleged failures by Jubilee Academies to comply with the requirements of FERPA. These complaints should be addressed as follow:

Family Policy Compliance Office  
U.S. Department of Education  
400 Maryland Avenue, SW.  
Washington, D.C. 20202

### **Access to Medical Records**

Parents are entitled to access their student’s medical records.

### **Notice for Directory Information**

Under FERPA, Jubilee Academies must, with certain exceptions, obtain written consent prior to the disclosure of personally identifiable information from a student’s education records. However, Jubilee Academies may disclose appropriately designated “directory information” without written consent, unless a parent or eligible student has advised Jubilee Academies, in writing, to the contrary. The primary purpose of directory information is to allow the school to include this type of information from a student’s education records in certain school publications.

Jubilee Academies has designated the following categories of information as directory information for the purpose of disclosure relating to school-related purposes:

- Student name;
- Date and place of birth;
- Major field of study
- Degrees, honors, and awards received;
- Dates of attendance;
- Grade level;
- Most recent educational institution attended;
- Participation in officially recognized activities and sports; and
- Weight and height of members of athletic teams.

School-related purposes are those events/activities that Jubilee Academies conducts and/or sponsors to support the school’s educational mission. Examples include, but are not limited to:

- Extracurricular programs or events (school plays, concerns, athletic events, graduation ceremony, etc.).
- Publications (newsletters, yearbook, etc.).
- Honor roll and other student recognition lists.
- Marketing materials of Jubilee Academies (print media, website, videos, newspaper, etc.).

Jubilee Academies has designated the following categories of information as directory information for purposes of disclosure to military recruiters and institutions of higher education, but only for secondary students:

- Student’s name, address, and telephone number.

Jubilee Academies has designated the following categories of information as directory information for purposes of responding to requests for general student information made by law enforcement officials and authorities:

- Student's name, address, and telephone number.

Jubilee Academies shall not release directory information except for the purposes indicated above, namely, disclosure relating to school-sponsored/school-affiliated purposes; for the purposes of disclosure to military recruiters and institutions of higher education for secondary students; or for the purpose of disclosure upon request by law enforcement officials and authorities.

A PARENT OR ELIGIBLE STUDENT MAY OPT OUT OF THE RELEASE OF DIRECTORY INFORMATION FOR EITHER OR BOTH OF THESE PURPOSES BY SUBMITTING A WRITTEN OBJECTION TO THE SCHOOL OFFICE WITHIN 15 DAYS AFTER RECEIVING THIS "NOTICE OF PARENT AND STUDENT RIGHTS (ANNUAL FERPA CONFIDENTIALITY NOTICE)."

**Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act:**  
**Directory Information Opt Out Form**

Certain information about students is considered “directory information” and may be released by Jubilee Academies without written consent, unless a parent informs the school otherwise. **If you do not want Jubilee Academies to disclose directory information from your child’s education records without your prior written consent, you must notify Jubilee Academies within 15 days after your receipt of this Student/Parent Handbook. Completion of this form is optional. However, if you do not circle NO or return this form, directory information about your student may be released** in accordance with Jubilee Academies policy.

If you have more than one student enrolled, you must complete a separate for each student.

**All Students**

A parent or eligible student is allowed to object to Jubilee Academies’ release of student directory information to third parties. **Parents, guardians, or eligible students who do not check the box below, or who do not return this form, give their implied consent for release of student directory information.**

- NO!** Do not release my child’s (or an eligible student’s) directory information for the limited purposes as described in Jubilee Academies’ directory information designation, including for limited school-sponsored/school-affiliated purposes or in response to requests for general student information made by law enforcement officials and authorities. I understand that by checking “no,” my child’s (or an eligible student’s) picture and name will not be included in the school yearbook, newspapers, Jubilee Academies publications, the school website, etc. My child (or an eligible student) also will not be publicly recognized for academic or athletic achievements (e.g., honor roll), school clubs, or any organizational activities.

**Secondary Students Only: Release of Information to Military Recruiters or Institutions of Higher Education**

Federal law generally requires public schools to provide the name, address, and telephone number of a high school student upon request from a military recruiter or an institution of higher education, unless the parent has advised the school that the parent does not want the student’s information disclosed without the parent’s prior written consent.

- NO!** I do not want my child’s (or an eligible student’s) name, address, or telephone number released to a military recruiter or to an institution of higher education (colleges, trade schools, etc.).

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent/Eligible Student Name (Printed)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent/Eligible Student Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

## Use of Student Work in School Publications

Occasionally, Jubilee Academies wishes to display or publish student artwork, photos taken by the student, or other original work on the school's website, a website affiliated or sponsored by the school (such as a classroom website), and in school publications. Jubilee Academies agrees to use these student projects in this manner.

**Parents: Please circle one of the choices below:**

I, parent of \_\_\_\_\_ (student's name), **(do give)** **(do not give)** Jubilee Academies permission to use my child's artwork, photos, or other original work in the manner described above.

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

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

## **Student Acceptable Use Policy**

The purpose of this Student Acceptable Use Policy is to set forth the policies governing the use of all Jubilee Academies technology resources by students while on or near school property, in school vehicles and at school-sponsored activities on- or off-campus, as well as the use of all school technology resources via off-campus remote access.

Jubilee Academies reserves the right to modify the terms and conditions of this policy at any time.

### **Introduction**

Jubilee Academies is pleased to offer students access to school computers, communications systems, the Internet and a wide array of other technology resources to promote educational excellence and enhance the classroom experience. Technology can expand a student's access to educational materials, prepare students by providing workforce skills and college readiness, and lead to personal growth. Jubilee Academies recognizes, however, that access to technology must be given with clear guidelines, expectations, and supervision to protect students. This policy is designed to make parents, teachers and administrators partners to teach students how to be responsible users of technology.

Jubilee Academies will educate all students about appropriate online behavior, including interacting with other individuals on social networking websites and in chat rooms and cyberbullying awareness and response.

Jubilee Academies will hold ALL students responsible for their use of technology, whether school-provided or personal, and they are expected to act in an appropriate manner in accordance with campus procedures, Jubilee Academies policy and procedures, and legal requirements. This applies to the use of all Jubilee Academies technology resources by students while on or near school property, in school vehicles and at school-sponsored activities on-or off-campus, as well as the use of all Jubilee Academies technology resources via off-campus remote access.

This policy shall be used in conjunction with the Student Code of Conduct.

### **Using the Internet and Communications Systems**

Jubilee Academies provides technology resources to students for the express purposes of conducting research, completing assignments, and communicating to the faculty, staff, and others to complement their educational experience. Just as students must demonstrate proper behavior in a classroom or school hallway, they must also behave appropriately when using any Jubilee Academies computer networks, personal electronic devices, personal device data plans, software or websites sanctioned or used by Jubilee Academies, and any personal technology used in an educational setting. Access to Jubilee Academies' technology is a privilege, not a right. Students must comply with all Jubilee Academies standards set forth in this policy at all times in order to maintain the privilege of using its technology resources.

Students and their parents are advised that any information stored on and/or sent through Jubilee Academies' technology resources is the property of Jubilee Academies. Accordingly, in connection with ensuring student safety, Jubilee Academies network administrators and/or other appropriate personnel will engage in periodic reviews and searches of stored files and communications stored on Jubilee Academies technology resources to maintain system integrity and ensure that students are complying with this policy and using technology in a responsible and appropriate manner. Such reviews will include students' use of Jubilee Academies -approved educational websites or software to ensure that they are using it in an appropriate manner consistent with Jubilee Academies' expectations for such use. Students do not have a reasonable expectation of privacy over any information stored on Jubilee Academies technology.

Jubilee Academies may allow students to bring personal technology devices (i.e., tablets, e-readers, smartphones) for use during the school day for authorized curricular purposes. Students that use personal technology devices will be required to comply with all aspects of the Student Acceptable Use Policy and/or Student Code of Conduct in the use of such devices at school. A student's personal technology device may be subject to search by campus administrators in connection with determining if a student has committed a violation of this policy and/or the Student Code of Conduct.

Jubilee Academies remains committed to integrating technology to enhance its curriculum for students, which it believes increases students' educational experience for them and allows for better preparation for job skills and college success. Access to the Internet enables students to use extensive online libraries, databases and websites selected by Jubilee Academies for use in instruction.

Although Jubilee Academies strives to ensure that any Internet access avoids any inappropriate material, students and their families should be aware that some material accessible on the Internet may contain information that is inaccurate, profane, sexually oriented, defamatory and potentially offensive to some. Jubilee Academies does not condone any student accessing, or attempting to access, such material, and it remains deeply committed to safe Internet use. Jubilee Academies takes steps to minimize students' opportunities to do so, including the implementation of extensive content-filtering software. This software is not fail-safe, however, and while at school Jubilee Academies strives to ensure that students' Internet use is supervised, it is possible that the software may miss some content, or students may find a way around the software to access inappropriate material. For this reason, this policy is strictly enforced, and students who misuse any Jubilee Academies technology outside its intended purpose, including the use of Jubilee Academies-recommended websites for purposes outside the educational intent, will be in violation of this policy, which may lead to disciplinary consequences for the student.

With this in mind, Jubilee Academies still believes that the benefits of allowing student access to the Internet to enhance the educational experience outweighs any potential harm to students.

### **Proper and Acceptable Use of All Technology Resources**

Jubilee Academies requires students to use all technology resources, including any websites or software used in the classroom, in a manner consistent with the following rules. Jubilee Academies will hold students responsible for any intentional misuse of its technology resources, or any other failure to comply with the rules in this policy. When using Jubilee Academies technology systems outside the school, parents should strive to ensure that students do so in compliance with the rules set forth in this policy, as Jubilee Academies is unable to supervise students' technology use at home. Jubilee Academies' content-filtering software will not work in a student's home, so parents are encouraged to place content-filtering software on their home computers or take any other steps necessary to monitor students' Internet usage at home.

Students who unintentionally access inappropriate material in connection with their use of any Jubilee Academies technology, including websites and software used in the classroom, shall immediately stop accessing the material and report it to a supervising adult. Jubilee Academies shall take immediate steps to ensure such material is blocked from further view at school by its content-filtering software.

All Jubilee Academies technology resources, including but not limited to Jubilee Academies computers, communications systems and the Internet, including any websites or software used in the classroom, must be used in support of education and academic research and in accordance with the rules set forth in this policy.

Activities that are permitted and encouraged include the following:



- School work and assignments;
- Original creation and presentation of academic work;
- Research on topics being discussed in classes at school;
- Research for opportunities outside of school related to community service, employment or further education;
- Reporting inappropriate content or harassing conduct to an adult.

Activities that are barred and subject to potential disciplinary action and loss of privileges, whether on an Jubilee Academies-provided or personal electronic device, include the following:

- Attempting unauthorized access, or “hacking,” of Jubilee Academies computers or networks, or any attempts to bypass Internet content-filtering software used by Jubilee Academies.
- Engaging in abusive, harassing, insulting, ostracizing, intimidating, or any other online conduct which could be considered bullying and/or damaging to another’s reputation while using any Jubilee Academies technology resource, to include the use of any website or software used by Jubilee Academies.
- Engaging in any conduct that damages or modifies, or is intended to damage or modify, any Jubilee Academies equipment, network, stored computer file, or software, to include any conduct that results in a person’s time to take any corrective action.
- Intentional or neglectful transmission or direct placement of computer viruses or other unauthorized programs onto Jubilee Academies equipment, networks, stored computer files, or software;
- Participating in online chat rooms or using instant and/or text messaging without prior approval by a classroom teacher, coach or administrator.
- Presenting any copyrighted, registered, or trademarked work as that of the student.
- Refusing to submit to a search of a personal electronic device in accordance with the Student Acceptable Use policy and Student Code of Conduct.
- Searching, viewing, communicating, publishing, downloading, storing, or retrieving any inappropriate or offensive material, including but not limited to obscene, profane, vulgar, or pornographic materials, or any material that is not related to the permitted activities set forth above.
- Sharing online any personal information of another student or staff member, including name, home address, or phone number.
- Using a website or software program implemented by Jubilee Academies in a manner outside the scope of the use specified by the classroom teacher, coach or administrator.
- Using any Jubilee Academies technology for games, role-playing multi-user environments, gambling, junk mail, chain mail, jokes or fundraising activities without prior approval by a classroom teacher or administrator.
- Using any Jubilee Academies technology resource to engage in any activity that violates any Board Policy, the Student Code of Conduct, campus rule, local, state, and/or federal law.
- Using any Jubilee Academies technology resource to take, disseminate, transfer, or share obscene, sexually oriented, lewd, or otherwise illegal images or other content.
- Using any Jubilee Academies technology resources for any commercial and/or for-profit purpose, to include personal financial gain or fraud.
- Using Jubilee Academies or personal technology during the administration of state standardized testing, end-of-course, and/or final examinations unless expressly allowed to do so by a teacher.
- Using obscene or profane language on any Jubilee Academies technology resource, to include posting such language on any website or software used by Jubilee Academies.
- Using technology for plagiarism or otherwise representing the work of others as the student’s own.
- Using USB, bootable CD’s, or other devices to alter the function of any Jubilee Academies technology equipment, network or software.

Students shall immediately report any violations of this policy to a classroom teacher or administrator. If any student or parent has any question about whether any activity may be a violation of this policy, they should ask a classroom teacher or the Principal.

### **Privacy and Security**

Students are expected to use Jubilee Academies technology resources responsibly and in a safe and secure manner, regardless of whether such technology is accessed using an Jubilee Academies-issued or personal electronic device. Students shall not share their individual logins, passwords, or access to Jubilee Academies technology with others without the prior approval of a classroom teacher or administrator. Students shall sign off or log off all Jubilee Academies equipment, software, or Internet sites once they are done with their session in order to protect the integrity of their logins, passwords, or access.

### **Limitations of Liability**

Jubilee Academies makes no warranties of any kind, whether express or implied, for the technology resources it provides to students through Jubilee Academies provided and/or a student's personal electronic device. Jubilee Academies is not responsible for any damages that a student may sustain, including those arising from non-delivery of information, erroneous delivery of information, service interruptions, unauthorized use by a student, loss of data, and any potential exposure to inappropriate material from the Internet. Use of any information obtained through the Internet is at the student's own risk, as Jubilee Academies makes no representations, and denies responsibility for, the accuracy or quality of the information. In exchange for being allowed to use Jubilee Academies technology resources, students and their parents hereby release Jubilee Academies, its directors, employees, and representatives from any and all claims for damages that arise from the intentional or neglectful misuse of Jubilee Academies' technology resources by the student.

### **Consequences**

Violation of Jubilee Academies policies and procedures concerning use of the computer on the network will result in the same disciplinary actions that would result from similar violations in other areas of school policy, including the Student Code of Conduct. Any or all of the following consequences may be enforced if a student violates the terms of this policy:

- Loss of computer privileges/Internet access, with length of time to be determined by campus administration.
- Any disciplinary consequence, including suspension or expulsion, as deemed appropriate by the administration.
- Suspension may be considered for flagrant violations or violations that corrupt the educational value of the computers or the Internet.
- Expulsion may be considered in instances where students have used the school's Internet access to engage in conduct that constitutes felony criminal mischief, and/or have deliberately attempted to bypass installed security software or copy/modify another student's work files.

Violations of law may also result in criminal prosecution as well as disciplinary action by Jubilee Academies.

**Acceptable Use Agreement Acknowledgment Form**

I have read and agree to abide by the Jubilee Academies Student Acceptable Use Policy. I further understand that any violation of this policy may constitute a criminal offense. Should I commit any violation, my Internet and computer access privileges may be revoked, and disciplinary action and/or appropriate legal action may be taken.

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

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

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

(If you are under the age of 18 a parent or guardian must also read and sign this agreement.)

As the parent or guardian of this student, I have read the Jubilee Academies Student Acceptable Use Agreement. I understand that this access is designed for educational purposes. Jubilee Academies has taken precautions to eliminate controversial material. However, I also recognize it is impossible for Jubilee Academies to restrict access to all controversial materials and I will not hold Jubilee Academies responsible for materials transmitted on the network. Further, I accept full responsibility for supervision if and when my child's use is not in a school setting. I hereby give permission to issue an account for my child and certify that the information contained on this form is correct.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent/Guardian

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

## Electronic Communication Device Commitment Form

Electronic communications at school and at school-related functions are subject to regulation by Jubilee Academies.

This Electronic Communication Device Commitment Form grants authority and permission to Jubilee Academies to regulate electronic communication devices when these devices are brought to and/or used while on school property or when attending school related functions and events. Such communication devices include but are not limited to cellular phones, pagers, PDAs, and pocket computers. These regulations are made necessary in light of the unique opportunities these devices create for violations of law and school policies, and to perpetrate conduct disruptive of an educational environment essential to the school's educational program. These concerns are exacerbated by electronic security protections and the personal size of these devices, which are often carried concealed in pockets and purses.

Therefore, all students who would possess or use such devices on school property or at school-related activities are required to sign this form together with their parent, guardian or other adult person having the authority of a parent for school purposes.

Each of you, by your signature below, agrees to the following:

- The possession and use of cellular phones, pagers, PDAs and other electronic communication devices by a student on school property or at school-related events is subject to regulation by Jubilee Academies.
- If a student possesses such devices on school property or while attending school-related events, Jubilee Academies is authorized and has my full consent to confiscate, power on or off, manipulate and do all things necessary to search my device and recover or intercept communications (including but not limited to text messaging) when reasonable suspicion exists that such device has been used to transmit or receive communications in violation of law, the Student Code of Conduct, school policy or regulation.
- I further understand, agree and consent that an electronic communication device used or possessed in violation of law, the Student Code of Conduct, school policy or regulation is subject to confiscation and that Jubilee Academies is not liable for any loss of or damage to confiscated devices.

### SIGNATURE LINES AND DATES

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Signature of student)

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

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Printed name of student)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Signature of parent/guardian)

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

## Food Allergy Notification Form

Dear Parents,

Jubilee Academies is required by law to request, at the time of enrollment, that the parent or guardian of each student attending Jubilee Academies disclose the student's food allergies. This form will satisfy this requirement.

This form allows you to disclose whether your child has a food allergy or severe food allergy that you believe should be disclosed in order for Jubilee Academies to take necessary precautions for your child's safety.

"Severe food allergy" means a dangerous or life-threatening reaction of the human body to a food-borne allergen introduced by inhalation, ingestion, or skin contact that requires immediate medical attention.

Please list any foods to which your child is allergic or severely allergic, as well as the nature of your child's allergic reaction to the food. Jubilee Academies will contact you for a note from your physician if your child has food allergies. **Your child must have an EpiPen prescribed to help in the event of an emergency.**

Food:	Nature of allergic reaction to the food:

Jubilee Academies will maintain the confidentiality of this form and the information provided above, and may disclose the information to teachers, school counselors, school nurses, and other appropriate school personnel only within the limitations of the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act ("FERPA") and Board policy. **Jubilee Academies will maintain this form as part of your child's student record.**

Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_

Grade: \_\_\_\_\_ Parent Work Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

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

Date form received by Jubilee Academies: \_\_\_\_\_

**Acknowledgement and Approval of Parent – Student Handbook  
and Code of Conduct**

My signature below acknowledges that Jubilee Academies has made its Parent–Student Handbook and Code of Conduct available to me; that I have been given notice of the rules, responsibilities and consequences outlined in the Student Code of Conduct; that I have been informed that when I or my child is enrolled in Jubilee Academies, all information herein is applicable to me, my child, and all school staff; and that I have expressed intent to review this Handbook and the Student Code of Conduct contained within and to abide thereby.

Printed Name of Student: \_\_\_\_\_

Grade: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Student: \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

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