

WEST MIDDLE SCHOOL

Home of the Dawgs
www.nsd131.org/schools/wms
28 S Midland Blvd
208-468-4750 (main)
208-468-2809 (fax)
208-468-4751 (attendance)

Principal — Stefanie Duby
Vice Principal – Andrew Hellwege
Intervention Program Specialist — Bruce Pagano
Athletic Director — Jeff Miller



SOUTH MIDDLE SCHOOL

Home of the Hawks
www.nsd131.org/schools/sms
229 W Greenhurst Rd
208-468-4740 (main)
208-468-2826 (fax)
208-468-4741 (attendance)

Principal — Stuart Vickers
Vice Principal – John Emerson
Dean of Students — Rommie Lewis
Athletic Director — Rommie Lewis



EAST VALLEY MIDDLE SCHOOL

Home of the Bobcats
www.nsd131.org/schools/ems
4085 W Greenhurst Rd
208-468-4760 (main)
208-468-4761 (attendance)
208-468-4762 (fax)

Principal — Matt Crist
Vice Principal – Dave Hagen
Dean of Students — Anne Crimbchin
Athletic Director — Cass Herbst



LONE STAR MIDDLE SCHOOL

Home of the Longhorns
www.nsd131.org/schools/lms
11055 Lone Star Rd
208-468-4745 (main)
208-468-4746 (attendance)
208-468-2828 (fax)

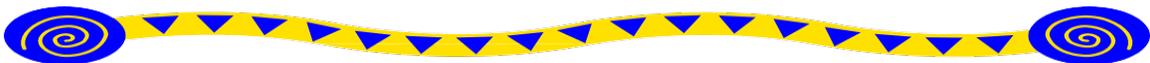
Principal — Greg Heideman
Vice Principal – Jason Gallon
Dean of Students — Jessica Stone
Athletic Director — Cody Rich



Handbook 2017-2018

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Dear Students and Parents,

Middle school is an important time in the lives of young adolescents as they are making critical and complex life choices and are forming attitudes, values, and habits that will guide them on their path to graduation.

This serves as our school's handbook for students and parents. It provides valuable information including:

- Reaching high standards for learning
- Reaching high standards for behavior
- Accessing campus
- Eating at school
- Getting involved in activities & athletics

Many of the provisions in this handbook are required to be shared with you under state or federal regulations. Unfortunately, the sheer volume and character of some of the provisions may give the impression of an overly formal school system rather than a friendly, personal one.

Therefore, our school board, district administration, and school staff, in sharing this handbook, would like you to understand that we seek to cultivate an active partnership with you. The information contained in this handbook is intended to enrich this partnership through helping create understanding of expectations for student conduct. What is more important than these written provisions, however, is maintaining open communication with you on issues affecting the progress and growth of students.

ESSENTIAL ITEMS

At the start of school, our school provides you these essential items for free – this student **handbook**, a **School Folder/Agenda Book** and your **Associated Student Body (ASB) ID card**.

Why your **School Folder/Agenda Book** is important:

- **It's a planner.** You'll keep track of classes and assignments.
- **It is an organizer** with important strategies to be successful in school.
- **It is a hall pass.**

Why your **handbook** is important:

- **It sets the stage for how to be successful in school.** Read it over to understand what is expected of students and what happens when those expectations are not met.

Why your **ASB card** is important:

- **It is your library card.** You'll need it to check out materials or use computers.
- **It is your ID card.** To help keep our campuses safe, we ask all our students and staff to carry official ID.
- **It is your meal ticket.** To use it, you'll need to prepay for lunch in the cafeteria or at www.mynutrikids.com.
- **It is your ticket to activities.** The card allows you to attend most middle school sporting events for free. Cost for other events, like dances, may be reduced if you have a card.

Note: We provide your first ASB Card for FREE! If you lose it, you'll need to buy a replacement at the office.



Reaching high standards for learning

In the Nampa School District, we have set specific standards and objectives in key content areas including:

- English Language Arts (ELA)
- Mathematics
- Social Studies
- Science
- Humanities

Promotion Policy

Progressing to the next grade level is earned through academic achievement. All middle school students must meet the following criteria to advance to the next grade level.

- Enroll in 28 quarter classes per year
- Pass 22 of 28 quarter classes per school year.
- Not fail the same class four consecutive quarters. Failing is receiving a letter grade of F in a class.

Students who do not meet the above criteria may be promoted through an alternate method under the direction of a school promotion team.

The promotion team will monitor student progress. Students who struggle will be referred to the promotion team to create a plan using the alternate route criteria that apply to the students' needs. Parents may be asked to attend planning meetings and the student plan will be shared with parents.

These alternative route criteria may include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Meet goals established in Special Education Individualized Education Plan
- Meet goals established in English Language Learner Plan
- Miss no more than four classes per quarter
- Earn grade-level team recommendation
- Finish school year with a 2.0 grade point average or higher
- Pass end-of-course exams
- Demonstrate growth on ISAT SB
- Participate in academic assistance such as:
 - Response to Intervention programs
 - Intervention classes i.e. Math Strategies
 - Online classes such as Plato or Idaho Digital Learning Academy
- Participate in programs beyond the regular school day or school year such as:
 - Before or after school programs
 - Supplemental Educational Service (SES)
 - Summer school

MONITORING STUDENT ACADEMIC PROGRESS

Our school provides 24/7 online access to student grades, assignments, and other information through a web-based program called **PowerSchool**. Please refer to the district website, nsd131.org, to sign up for this FREE service. If you do not have access to the internet, we provide computers at our school for parents to use.

Citizenship Grades

Grades will be reported in every class for academics and behavior. Citizenship grades will reflect how a student performs in his/her classes with taking initiative, demonstrating accountability, and having positive interactions with staff and students.

These grades will be reported in a number system and will be visible on the PowerSchool screen for each class below the student's academic grade.

- 4 – Exceeds expectations
- 3 – Consistently meets standard
- 2 – Occasionally meets standard
- 1 – Rarely meets standard

Student-led Conferences – Our school hosts a conference session in the fall for students, parents and teachers to meet face to face and talk about progress.

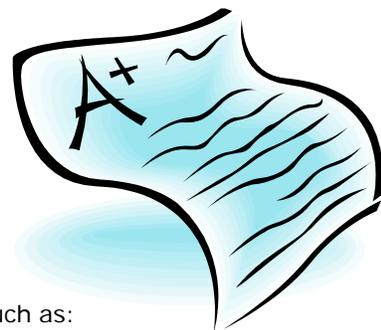
Report Cards – Our school will report grades via PowerSchool.

Grade Point Average (GPA) – The total number of points divided by the number of counted class's equals the GPA. The point system is as follows:

A = 4.0 B = 3.0 C = 2.0 D = 1.0 F = 0

Honor Roll – Honor Roll students achieve a GPA of 3.5 to 3.74. High Honor Roll students achieve a GPA of 3.75 to 4.0.

Testing – Our teachers use a variety of assessments including quizzes, tests, projects, portfolios and homework to ensure students are reaching academic goals. In addition, the state requires all students in 6th through 8th grades take the ISAT SB during the spring. More information will follow from the school regarding testing.



Reaching high standards for behavior

Our goal is to provide an environment for students and their teachers that is safe and drug-free and fosters learning. Most middle school students are well behaved and respectful of each other and their teachers.

We ask students to behave in a manner that will be a credit to our school. Our students:

- Arrive to school and class on time, prepared and ready to learn.
- Are courteous during passing times and interactions with other students and staff.
- Resolve differences agreeably and with positive intentions.
- Seek help from staff in difficult situations.
- Dress appropriately for a positive and safe learning environment.
- Follow directions from all staff.
- Treat our campus and school property with respect.

Our students are expected to maintain the same high standards of behavior at school-sponsored activities either on or away from the school premises. Students are expected to obey their school officials, protect property, maintain order and decorum, and conduct themselves in such a manner as to reflect credit upon themselves and their school.

Because we are dedicated to maintaining this learning environment, we establish specific policies to address when standards are not met including:

- Attendance
- Disruptive & violent behaviors
- Possession of weapons
- Possession of alcohol, tobacco & other drugs
- Discrimination
- Bullying/Sexual Harassment
- Discipline
- Dress code
- Cheating



The next sections outline some of what is not allowed and the consequences.

Please know that because a specific behavior is not mentioned does not mean it is acceptable.

Attendance Policy

All children of compulsory attendance age (7 to 16) are required to attend school. Attendance and punctuality are important elements of the educational process for all students. Therefore, all enrolled K-12 students are expected to be in school 100% of the time classes are in session, unless they are participating in school related activities or otherwise excused by school board policy or Idaho state law.

Absences

Students who are absent from school must have their parents contact the school regarding the absence. They should either bring a note signed by the parent/guardian or have the parent/guardian call the school with the following:

- The date(s) of the absence(s)
- The reason for the absence(s)

Attendance Policy (continued)

Excused absence

Absences for the following reasons shall be considered excused:

1. Student participation in school sponsored activities, i.e. field trips, athletic contests as members of a school sponsored team, or other school related activities when attendance is required.
2. Absences will be excused based on the following as confirmed by a parent/guardian:
 - a. Personal illness of the student. However, after extended illness, parent contact will be necessary and the student will be authorized for continuing attendance only when a written medical excuse from a physician is submitted. Health problems may interfere with a student's ability to comply with the attendance policy. When excess absences (5 or more) are due to conditions documented by a health professional, the student will have the opportunity to earn credit through cooperation with the instructor or homebound tutor.
 - b. Medical, dental, or legal appointments when such appointments cannot be scheduled outside of school hours.
 - c. Death in the family.
 - d. Observation of a religious holiday.
 - e. Emergency conditions in the student's home, which require special help from the student. However, regular use of this excuse or request for absence for an extended period of time (5 or more days) should be referred for evaluation and administrative approval.
 - f. Other approved pre-arranged absences. School administration will use professional judgment in making a determination, based on the written request for the pre-arranged absence. 48 hours notice is required. Factors such as the educational value of the proposed experience and the impact of the absence on the student's educational progress shall be given consideration in determining whether a pre-arranged absence shall be approved or disapproved. Students should avoid pre-arranged absences during tests or semester examinations (ISAT SB, etc.)

Work missed during absences is expected to be completed. The student and teacher will work together to review missing instruction and complete missed work within a reasonable timeframe.

Unexcused Absences

Absences shall be considered unexcused if they do not meet the excused absence guideline. A student whose absence is not excused may be cited for truancy and shall be subject to the truancy process as defined by administrative regulation.

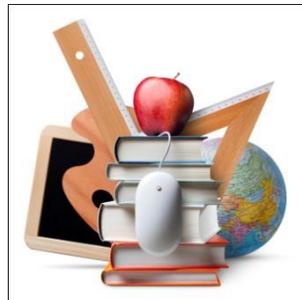
Tardies

Punctuality is a classroom issue. Teachers are responsible for controlling tardiness through the first, second, and third tardy. The fourth tardy becomes a truancy and will follow the Truancy Policy. (It is our belief that students are capable of meeting teacher expectations.) Students in the hallways without a pass or who are on campus without a note/admit slip are subject to citation for truancy.

Truancy Policy

Truancy is defined as: being in any location other than where you are supposed to be. For example, a student who is on campus, but not in the appropriate classroom or location will be considered truant.

Appropriate consequences will be at the discretion of administration. Consequences may include detention, suspension, referral to truancy board, and expulsion.



Attendance Policy (continued)

Absences by Classes Missed Per Semester	Consequences	Interventions
3 or more	Teacher (Advisory) Contact <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Other two-way communication methods should be attempted if phone contact is not available If all methods of communication are exhausted, refer to Administration for follow-up 3-day Autodialer contact made via Parentlink	Opportunity to regain lost time Before/after school or lunch detention, building determined
5 or more	Personal Contact between Parents/Guardian and School Admin/Designee 1 st Attendance Letter sent via regular mail <ul style="list-style-type: none"> States possible future consequences including credit implications associated with Middle School Promotion Plan Notify School Resource Officer of attendance issues 5-Day Autodialer sent via Parentlink	Attendance Contract/meeting (as determined by Deans & Admin) School counselor & social worker informed from this point forward Team/PRTI discussions Mandatory attendance make-up as determined at building level. Example: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lunch and/or after-school, etc. Saturday School
7 or more	SRO/Admin Designee visits home to issue failure to supervise notice 2 nd Attendance Letter sent via certified mail or hand-delivered by SRO/Admin Designee <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Legal ramifications Potential credit implications/retention (see Middle School Promotion Plan) Potential retention Notice of intent to suspend driving privileges delivered at same time.	Parent must come in to excuse absences <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Medical or legal documentation required for absences to be excused.
9 or more	SRO/Admin Designee visits home. They may choose at this time to issue failure to supervise citation, resulting in parents appearing in court (once a citation is issued, this step is covered for a 12-month period) 3 rd Attendance Letter hand-delivered by SRO/Admin <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Potential credit loss, Credit Recovery System explained Potential credit implications/retention (see Middle School Promotion Plan) Notice of suspension of driving privileges 	Parent must come in to excuse absences <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Medical or legal documentation required for absences to be excused
12 or more	Nampa Police Department may cite parent/guardian for failure to supervise, per IC 33-206	Designated as habitual truant by board/supt designee

Counted absences for days missed are: U (Unverified), P (Parental Excused), E (Excused), C (Truant), A (Absence)

- Consequences for absences may be determined on a case-by-case basis (i.e., illness, death in family, etc.)
- Tardies will remain building specific in terms of consequences and policy
- Continual Violator Clause:** If a student has consistently violated the policy for three or more semesters in their middle school career, school administration has the discretion to proceed to the final step of recommendation to the school board as Habitual Truant.

Possession of weapons

Weapons are described as any object which can be used to cause either temporary or permanent harm to a person or property. Students are forbidden to knowingly or voluntarily possess, handle, transmit, or use any instrument that can be used as a weapon of any kind. Any object which could be used to injure another person and which has no school-related purpose for being in school or on school grounds will be considered a weapon for purposes of this policy.

Our school and district has a "zero tolerance" policy for students who possess, use or store weapons, or other objects/substances which may be used as weapons or are capable of being used as weapons on school grounds, at school sponsored activities or in any school vehicles. Any violation of this policy rules and/or regulations to administer this policy may result in expulsion from school for a period of not less than one (1) year.

Our district will not permit, prior to the end of one (1) expulsion period, any student who has been expelled from another district for violating the federal Gun Free Schools Act of 1994. Should any student wish to challenge that decision, he/she will be entitled to a hearing before the appropriate administrator with the right to appeal the decision to the Nampa School District Board of Trustees.

Federal and state law defines weapons as:

- A firearm of any nature or kind, including but not limited to gun, air-soft gun, pistol, revolver, rifle, shotgun, machine gun, or any other form of artillery.
- A starter gun, which will or is designed to or may readily, be converted to expel a projectile by the action of an explosive.
- The frame or receiver of any weapon.
- Any firearm muffler or firearm silencer;
- Any destructive device, which includes any explosive, incendiary, or poison gas bomb, grenade, rocket having a propellant charge of more than four (4) ounces, missile having an explosive or incendiary charge of more than one-quarter (1/4) ounce, mine, or device similar to any device herein described;
- Any type of a weapon which will or may be readily converted to expel a projectile by the action of any explosive or other propellant, and which has any barrel with a bore of more than one-half (1/2) inch in diameter.
- Any combination of parts either designed or intended for use in converting any device into a destructive device and from which a destructive device may be readily assembled.

In addition, the Nampa School District further defines weapons as any item that can be construed as a weapon, such as: mace or pepper spray or any similar product, water and toy guns that resemble the real thing, Ninja stars, brass knuckles, screw drivers, ball bats, slingshots, bludgeons, knives, or pocketknives. Any student, who violates this section of the policy, may be subject to suspension or expulsion.

Drug-Free Policy

The Nampa School District recognizes that students need to be healthy in order to learn. It is further recognized that the District is responsible to make the teaching and learning environment conducive to the achievement of educational excellence. Student assistance and support services are provided to students in need. District personnel will refer families and students at the parents' expense to appropriate treatment agencies. If either the parent or the student does not wish to cooperate with the recommendations of the school, the student's status in school will be re-evaluated. The Nampa School District recognizes the responsibility to protect the right of all students to a quality education in a chemically free environment. Therefore, any student violating the Nampa School District Drug-Free Schools Board Policy will be subject to the district's established procedures. Documentation of referrals, interventions and infractions related to the Drug-Free Schools Board Policy 10014 shall be recorded in the student's cumulative and/or discipline file when appropriate. Policy violations will be cumulative at each level, but will move from elementary to secondary only at the specific recommendation of the administration. Nampa School District follows Idaho Code 33-205 and Idaho Code 33-210 when dealing with drug and alcohol issues.

ASSISTANCE FOR STUDENTS

The district recognizes that student involvement with drugs, alcohol, or tobacco causes problems in their daily lives. We support prevention, early intervention, disciplinary action and appropriate referral.

Self-referral - Students who are concerned about their involvement with tobacco, alcohol or other drugs are encouraged to ask a staff member for assistance. This staff member will help the student contact the appropriate resources, which may include the Student Assistance program in the building. Initial self-referral will be treated without disciplinary action, provided that the student is not under the influence or in the possession of an illegal/controlled substance at the time help is requested. If so, this will be considered a first offense.

Referral by others - Individuals (staff, students, parents or community members) who are concerned about a student should contact the building administrator or his/her designee, and appropriate interventions will be developed.

Intervention - In the event that a voluntary written assessment recommends treatment, a contract may be developed by the building administrator or his/her designee, the student, and the student's parents, to address appropriate student support. The contract may specify consequences to be taken if the provisions are violated.

Possession of alcohol, tobacco, or other drugs

All school property is designated as a Drug-Free Zone. State law prohibits students from possessing, using, distributing, or being under the influence of illegal or controlled substance including, but not limited to, amphetamines, barbiturates, marijuana, narcotics, tobacco, hallucinogenic drugs, vapor, vapes, e-cigarettes, inhalants, alcohol, or intoxicants of any kind while at school. This includes while attending a school activity or event, and/or while being transported in a contracted or school vehicle of any kind or at any location, public or private, where Nampa students are attending as representatives of the Nampa School District or a school in the Nampa School District.

Violations

Violations of school policy and state law may lead to disciplinary and/or criminal action.

Once a student is reasonably suspected of being in violation of the law and this policy regarding controlled substances, regardless of any previous voluntary disclosure, the administration will immediately notify local law enforcement and seek a law enforcement evaluation of the student. The evaluation may seek transfer of school custodial responsibility to the State Department of Juvenile Corrections.

Any student exhibiting inappropriate behavior that suggests using or being under the influence of controlled substances will be immediately escorted for interviewing and observation. The student will not be left unattended and will not be allowed to leave the school premises.

The administration will refer the student to the Nampa Police Department based on reasonable suspicion according to law that the student is using or is under the influence of a controlled substance. Full cooperation will be given to any law enforcement investigation of a violation of this policy, including but not limited to providing access to lockers, desks, and other school property, and providing oral and/or written statements regarding relevant events.

The administrator and/or any other employee having observed the student's behavior will document his/her observations of the student. The documentation will be provided to the appropriate law enforcement agency, and a copy will be placed in the student's discipline record.

Reasonable Suspicion

"Reasonable suspicion means an act of judgment by a school employee or independent contractor of an educational institution which leads to a reasonable and prudent belief that a student is in violation of school board or charter school governing board policy regarding alcohol or controlled substance use or the "use" or "under the influence" provisions of section 37-2732C, Idaho Code. Said judgment shall be based on training in recognizing signs and symptoms of alcohol and controlled substance use.



Equal Education, Nondiscrimination and Sex Equity

Equal educational opportunities shall be available for all students without regard to race, color, national origin, ancestry, sex, ethnicity, language barrier, religious beliefs, physical and mental handicap or disability, economic or social conditions, or actual or potential marital or parental status or status as a homeless child. Any student may file a discrimination grievance using the procedure that follows this policy.

No student shall, on the basis of sex, be denied equal access to programs, activities, services, or benefits or be limited in the exercise of any right, privilege, advantage, or denied equal access to educational and extracurricular programs and activities.

No student shall, on the basis of sex, be treated differently during disciplinary actions of a common incident.

Inquiries regarding discrimination or intimidation should be directed to the District Title IX Coordinator. The District Title IX Coordinator can be reached by phone (208) 468- 4631, email; Shelley Bonds, Executive Director for Elementary Education sbonds@nsd131.org, Scott Parker, Executive Director for Secondary Education sparker@nsd131.org. An individual with a complaint alleging a violation of this policy shall follow the Uniform Grievance Procedure.

In compliance with federal regulations, the District will notify annually all students, parents, staff, and community members of this policy and the designated coordinator to receive inquiries. Notification should include the name, location and contact information of the Title IX coordinator and will be carried in all handbooks.

The District will not tolerate hostile or abusive treatment, derogatory remarks, or acts of violence because of disability against students, staff or volunteers with disabilities. The District considers this behavior to constitute discrimination on the basis of disability in violation of state and federal law.

Dress Code

Our students strive to dress for success in a manner appropriate for the school setting. To ensure we maintain an environment that is safe and conducive to learning students are expected to wear appropriate clothing. Students will not be allowed to wear clothing that is disruptive to the educational process or a hazard to themselves or others.

Upper Body:

- Shirts, dresses and tops must cover all undergarments and not disrupt the educational environment.
- Brief garments (halter-tops, bare midriffs, tube tops, spaghetti tops, plunging necklines, etc.) are not allowed.
- Garments exposing cleavage are not school appropriate.

Lower Body:

- Pants, skirts, shorts, capris, dresses are school appropriate.
- No item may be shorter than 3 inches above the knee.
- All items must be size appropriate (no sagging/baggy pants).
- Belts are to be through the belt loops and not hanging.
- Pajama pants are not school appropriate.
- Bottoms exposing undergarments or skin are not school appropriate.
- No rips or holes higher than 3 inches above the knee that expose skin



Other requirements:

- Clothing advertising or promoting drugs, alcohol, tobacco, violent acts, lewd or sexual themes or are demeaning or degrading or offend general moral principles are not allowed.
- No hoods may be worn in school buildings.
- All clothing must fit properly... not too baggy, not too tight.
- Cheerleaders may wear cheer shirts and warm up bottoms on game days only.
- No jewelry containing gang related letters or numbers.
- No attire connected to hate or gang groups such as hats, bandana, rags, colors, shirts, sags, chains, etc. is allowed. No number 13, 14, 18, or any numbers that add to those numbers may be worn. Additional items as identified by police personnel.
- Clothing or accessories including collars, bracelets, piercings and boots that include but are not limited to spikes, hoops or other dangerous items are not allowed.
- Spikes, nails, chains and safety pins on clothing are unsafe at school.
- Sunglasses, hats, caps, bandanas, visors, beanies or head attire is not to be worn in the building.
- Shoes with wheels and slippers are not school appropriate.
- Body art including writing and drawings with ink on skin are not allowed.
- Any other attire deemed to be a disruption of the educational process or detrimental to the health and safety of students is not to be worn.

Nampa Middle Schools Electronic Devices Policy:

Students will use electronic communication or data devices only in a manner consistent with instructional and testing activities in the classroom. These devices include, but are not limited to, handheld calculators, PDAs, cell phones, music playing devices, cameras, and laptop computers. Use of these devices must not violate any district policy or cause classroom disruption nor may they be used in the access, creation, or possession of inappropriate materials (i.e. pornography). Electronic devices may only be used in the classroom for educational purposes and at the discretion of the teacher. Students who bring any electronic device do so at their own risk – Nampa School District and its schools assume no liability for damage, theft, etc. Videotaping or taking pictures is prohibited on campus unless approved by building administration. If the policies are violated, administrators will determine consequences based on the severity of the incident. Additionally, on the first offense the device may be confiscated until a parent picks it up.

Exceptions to this policy may be made only with administrative approval.

Students may also face other disciplinary actions for inappropriate behaviors done with electronic devices while on school grounds, such as cheating, bullying, gang activities, sexting, etc.

Cheating

Students are expected to act with integrity and submit original work and use their own knowledge and skills when tested. Below is description of that behavior and the consequences:

Plagiarism is when a person takes credit for another's work be it from printed material (ex: Internet, books, newspaper, encyclopedias, or periodicals) or from a peer without proper documentation. The following are some examples of instances of plagiarism:

- Copying from another student's test/work
- Obtaining by any means another person's work and submitting it as one's own work.
- Failing to give proper credit to sources used in papers and projects.

Academic Dishonesty is when a student fraudulently gains access to knowledge for the purpose of assignments, etc. The following should be used as a guide to help students understand academic dishonesty:

- Seeking aid from another student
- Providing aid to another student
- Preparing any academic work with another student, unless permitted by an educator.
- Possessing or using material or notes not authorized by an educator during a test.

Plagiarism and academic dishonesty can be avoided by the following:

- Proper documentation
- Clear communication between student and teacher
- Integrity through personal and social responsibility

Consequences may include but are not limited to redoing the assignment or one that is similar in content to show mastery.

Student Behavior at School Activities

Students in school or involved in school sponsored activities either on or away from the school premise are expected to obey their school officials, protect property, maintain order and decorum, and conduct themselves in such a manner as to reflect credit upon themselves and their school. Any student who does not meet these standards is in violation of the discipline regulation of the Nampa School District and will be subject to disciplinary consequences.

LOST, STOLEN OR CONFISCATED ITEMS **Personal property**

The best method for students to protect their personal property is to **leave valuables at home**. Items brought to school should be secured in lockers. The school is not responsible for items lost or stolen.

Confiscated materials

Items that may disrupt classroom instruction or our safe environment will be taken away. Confiscated electronic devices from a student will be returned to student or parent/guardian at administrative discretion. Any weapons, drugs, alcohol, inappropriate material confiscated from a student will not be returned.

The school is not responsible for confiscated items that are lost or stolen.



Computer Use

The purpose of Nampa School District internet and local network access is to facilitate communications in support of research and education. To remain eligible as a user, access must be in support of and consistent with the educational objectives of the Nampa School District. Access is a privilege and not a right. Users should not expect that the files stored in the district's systems would always be private. Electronic messages and files on school-based computers may be treated like school lockers. Administrators and faculty may review files and/or messages to maintain system integrity and ensure users are utilizing the system responsibly.

Nampa School District Appropriate Use Policy for Computer and Computer Systems:

The following uses of school provided computers and computer system activity are not permitted:

- Accessing, uploading, downloading or distributing pornographic, obscene, sexually explicit, or any unauthorized material.
- Transmitting obscene or sexually explicit language.
- Violating any local or federal statute. *
- Vandalizing, damaging, or disabling the property of another person or organization.
- Accessing another person's material, information or files without the implied or direct permission of the person.
- Violating copyright or otherwise use another person's intellectual property without their prior approval or proper citation.
- Revealing the address or personal phone number of you or another student.
- Communicating a credit card, bankcard or any other financial number.
- Using school provided computer system access for commercial activities by for-profit organizations, product promotion, political lobbying, or illegal activities.



Any violation of school procedures and rules may result in loss of school provided access to Electronic Information Services. Additional disciplinary action may be determined in keeping with existing policies and procedures. When and where applicable, law enforcement agencies may be involved.

Internet access and/or computer access will not be allowed unless the appropriate form is completed at enrollment.

Idaho Code States:

Section 18-2202. Computer Crime

(1) Any person who knowingly accesses, attempts to access or uses, or attempts to use any computer, computer system, computer network, or any part thereof for the purpose of: devising or executing a scheme or artifice to defraud; obtaining money, property, or services by means of false or fraudulent pretenses, representations, or promises; or committing theft; commits computer crime.

(2) Any person who knowingly and without authorization alters, damages or destroys any computer, computer system, or computer network commits computer crime.

(3) Any person who knowingly and without authorization uses, accesses, or attempts to access any computer, computer system, or computer network described in section 18-02201, Idaho Code, or any computer network, commits computer crime.

(4) A violation of the provisions of subsection (1) or (2) of this section shall be a felony. A violation of the provision of subsection (3) of this section shall be a misdemeanor.

Nampa School District Violation of Appropriate Use of Technology Consequences:

Student ID cards will be marked signifying acceptance or declination of the Appropriate Use Policy. Students will be expected to display their card on the designated position of the technology equipment whenever they are using it.

Directory Information, Student Records & Media

Any student (18 years or older), parent, or legal guardian may have access to records (cumulative folders) which pertain to them personally.

A student's transcript (record of grades) is kept by the registrar. It also contains some test scores. It is available for employment purposes and college admissions. An official transcript, must be obtained from the school or the district office.

Federal and state laws require school districts to maintain certain academic and behavioral records on students. The records allow the school staff to share progress information with parents and other educational institutions. They also document the eligibility of students for various federal and state mandated programs. Students frequently request copies of their records many years after they have left school to assist them in documenting school attendance and eligibility for certain programs.

The following information details parent and student rights with respect to student records.

Confidentiality of Student Records

All student records are confidential and may be opened for inspection only in accordance with applicable federal and state law and school board policy.

Rights of Parent(s) or Student(s) to review records - Annual Notice

The district shall annually notify parents and eligible students through this handbook of their rights. The parent(s) or eligible student has a right to:

- a. Inspect and review the student's education records;
- b. Request the amendment of the student's education records to ensure that they are not inaccurate, misleading or otherwise in violation of the student's privacy or other rights;
- c. Consent to disclosures of personally identifiable information contained in the student's education records, except to the extent that the applicable state or federal law authorizes disclosure without consent;
- d. Pursuant to law, file with the United States Department of Education a complaint under 34 CFR §99.64 concerning alleged failures by the district to comply with the requirements of federal law; and
- e. Obtain a copy of the district policy with regard to student education records.

Directory Information – Annual Notice

Directory Information means personally identifiable information contained in a student education record which is not generally considered harmful or an invasion of privacy if released such as: student's name, address, telephone listing, date and place of birth, classroom teacher, officially recognized activities and sports participated in, weight and height

[if on athletic team], dates of attendance, awards received and the previous school or program attended, photos, school newspaper, including yearbook and such categories of information as the superintendent shall designate.

Directory Information shall be released only with administrative direction. Information will not be given over the telephone except in health and safety emergencies.

Parents will be notified and given an opportunity annually through the online enrollment process and information update how to limit the release of this information.

Media & district, school & other print, video, & electronic publications – Annual Notice

Often local media (newspapers, radio, and television outlets) and school and district staff are in our schools or at school-sanctioned events to gather information, take photographs, record video of our staff and students for print, video, or electronic publications.

If you object to having your student participate in media coverage, you will be given the opportunity to limit media access through the annual update in Registration Gateway. Excluding students from media, district, or school coverage of public events with large groups of people such as assemblies, dance, games, or activities such as field trips outside of school, etc. is not possible. Please talk with your student about your preferences should they be approached by the news media to be interviewed, photographed, or video taped.

Information on Teacher Qualification Teacher & Aide Qualifications, Right to Know

Parents are welcome to ask about the professional qualifications of their child's classroom teacher(s) and/or aides working the child. Federal law gives parents the right to know answers to the following questions:

- Is my child's teacher licensed to teach the grades and subject(s) assigned?
- Is my child's teacher teaching with a provisional license, meaning the state has waived requirements for my child's teacher?
- What is the college major of my child's teacher?
- What degree or degrees does my child's teacher hold?
- If there are instructional aides working with my child, what are their qualifications?
- If my child is or will be taught for four or more consecutive weeks this year by a teacher who is not highly qualified, will I be notified in a timely manner?

To request the qualifications of your child's teacher or instructional aide, please contact the Human Resources Department of the Nampa School District at 468-4600. Information also is available online at the State Department of Education: <http://www.sde.idaho.gov/Certification/search/StaffSearch.aspx>

Nutritional Services Department

The Nutrition Services Department is committed to preparing and serving nutritious, well balanced meals to our students. Breakfast, lunch, and ala carte items are available at our school. Students may qualify for free or reduced-price meals. Applications are available from the nutrition service department, the school office, and on-line during registration.

Meals including drinks are consumed in the cafeteria. Students using the lunchroom speak in conversational tones and are courteous to each other and staff. Students are expected to clean their area after eating.

To ensure students can quickly receive their food without standing in long lines, we ask that meals are prepaid. Money may be prepaid to a student's meal account by check or cash at the school or online through www.mynutrikids.com. Please be aware that money may not post for 24-48 hours in a student's account. We recommend that at least a weekly or monthly amount be prepaid.

The nutrition staff members welcome questions and will provide assistance with the free/reduced meal application. Please do not hesitate to visit our cafeteria. You may get meal pricing from the cafeteria manager or cashier at our school.

After eating, students may visit, relax and socialize in designated areas until their next class.

Eating with your child

Parents are welcome to join their child for lunch. We ask you to check in at the office to receive a visitor's badge. Please check with the school about meal prices for visitors.

Accessing Campus

Attending school every day is essential to student success. Our district provides free bus transportation to eligible students. Once they arrive, students may not leave campus prior to the end of the school day without parent permission. Parents may give permission via a note or phone call. To ensure we know where the child is during school hours, students are asked to check in and out through the office. Students must follow this procedure to avoid being listed as truant.



Visiting campus

- As part of our effort to keep students safe, we require visitors to check in at the office and obtain a visitor's pass. Visitors may also be required to show ID.
- We welcome parent visitors, but ask that you schedule appointments with teachers or staff so classroom teaching won't be disrupted.
- Visitors who are not authorized on campus are considered to be loitering and may be charged with trespassing.
- To protect students and school property, our schools have a "No Loitering/No Trespassing" policy. School officials must have immediate knowledge of any unauthorized persons inside the building or on its grounds.
- Children who are not students enrolled in our school are not allowed on campus. Unauthorized visitors are trespassing.

The next sections provide additional information on family-provided and district-provided transportation.

Family-provided transportation

Parents are welcome to transport their children to school. We ask that the entrance and exiting paths be followed to ensure a smooth flow of traffic during peak times.

Students are welcome to walk, bike, skate or scooter to school. Once they arrive at school, bikes should be locked in designated racks. Skates, skateboards, and scooters need to be carried into the school and locked into the student's locker. To ensure the safety of all students, these transportation devices cannot be used in the school or during school hours. School is not responsible for lost or stolen items.

District-provided transportation

Students residing in Nampa School District #131 who live more than 1-½ miles from school are eligible to ride an assigned school bus without charge. Out-of-district students, including open enrollment students from other Nampa Middle Schools attendance areas, are responsible for their own transportation.

Nampa School District provides bus transportation for all qualifying students through Brown Bus Company. Contact Brown Bus at 208-466-4181 for individual bus stop locations and bus numbers.



Bus Rules

The students are expected to conduct themselves in an orderly manner when waiting for or riding the bus. It is important not to distract the bus driver. Misbehavior on the bus or at the bus stops can deprive a student of the privilege to ride the bus and may result in additional school consequences.

- Students being transported are under the authority of the bus driver.
- Fighting, wrestling, or boisterous activity is prohibited on the bus.
- Students will use the emergency door only in case of an emergency.
- Students will remain seated while the bus is in motion.
- Students will not bring animals, firearms, weapons, skateboards, or potentially hazardous material on the bus.
- The bus driver may assign students seats.
- When necessary to cross the road, students will cross in front of the bus or as instructed by the bus driver.
- Students will not extend their hands, arms, or heads through the bus windows.
- Students will converse in normal tones: loud or vulgar language is prohibited.
- Students who refuse to obey promptly the direction of the driver or refuse to obey regulations may forfeit their privilege to ride on the buses.
- Students will be financially responsible for any damage to the bus.



Requirements for Student Activities Transportation

The following rules apply to extra-curricular trips:

- Nampa Middle Schools administration must approve all school-related trips.
- All out-of-state or overnight trips must also be approved by the Nampa School District Board of Trustees.
- Travel is by bus or other administrative approved transportation.
- Each bus must have at least one (1) school employee.
- Students must ride on school transportation both ways. The only exception is if the parent/legal guardian signs a release form at the activity to transport the student home.

Counseling Services

Every student is assigned a counselor. Counselors are available for student advocacy and assistance. Consult your counselor to secure information and guidance in the areas of education, career interest or planning and social development. Do not hesitate to speak to your counselor if you experience difficulties or problems in any area of your life. Request forms to see a counselor are available at the front desk. A request must be filled out and submitted to the office in advance. The counselor will send for the student when the schedule allows.

Course Changes/Transfers

Schedule and class changes are disruptive for both students and teachers. In addition, our increasing enrollment has limited our flexibility to make schedule changes. Schedule changes will only be made as a last resort, when all other options to address the issue have failed. Parents must submit a written request to administration stating the reasons for requesting a transfer. The request must include documentation of conferences between the parent and teacher and/or team. The request must be received at least two weeks prior to the end of the grading period. Students will only be transferred at the end of the grading periods.

Moving?

During the school year please notify your child's school if there are any changes to your student's home address or phone number. If your child moves out of the current school's attendance zone please follow the withdrawal procedures below.

Withdrawal from School

1. A parent/guardian must notify the school office as early as possible regarding the student's withdrawal. Notification must be scheduled with the school registrar (preferred) or phone call.
2. The student will complete a check out form on their last day of attendance.
3. Student/parent will be issued a completed check out form as well as birth certificate and immunization record (as needed) to take to the new school.
4. **All school books and equipment must be returned on the student's last day of attendance.**
5. Parent/guardians will be charged for all books or equipment that is not returned.

Hall Passes

A hall pass is a necessity whenever you are out of your assigned classrooms. Students without hall passes will be escorted to their current class. Students can move through the halls during class time only with a valid hall pass and permission from the teacher. Hall passes may vary from school to school. Teachers will not issue hall passes the first ten minutes or last ten minutes of class.

Leaving Campus / Closed Campus

Campus is closed during all hours of school. Students are not allowed to leave the grounds during the school day without following the proper checkout procedure through the attendance office.

In order to leave campus for any reason, students must have a verified parent approval via a note or phone call prior to checking out from school. The student must check out and back in through the office. Students who do not follow this procedure will be considered unexcused (truant) in all classes missed and will be subject to disciplinary action.

Students are expected to leave campus at the end of the school day unless participating in an after-school program. The school will not be responsible for students who stay after school unsupervised or have not made prior arrangements.

Lockers

Students are advised to keep their locker combinations to themselves. Lockers may only be shared with administrative approval. Do not exchange lockers without approval from the office. Locker combinations will only be changed or lockers exchanged for security reasons. Back packs should be kept in lockers.

Lockers and desks remain the property of the school. The school is authorized to open lockers and desks to examine their contents, including personal belongings of students, when officials have reasonable suspicion to believe that the contents threaten the safety, health, or welfare of students or include suspected stolen property or items which are specifically prohibited by law, Board Policy, or school regulations. Students are personally responsible for all contents of their lockers and desks. Administrators may impose disciplinary consequences for violation of locker policies. Idaho I 8-3302D (2).

PE Uniforms

Students will be required to wear appropriate PE attire during all physical education classes. Uniforms will be available for purchase at the school during registration, or you may purchase them elsewhere. More detailed information will be given to students when they begin PE class. Please refer to dress code for PE attire guidelines.

Messages

We are anxious to maximize students' uninterrupted learning time. We deliver emergency messages at the time of the call. **Parents, please do not contact your student on their cell phones at any time during the day.** Balloons, flowers, and other special deliveries are kept in the office until the end of the day. The recipients will be notified during their final class period.

Telephone Use

An office phone is available in case of emergencies only before and after school. Please see the electronic device policy for rules regarding cell phone use at school.

Closure Procedures for Weather Emergencies

The decision to close school or to delay the start of school due to severe weather will be made as early as possible, preferably the night before. The district's website will be updated by 6am or you can tune into your local TV station (channels 2, 6, or 7) for closure information between 5:45 and 6:00 a.m. Please do not call the school.

Getting Involved in Athletics & Activities

The extra-curricular program at all middle schools consists of a variety of challenging activities designed to appeal to diverse interests and talents. To make the most of your school experience, get involved in one of the following:

Football	Basketball	Natural Helpers *	Cross Country *	Volleyball
Wrestling *	Cheerleading	Student Council *	Leo Club *	Yearbook
	Tennis *	Track *	Intramurals *	Snow Team *

* 6th grade may participate.

Club meetings are held during school, after school, or in the evenings. The club sponsor must be present at all club activities and club meetings.

Nampa School District 6-8 Eligibility Policy

Students participating in athletics should always consider their performance and behavior in class as their HIGHEST PRIORITY. **Participation in athletics is contingent upon passing performance and good citizenship in the classroom.** The coaching staff will implement the following eligibility policy for all student athletes.

1. Each teacher will be provided a list of all student athletes at the beginning of each season.
2. Student progress will be monitored weekly, throughout the season.
3. Students with failing grades (D, F or I) will be placed on PROBATIONARY STATUS by the Athletic Director. Probation will mean that the student will be able to practice but not participate in games. Poor behavior in a class or on any campus may result in immediate removal from athletic teams.

Purposes: The Intervalley League is vitally interested in the welfare and development of every youngster. A properly administered athletic program can enhance their overall education. Middle school programs need to take into consideration the substantial range in individual differences among 6th, 7th, and 8th grade students, i.e., age, body build, interests, ability, experience, health, and stages of physiological, emotional and social maturity. Each local school has the final responsibility for enforcement of all objectives, guidelines, and codes for middle school competition. **Participation in interscholastic athletics is a privilege not a right.**

1. Students must adhere to each individual school's academic and eligibility policy.
2. A student who turns 16 during a sport season will be allowed to complete that activity but will not be allowed to compete in any other sports for the remainder of the school year.
3. *One grade level, one year participation.* Students may only compete at each sport one season, one grade level, one time for maximum three years. i.e., a student may not play 7th grade basketball two years.
4. *Ineligible students, due to retention, may not practice or work out with the school teams.*
5. Students may not compete if they have changed schools for athletic purposes.

Parents may file a hardship case at least two weeks prior to the start of the specific sport season with the school Athletic Director and the Intervalley League President.

Expectations for Athletic and Extra-curricular Participation

Participants in any extra-curricular activity including but not limited to sports, dances, clubs, music, drama, and leadership will be expected to follow the standards listed below:

- Be courteous to opponents, fans, and cheerleaders.
- Be positive and cooperative.
- Respect and abide by the officials' or coaches decisions.
- Exercise self-control at all times. Never boo an official, coach, cheerleader, player or advisor. Violation of the Conduct of Students may result in further disciplinary action from the coach/advisor/administrator.
- Learn to win with character and lose with dignity.
- Follow the appropriate dress standards established by the school, school district, coaches and advisors.
- If suspended, the student may not participate in any activity during the time of the suspension.
- Follow the attendance policy. On days of an extra-curricular event, the participating student must be present at least 4 of the class periods to be eligible to participate in that days event. On the school day following any activity, event or contest participants are expected to be in attendance at school.
- Display appreciation for a good performance or play regardless of the team.

Any of the above issues may result in Athletic Probation and Ineligibility or denial of participation from club or other said events.

Athletic Insurance

Every student participating in athletics must be covered by insurance or sign a waiver stating the school is not liable for any injuries occurring during participation. Independent insurance may be purchased if the student is not covered by family insurance. The insurance contract is between the insurance company and the insured student. Forms are available at the front office.

Physicals

All students wishing to participate in athletics must have a physical examination. Forms are available at the front office. All physicals must be done before the student can participate in sports. Physicals are valid through their middle school athletic career. In the case of a severe injury, administration may require additional medical releases.

Fund-raising Activities

Most of the activities, clubs, organizations, and classes conduct fund-raising activities during the school year. These must be approved in advance by the administration, and all funds collected are dispersed to the student body fund according to established guidelines. Students collecting money for school organizations must turn in the money to the faculty sponsor on a daily basis. No personal fundraising will be allowed unless prior approval from administration has been obtained.

Illness Guidelines

The following are guidelines for keeping your child home from school to ensure his/her well being and prevent the spread of illness:

- A 100-degree temperature or more.
- Nausea, vomiting, abdominal pain, diarrhea.
- Nasal discharge with a yellow/green color.
- Student with more lethargy than usual.
- Cough in combination with other symptoms.
- Contagious process- rash, pink eye, head lice, etc.



If your child is sick and feels the need to go home, our nurse or designee are the only personnel that can medically excuse the student. Please do not have your student call home directly using their cell phone as this is a violation of our electronic device policy.

Health and Emergency Policy

If a student is injured or becomes ill at school, efforts will be made to notify the parent/guardian. If a parent/guardian cannot be reached, then the person designated to be called in an emergency will be notified. **Please advise the school of any changes in telephone numbers, places of work, or emergency contacts as they occur.**

In the event of serious illness or injury, the Canyon County paramedics will be notified to assess the student's condition and transport to the emergency room if they determine it is necessary. Every effort will be made to contact the parent, who may then meet the student at the emergency room or at school. **It is the parent's responsibility to pay for medical services – including transportation to the emergency room.**

The school has personnel trained in performing CPR and first aid; these personnel along with the school nurse and/or administrators will be responsible for determining the need to call for further medical assistance. If your student has a chronic or acute health condition that may affect them at school, please contact the school nurse.

Immunizations

In 2012, state immunization requirements increased. Your child may need additional immunizations. Here is what is required in addition to past immunizations:

All students entering the 7th grade must have the following immunizations:

- 1 Tdap (Tetanus, diphtheria and pertussis)
- 1 Meningococcal

Any student not meeting this requirement will be denied entry to school until the requirement is met. If your student is not immunized due to medical, religious or philosophical reasons a signed exemption form must be on file.

Medication

Most medications should be administered at home. If a student must take medication (non-prescription or prescription) at school, the medication is to be administered through the nurse's office. The medication must be in the original container, with one week's supply or less. The medication must be accompanied by a written release on file with the school nurse. Forms are available from the nurse and require:

- Name of medication and reason for taking it
- Doctor's name.
- Dosage and length of time to be administered.
- Parent/guardian signature.



Parental Involvement

Parent involvement is an essential component for your child's success in school. We welcome and encourage your involvement in your child's education and our school. Also because we receive federal Title I funds, our school we must meet specific requirements in this area. Below is what we must do in planning, holding an annual meeting, and providing you information. If you have any questions please contact the school administration or the district's Title I administrator.

Planning

Schools served under Title I, Part A must involve parents, in an organized, ongoing, and timely way, in the planning, review, and improvement of Title I, Part A programs, including –

- The planning, review, and improvement of the school parental involvement policy; and
- The joint development of any schoolwide program plan under section 1114(b)(2). [Section 1118(c)(3), ESEA.]

If a school already has in place a process for involving parents in the joint planning and design of the school's programs, the school may use that process so long as it includes an adequate representation of parents of children participating in Title I, Part A programs. *[Section 1118(c)(3), ESEA.]*

Annual meeting

Each school served under Title I, Part A must convene an annual meeting, at a time convenient for parents to inform them of their school's participation in Title I, Part A programs, and to explain the Title I, Part A requirements and the right of parents to be involved in those programs. In order to keep parents informed, schools must invite to this meeting all parents of children participating in Title I, Part A programs and encourage them to attend. Schools must offer a flexible number of additional parental involvement meetings, such as in the morning or evening so that as many parents as possible are able to attend. *[Section 1118(c)(1) and (2), ESEA.]*

Information

Schools served under Title I, Part A must provide to parents of participating children, in a timely manner, information about the programs funded by Title I, Part A. That information must include:

- A description and explanation of the school's curriculum;
- Information on the forms of academic assessment used to measure student progress; and
- Information on the proficiency levels students are expected to meet.

Upon the request of parents, schools must provide opportunities for regular meetings for parents to formulate suggestions and to participate, as appropriate, in decisions about the education of their children.

The school must respond to any such suggestions as soon as practicably possible. *[Section 1118(c)(4), ESEA.]*

Nampa School District 131

Home and School Compact

Student: It is important that I do my best. I know my parents and teachers want to help me, but I am the one who has to do the work. So, I will:

- Believe that I can and will learn.
- Be responsible for my behavior.
- Give work and school papers to my parent/caregiver.
- Pay attention and ask for help when needed.
- Complete class work on time and to the best of my ability.

Comment/goal: _____

Name: _____ Date: _____

Parent/Caregiver: I want my child to succeed. I will encourage him/her by doing the following:

- Encourage positive attitudes about school.
- Support the school discipline policy and school policies
- Make sure my child attends school regularly.
- Encourage my child to get enough sleep and to eat nutritious meals.
- Establish with my child a place and time to study and a daily reading time.

Comment/goal: _____

Name: _____ Date: _____

Classroom Teacher: I understand the importance of the school experience to every student and my position as a teacher and a role model. I agree to:

- Be aware of your child's needs.
- Communicate with you about your child's progress frequently.
- Teach basic concepts and skills to your child to meet academic state student standards.
- Motivate and encourage your child to practice academics at home.
- Hold parent/teacher conferences annually.
- Deliver high quality curriculum and instruction.
- Provide materials for home to enhance literacy and other academic subjects.

Comment/goal: _____

Name: _____ Date: _____

School Principal/Vice Principal: I support and encourage student/parent/teacher compacts and partnerships. I will:

- Provide an environment that permits positive communication between the student, parent and teacher.
- Encourage teachers and parents to provide regular opportunities for practicing academics at school and at home.
- Provide equal and fair opportunities to access staff and the opportunity to volunteer.

Name: _____ Date: _____