



Student-Parent Handbook

Elementary (Grades K-4)

2026-2027

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Foreword

Welcome to Stanton Community Schools

Dear Student and Parent/Guardian,

Welcome to Stanton Elementary School! Enclosed in this student handbook is a great deal of information about services and regulations that impact the students at our school. We recommend that you review this manual with your child, keeping the handbook handy for future reference. An informed parent is one of our most valuable assets as the staff works with your child during the school year.

This handbook is not meant to take the place of personal communication between home and school so please feel free to contact the office regarding school programs and procedures, or to arrange a visit with your child's teacher in discussing individual needs and progress reports.

Here's to an awesome school year! Go Mustangs!

Educationally yours,

Sarah Remm
PK-6 Principal
sremm@scs-ne.org
402-439-2639



Intent of Handbook

This handbook is intended to be used by students, parents, and staff as a guide to the rules, regulations, and general information about Stanton Community Schools. Each student is responsible for becoming familiar with the handbook and knowing the information contained in it. Parents are encouraged to use this handbook as a resource and to assist their child in following the rules contained in this handbook.

Although the information found in this handbook is detailed and specific on many topics, the handbook is not intended to be all encompassing so as to cover every situation and circumstance that may arise during any school day, or school year. This handbook does not create a "contract." The administration reserves the right to make decisions and make rule revisions at any time to implement the educational program and to assure the well-being of all students. The administration will be responsible for interpreting the rules contained in the handbook. Should a situation or circumstance arise that is not specifically covered in this handbook, the administration will make a decision based upon all applicable school district policies, and state and federal statutes and regulations.

The policies of the Board of Education may cover areas not addressed in this handbook. Every parent or guardian and student should familiarize themselves with Board policies online.

School's Website: <https://www.stantonmustangs.org>

School Board Policies: <https://meeting.sparqdata.com/Public/Organization/405>

Stanton Community Schools Board of Education & Staff

Board of Education

Name

John Mandl President
David Morfeld..... Vice President
Rob Hupp Treasurer
Amanda Tomasek Honorary Secretary
Shad Pohlman Board Member
Brian Wehner Board Member

Administration

Name

Darren Soucie Superintendent
Sarah Remm Elementary Principal
Micah Buller Secondary Principal

Teaching Staff

Name

Annette Soucie Preschool
Janelle Peter Kindergarten
Stephanie Wurdinger..... Kindergarten
Tessa Wegner 1st Grade
Rebecca Spotanski 2nd Grade
Jennifer Flood 2nd Grade
Sharon Schroeder 3rd Grade
Logan Evans 3rd Grade
Bailey Svehla..... 4th Grade
Jamie Blum 4th Grade

Lorraine Morfeld Title I Reading Specialist
Morgan Remm Special Education
Tara Padilla Library/Media Specialist
Sedrick Svehla Physical Education/Health
Austin Brown Vocal Music
Taryn Janke Art
Stacy Hardy..... K-12 Counselor
David Stoddard Activities Director
Andrea McGregor Speech-Language Therapist
Cathy Fiala School Psychologist

Support Staff

Name

Kim Wehner..... Elementary Administrative Assistant
Shelby McCleary Superintendent Administrative Assistant
KikiMarie Reese K-4 Title I Paraprofessional
Kendra Patterson K-4 Special Ed Paraprofessional
Kyra Whitman K-4 Special Ed Paraprofessional
Sylvia Sherman Preschool Paraprofessional
Megan Brabec..... Preschool Paraprofessional
Jason McCleary Director of Maintenance & Operations
Kevin Armbruster Assistant Maintenance/Custodial Supervisor

Name

Carol Thelen..... Food Service Director
Jason Sothan Food Service
Diana Gaskill Food Service
Lynette Mandl..... Food Service
Norma Gonzalez Custodian
Dallas Heppner Bus Driver
Becky Houdek Bus Driver
Lisa Holoubek School Nurse

2026-2027 School Calendar

2026-2027



CALENDAR

KEY	
New Teacher Inservice	
Prek Only Status	
No School	
Parent - Teacher Conferences	
No School; Full Day Staff Development	
1:20 Early Out; Staff Development/Grades	

August		SD	S	T
		3.32	13	16
7	New Teacher Inservice			
10-12	No School; Staff Development/Work Day			
13	School Begins - 11:35 Dismissal			
19	First Day of Pre-School - Pre-School Early Dismissal 1:20			

September		SD	S	T
		1	20	21
7	Labor Day - No School			
28	No School; Staff Development			

October		SD	S	T
		0	21	21.5
7	PK-6 No School - PT Conferences			
7	7-12 PT Conferences (2:30-7) - 1:20 PM Early Dismissal			
16	1st Quarter Ends = 45 days - 1:20 Early Dismissal; Grades			
22	Pre-School - No School			
23	No School; Fall Break/.5 PT Comp Day			

November		SD	S	T
		0.32	18	18
4	1:20 Early Dismissal; Staff Development			
25-27	No School - Thanksgiving Break			

December		SD	S	T
		0	16	16
22	2nd Quarter Ends = 43 days 1st Sem. Ends = 88 days - 1:20 Early Dismissal; Grades			
23-31	Christmas Break			
23-27	NSAA Five-Day Moratorium - No NSAA activities			

July 2026						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

August 2026						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

September 2026						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

October 2026						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

November 2026						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

December 2026						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

January 2027						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

February 2027						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28						

March 2027						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

April 2027						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	

May 2027						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

June 2027						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

January		SD	S	T
		2	18	20
1	Christmas Break			
4	No School; - Staff Development/Grades			
5	School Reconvenes			
18	No School - Mid-Winter Workshop			

February		SD	S	T
		0.32	19	19.5
3	1:20 Early Dismissal; Staff Development			
11	PK-6 No School - PT Conferences			
11	7-12 P/T Conferences (2:30-7) - 1:20 PM Early Dismissal			
18	Pre-School - No School			
19	No School; - Winter Break/.5 PT Comp Day			

March		SD	S	T
		0	16	16
5	3rd Quarter Ends = 42 days - 1:20 Early Dismissal; Grades			
8-12	No School - Spring Break			
25	Pre-School - No School			
26	No School - Easter Break			
29	No School - Easter Break			

April		SD	S	T
		0.64	22	22
7	1:20 Early Dismissal; Staff Development			
21	1:20 Early Dismissal; Staff Development			

May		SD	S	T
		0	14	15
5	Last day for seniors			
8	Graduation - 2:00 p.m.			
13	Last Day of Pre-School			
20	4th Quarter Ends = 47 days 2nd Sem. Ends = 89 days Last Day - 11:35 Early Dismissal; Grades			
21	Teacher Checkout Day			
31	Memorial Day			
21-28	Snow Makeup Days (if needed)			

Student Contact Days..... 177
Teacher Contract Days..... 185

Updated 4/15/2026

Board Approved - February 9, 2026

Article 1 – Mission & Goals

Mission Statement

“The Stanton Community Schools exist to create, foster and provide a positive learning environment in which all students can become responsible and productive members of the United States of America through academic, physical, social, vocational and emotional growth.”

Goal Statements

The students will:

1. Engage in a 21st century learning environment by
 - a. Exceeding learning standards in the core curricular areas of Language Arts, Mathematics, Science and Social Science.
 - b. Acquiring lifelong learning skills such as self-direction, adaptability, and higher-order thinking/problem solving. Also included in these learning skills are researching information & reporting results, developing interpersonal & cross-cultural relationships, and utilizing the student’s curiosity & creativity.
 - c. Utilizing learning technologies to explore & investigate concepts; access, manage, analyze & synthesize information; and communicate & produce quality products.
 2. Be prepared to compete in a global society following graduation.
 3. Develop respect and a positive attitude for themselves and others.
 4. Assume civic responsibility as a member of a family, community, nation, and world.
 5. Develop an appreciation for the visual and performing arts.
 6. Be provided with vocational and technological skills.
 7. Have the knowledge and skills needed to maintain healthy and fit bodies throughout their lives.
 8. Be provided an environment that stimulates emotional growth.
 9. Assume responsibility and ownership for their education.
-

Article 2 – School Day

School Arrival Time

On regular school days, school will start at **8:05 a.m.** Please do not have your child arrive at school **prior to 7:40 a.m.** unless he or she is going to have breakfast at school. Students eating breakfast at school will be allowed in at **7:30 a.m.** Students who have made prior arrangements with a teacher will be allowed in the classroom upon the arrival of teachers at **7:40 a.m.**

School Dismissal Time

On regular school days students in grades K-4 will be dismissed at **3:30 p.m.**

Breakfast/Lunch Program

A breakfast/lunch program is available for all students. All meals must be paid for in advance. Single milk servings may be purchased by those who wish to buy milk only. Kindergarten snack milk is at an additional cost that is not covered by the free and reduced program.

Cafeteria Policies

1. No running, pushing, crowding, or saving places in the line.
2. Do not crowd tables.
3. Clean all paper, napkins, milk cartons, and food from your table.

4. Return all trays and silverware to proper places.
5. No food or drink is to be taken from the cafeteria.
6. Do not sit on tables.
7. No throwing food.
8. There are no refunds at the end of the year; balances will carry over to the next year unless there is a written request by the adult of the household.

Lunch Account Protocol

All accounts shall maintain a positive balance. Any student accounts with a balance of -\$10.00 and lower will not be permitted to eat lunch until their account becomes positive. A sack lunch from home will be required until your account becomes positive. Breakfast will not be permitted to students with a negative balance.

Email statements for all family lunch accounts, negative or positive, are sent on Mondays and Thursdays of each week that school is in session. Paper statements may also be sent home for negative lunch account balances.

Insufficient Funds

When a check is returned for insufficient funds, the Superintendent's designee shall attempt to contact the person a minimum of two times to collect the amount that remains due and owing. At least one attempt shall be in writing, either via letter or email.

In the event that an individual's method of payment is rejected, such person shall be required to pay the amount that remains due and owing by cash, cashier's check or money order, plus a returned check fee of \$10.00 to cover the administrative expense of having to address the matter. In addition, whenever said person wishes to make a payment in the future, said person may be required to pay only by cash, cashier's check or by money order.

Notice of this returned check fee policy will be given annually to students and parents via the school website, and may be included in newsletters, student handbooks, or postings.

Any individual who attempts to pay any amount to the District by check agrees to the terms of the Policy and the returned check fee. In the event that an individual does not agree with this Policy or is unwilling to pay the returned check fee, then such individual must pay by cash, cashier's check or money order.

Outside Meals

Parents are encouraged to eat school meals with their child/children. Should the parent choose to bring in outside food from places other than home; only the parent and the child/children may have these foods. Sharing this with other children during meal times is not acceptable and may result in loss of privileges.

Physical Education

Physical education is basic to the best development of children and it should be a continuing experience from simple skills to the more advanced movements and concepts. All students are expected to participate in the program unless prohibited by a medical excuse. Hand-eye and small and large muscle coordination must be continually improved upon to allow a child to realize his/her full academic and physical potential.

Educational Field Trips

Students will need a signed parent permission slip to be returned by the requested date in order to attend field trips out of town. Our educational field trips will attempt to have a 10:1 ratio of students to adults so parents may be asked to help sponsor during the year.

Telephone Messages

Students cannot be called from class to the telephone except in an emergency. The office staff will take a message and deliver it. The office phones may only be used by students with permission from the secretary or the principal.

School Visitors

As patrons of the school district, you are urged to visit school whenever possible. When you do so, please come to the Elementary Office and you will be given a visitor's badge. School personnel will show you to the room where you want to visit. It is suggested that you give one day's notice so your visit will not be an interruption to the students and teacher. The last few days prior to the ending of the quarter or semester are not recommended as good visiting periods because of test reviews and assessments.

If a student wishes to bring a visitor, the visitor should be age appropriate and the school must have prior notification.

Pets/Animals

Pets and animals are not allowed to visit school unless approved by the elementary principal.

Party Invitations and Class Celebrations

Invitations for parties may be handed out in class or at school only if ALL students in the class are invited. Birthday treats, not to include gum, may be brought to classes with the permission of the classroom teacher. All birthday and celebration treats must be pre-packaged. This means store-bought items, such as *Little Debbie* snacks or pre-packaged bakery items. No homemade treats please.

Three holidays are celebrated with parties. These holidays include Halloween, Christmas, and Valentine's Day. Special class celebrations may occur in the various classes.

Parent/Teacher Support Group

Every parent and teacher is considered a member of the Parent/Teacher Support Group. Activities, meetings, and special projects are planned each year by the Parent/Teacher Support Group Executive Council. Together we will work toward making our school and community a better place for our children.

Severe Weather and School Cancellations

The Superintendent of schools is authorized by the board of education to close public schools in case of severe weather. Representatives of the Superintendent's staff will notify local news media when inclement weather warrants such action. The information is broadcast regularly by radio and television stations, along with text, phone calls, social media posts, and email alerts.

Decision to Close Schools. A decision to close school is made when forecasts by the weather service and civil defense officials indicate that it would be unwise for students to go to school. Closing of school will be announced via text message, automated voice call, and/or social media (Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter). An early decision is not always possible because of uncertain weather conditions. School officials will make periodic assessments of conditions during the night and will decide early in the morning. In any case, an announcement will be made to the local radio stations when schools will be closed. In some instances, schools will be open, but certain services may be cancelled (bus transportation and student activities).

After School Starts. Every attempt will be made to avoid closing school once classes are in session. In some instances, closing school during the day is inevitable if children are to safely return home before the brunt of a major storm hits. In these cases, as much advance notice as possible will be given to parents. If school is closed during the day the notice will be broadcast by the media and parents should have a plan in place to accommodate these circumstances.

Parental Decisions. Parents may decide to keep their children at home in inclement weather because of personal circumstances. Students absent because of severe weather when school is in session will be marked absent. The absence will be treated like any other absence for legitimate causes provided parents properly notify the school of their decision. Parents may pick up their children in inclement weather at any time during the school day. Students will not normally be dismissed from school during severe weather on the basis of a telephone request.

What Not to Do. Parents should not attempt to come to school during a tornado warning. School officials are not permitted to release students from the school building during a tornado warning. Tornado safety procedures are practiced regularly by students and staff members. Also, parents are urged not to call radio and television stations and school buildings during severe weather. Every effort will be made to provide accurate and timely information through the media.

Emergency Conditions. Stanton Community Schools has a signal which, when activated, includes the necessity to either evacuate the building or to move to safer areas of the building. All regular drills are held as required by law through the school year. There are plans for an emergency exit system, tornado warning system, and critical incident response.

Article 3 – Attendance, Absences, & Admission to School

Philosophy

The attendance policy for Stanton Community Schools is intended to promote student success.

Attendance Policy

Regular and punctual student attendance is required. The board's policies require such attendance, the administration is responsible for developing further attendance rules and regulations, and students and parents are responsible for developing behaviors which will result in regular and punctual student attendance. All staff are expected to implement this policy and administrative rules and regulations to encourage such regular and punctual student attendance. The Principal and teachers are required to maintain an accurate record of student attendance.

Reporting Absences

If a student is absent from school, a parent/guardian must call the school (439-2639) between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 9:00 a.m. This phone call serves several purposes. It allows the school to keep informed as to the reason for the absence and also proves that the parent knows that their son/daughter is not in attendance. A phone call could save valuable time in the case of potential problems that may arise.

Makeup Work

At least two days will be allowed to make up work for each day missed, with a maximum of 10 days allowed to make up work. For student absences over 5 consecutive days and extenuating circumstances, administrator discretion will be allowed. If the student fails to complete the make-up work in the allotted time, then the teachers of students in grades 1 -12 shall place an "M" in the gradebook indicating that the assignment is missing plus a comment indicating why it is missing. If a student has an IEP or 504 plan that contains make-up work strategies, then those strategies will take precedence over the guideline.

Attendance and Absenteeism

1. Circumstances of Absences – Definitions. The circumstances for all absences from school will be identified as *School Excused* or *Not School Excused*. Absences should be cleared through the Principal's office in advance whenever possible. All absences, except for illness and /or death in the family, require advance approval.

a. School Excused. Any of the following circumstances that lead to an absence will be identified as a *School Excused* absence, provided the required attendance procedures have been followed.

(1) Impossible or impracticable barriers outside the control of the parent or child prevent a student from attending school. The parent must provide the school with documentation to demonstrate the absence was beyond the control of the parent or child. This could include, but is not limited to documented illness, court, death of a family member, or suspension.

(2) Other absences as determined by the principal or the principal's designee.

b. Not School Excused. Absences that are not school excused may result in a report to the county attorney and may be classified as follows:

(1) Parent acknowledged absences are those in which the parent communicated with the school in the prescribed manner that the child is absent and is the parent's responsibility for the extent of the school day. This includes, but is not limited to, illness, vacations, and medical appointments.

(2) Other absences are those in which the parent has not communicated a reason for the student's absence.

2. Absence Procedure. In its Student Information System, the District may identify many different codes that provide greater definition to the circumstances of a child's absence, but all of the codes need to be identified to parents and students as fitting into one of the above defined absence circumstances.

3. Mandatory Ages of Attendance. The mandatory ages of attendances for truancy purposes are age 6 (as of January 1 of the then-current school year) to age 18.

Exceptions for Younger Students. Attendance is also not mandatory for a child who has reached the age of 6 years of age prior to January 1 of the then-current school year, but will not reach age 7 prior to January 1 of such school year, if the child's parent or guardian has signed and filed with the school district in which the child resides an affidavit stating either: (1) that the child is participating in an education program that the parent or guardian believes will prepare the child to enter grade one for the following school year; or (2) that the parent or guardian intends for the child to participate in a school which has elected or will elect pursuant to law not to meet accreditation or approval requirements and the parent or guardian intends to provide the Commissioner of Education with a statement pursuant to section 79-1601(3) on or before the child's seventh birthday.

Exceptions for Older Students. Attendance is also not mandatory for a child who: (1) has obtained a high school diploma by meeting statutory graduation requirements; (2) has completed the program of instruction offered by a school which elects pursuant to law not to meet accreditation or approval requirements; or (3) has reached the age of 16 and has been withdrawn from school in the manner prescribed by law.

4. Reporting and Responding to Excessive Absenteeism. Any administrator, teacher, or member of the board of education who knows of any failure on the part of any child of mandatory school attendance age to attend school regularly without lawful reason, shall within three days report such violation to the superintendent or such person(s) who the superintendent designates to be the attendance officer (hereafter "attendance officer"). The attendance officer shall immediately cause an investigation into any such report to be made. The attendance officer shall also investigate any case when of his or her personal knowledge, or by report or complaint from any resident of the district, the attendance officer believes there is a violation of the compulsory attendance laws. The school shall render all services in its power to compel such child to attend some public, private, denominational, or parochial school, which the person having control of the child shall designate, in an attempt to address the problem of excessive absenteeism. Such services shall include, as appropriate, the services listed under the "Excessive Absenteeism" and "Reporting Excessive Absenteeism" policies.

5. **Excessive Absenteeism.** Students who accumulate five (5) unexcused absences in a quarter shall be deemed to have “excessive absences.” Such absences shall be determined on a per day basis for elementary students and on a per class basis for secondary students. When a student has excessive absences, the following procedures shall be implemented:
- a. Verbal or written communications by school officials with the person or persons who have or actual charge or control of any child; and
 - b. One or more meetings between the school (a school attendance officer, a school administrator or his or her designee, and/or a social worker), the child’s parent or guardian, and the child, when appropriate, to address the barriers to attendance. The result of the meeting or meetings shall be to develop a collaborative plan to reduce barriers identified to improve regular attendance. The plan shall consider, but not be limited to:
 - (1) Illness related to physical or behavioral health of the child.
 - (2) Educational counseling;
 - (3) Educational evaluation;
 - (4) Referral to community agencies for economic services;
 - (5) Family or individual counseling; and
 - (6) Assisting the family in working with other community services.

If the parent/guardian refuses to participate in such meeting, the principal shall place documentation of such refusal in the child’s attendance records.

6. **Reporting Excessive Absenteeism to the County Attorney.** The school may report to the county attorney of the county in which the person resides when the school has documented the efforts to address excessive absences, the collaborative plan to reduce barriers identified to improve regular attendance has not been successful, and the student has accumulated more than twenty (20) unexcused absences per year. The school shall notify the child’s family in writing prior to referring the child to the county attorney. Absences due to illness, including physical or mental illness, that make attendance impossible or impracticable, and that are documented by a credentialed health professional, shall not be the basis for referral to the county attorney. In cases of chronic illness, such documentation will be reviewed each semester.

Tardies

Students arriving after 8:05 am will be considered tardy. The principal will determine if a tardy will be excused or unexcused. Excessive tardies (5 or more) may cause the student to make up time after school. A collaborative meeting with the parent/guardian will be held to address tardy concerns. Tardies may impact perfect attendance awards, as determined by the principal.

Admission to School

Physical Examination

Evidence of a physical examination by a qualified physician is required within six months prior to the entrance of the child into any Early Childhood Special Education classes, kindergarten and the seventh grade, or in the case of transfer from out of state to any other grade. A parent or guardian who objects may submit a written statement of refusal for his or her child. The statement will be kept in the student’s file. Waiver forms are available in the school health office.

Vision Evaluation

Students entering school for the first time, including kindergarteners and transfer students from out of state, will be required to provide proof of a vision evaluation taken within six months prior to the student's entrance. (Nebraska Revised Statute 79-214)

The vision evaluation is required to test for amblyopia (lazy eye) and strabismus (misalignment of the eyes), which are two of the most common vision disorders in young children, as well as internal and external eye health and visual acuity. A certificate or form stating results of the evaluation must be signed by an optometrist, physician, physician assistant, or advanced practice registered nurse. School Vision Evaluation Report Forms are available at the elementary office.

Birth Certificate Requirements

State law requires that a certified copy of a student's birth certificate be used when enrolling a new student in school. If your child is registering with Stanton Community Schools for the first time, you may obtain this document from the Bureau of Vital Statistics in the state in which your child was born. Assistance in obtaining birth certificates may be obtained from Health Records Management, P.O. Box 95065, Lincoln, NE 68509-5065. There is a fee per certificate.

Please note: The document parents receive from the hospital looks like a birth certificate, but it is not a certified copy. A certified copy has the raised seal of the state of Nebraska on it and is signed by the director of vital statistics.

If a birth certificate is unavailable, other reliable proof of a student's identity may be used. These documents could include naturalization or immigration documents showing date of birth or official hospital birth records, a passport, or a translation of a birth certificate from another country. The documents must be accompanied by an affidavit explaining the inability to produce a copy of the birth certificate.

Admission Requirements for Kindergarten

A child shall be eligible for admission into kindergarten at the beginning of the school year if the child is five years of age or will be five years of age on or before July 31 of the calendar year in which the school year for which the child is seeking admission begins. The School Board may admit a child who will reach the age of five years on or after August 1 and on or before October 15 of such school year if the parent or guardian requests such entrance. See Board Policy No. 5001 for Early Admission into Kindergarten requirements.

Immunizations

Students must show proof of immunization. A student who does not comply with the immunization requirements will not be permitted to continue in school. Students with medical conditions or sincerely held religious beliefs which do not allow immunizations must complete an affidavit.

Unimmunized students may nonetheless be excluded from school in the event of a disease outbreak.

Article 4 – Use of Buildings and Grounds

Student Drop Off and Pick Up

When dropping off and picking up students, cars will be expected to line up in the **parking lot east of the school**. As the line moves forward you may drop off or pick up your student. **Do not park on the street south of the school as this will create undue congestion.** Students should load from curbside only. For those students who walk, the crossing area is at the corner of 6th and Fir.

Guest Parking

If a parent/guardian needs to come into the school during morning drop off and/or afternoon pick up, you will need to park in the parking lot. Please do not park along the curb, as the car line will need to continue without disruption. This is also for the safety of our students.

Care of School Property

The citizens of the Stanton School District have provided some of the best equipment and facilities for your use. You can best show your appreciation by taking excellent care of the building, the equipment, grounds, desktops, etc., so that they can be passed onto future students in first-class condition.

Video Surveillance

The Board of Education has authorized the use of video cameras on School District property to ensure the health, welfare and safety of all staff, students and visitors to District property, and to safeguard District facilities and equipment. Video cameras may be used in locations as deemed appropriate by the Superintendent.

Notice is hereby given that video surveillance may occur on District property. In the event a video surveillance recording captures a student or other building user violating school policies or rules or local, state or federal laws, the video surveillance recording may be used in appropriate disciplinary proceedings against the student or other building user and may also be provided to law enforcement agencies.

Insurance

Under Nebraska law, the district may not use school funds to provide general student accident or athletic insurance. The district requires that all student participants in athletic programs have injury and accident insurance and encourages all students who are in classes with risk of personal injury or accident to have insurance coverage. The district does not make recommendations, nor handle the premiums or claims for any insurance company, agent, or carrier. Information about student insurance providers will be available in the school office.

Student Insurance

Two plans of accident insurance are available through the school for students. One plan covers students through the school day and one plan covers students 24 hours a day. The plan covers all activities and athletics, except tenth through twelfth football. Boys competing in football can obtain coverage; however, this policy covers football and no other sports.

Bicycles

Students may ride their bicycle to school; however, careful consideration should be taken with younger students. Students are expected to walk their bike through the crosswalk and must walk their bike while on school grounds. All bicycles must be parked in the bike rack during the school day.

Student Valuables

Students, not the school, are responsible for their personal property. Students are cautioned not to bring large amounts of money or items of value to school.

Lost and Found

Students who find lost articles are asked to take them to the office, where the articles can be claimed by the owner. If articles are lost at school, report that loss to office personnel.

Accidents/Injuries

Every accident in the school building, on the school grounds, at practice sessions, or at any athletic event sponsored by the school must be reported immediately to the Principal.

Bulletins and Announcements

Bulletin boards and display cases are available for school-related and approved materials to be posted and displayed. Posters to be used in the halls or materials for distribution will need to be approved and stamped by the Principal's office. Posters are not to be attached to any painted wall surfaces. Place posters on marble, glass, metal, brick, and wood. The person or organization responsible for distributing the posters is responsible to see that all posters are removed within 48 hours after the event.

Copyright and Fair Use Policy

It is the school's policy to follow the federal copyright law. Students are reminded that, when using school equipment and when completing course work, they also must follow the federal copyright laws. The federal copyright law governs the reproduction of works of authorship. Copyrighted works are protected regardless of the medium in which they are created or reproduced; thus, copyright extends to digital works and works transformed into a digital format. Copyrighted works are not limited to those that bear a copyright notice.

The "fair use" doctrine allows limited reproduction of copyrighted works for educational and research purposes. The relevant portion of the copyright statute provides that the "fair use" of a copyrighted work, including reproduction "for purposes such as criticism, news reporting, teaching (including multiple copies for classroom use), scholarship, or research" is not an infringement of copyright. The law lists the following factors as the ones to be evaluated in determining whether a particular use of a copyrighted work is a permitted "fair use," rather than an infringement of the copyright:

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

Although all of these factors will be considered, the last factor is the most important in determining whether a particular use is "fair." Students should seek assistance from a faculty member if there are any questions regarding what may be copied.

Article 5 – Scholastic Achievement

Grading Scale

Students will receive letter grades on report cards and transcripts. Some courses may be graded on a Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory scale, such as kindergarten and "Study/Social Skills". The following scale will be used to assign letter grades and a grade point average from a percent:

A	94-100
B	86-93
C	78-85
D	70-77
F	Below 70

Infinite Campus Portal

The Infinite Campus portal provides students and parents with real-time student data. This student data is specific to the student and associated parent(s)/guardian(s). The information is secure so only those who have an educational right can view the data. The data includes the student's current grades, attendance, lunch account balance, etc.

Interim Reports

Parents of students in grades K-4 may be sent student performance reports at any time to inform parents of their child's status in various classes. Teachers are urged to contact parents as needed by written reports, email, or by telephone.

Report Cards

Report cards are available to both students and parents on a quarterly basis. The report card will reflect the grades for the student's current classes and his/her attendance.

Parent-Teacher Conferences

Parent-Teacher Conferences will be conducted twice a year (fall and spring). The purpose of the parent-teacher conference is to verbally communicate with the parent their child's academic progress, strengths, and concerns.

Study at Home and School

Even though some supervised study time will be allowed in each class, students are expected to spend some time on the preparation of studies outside of school hours. The amount of time needed depends upon the degree of efficiency. Normally, with the supervised study time in the regular classroom, students should be able to complete their assignments without much trouble.

If, however, a student experiences great difficulty in completing assignments within a reasonable time, the student and parent should seek further help and assistance from the teacher, counselor, or principal.

Assessment Retakes

Summative assessment retakes or opportunities to earn back points are subject to teacher discretion.

Promotion and Retention

Students will typically progress annually from grade to grade. A student may be retained at a grade level when such is determined in the judgment of the Principal, in consultation with the student's teachers and counselor, to be appropriate for the educational interests of the student and the school's educational program.

If a parent or guardian would like their student to retake a grade level, the parent or guardian must meet with the principal to discuss the concerns for their child and options offered to meet the child's needs. The parent or guardian must provide evidence of their concerns. Considerations for students in grades K-4 include academic needs, illness, or excessive absenteeism. For students in grades 5-12, excessive absenteeism will be considered. Opportunities for alternative education, remedial instruction, and verification of special education supports will be reviewed. If a parent or guardian still intends for their child to repeat a grade, they must complete and submit the required district form.

Student Council

We have an organized Student Council that conducts meetings and is sponsored by the school. Student Council is an opportunity that is given to third and fourth grade students. Members are chosen based upon a written application, an oral interview, and exhibiting responsible behaviors in our school. The goals for the council focus on citizenship, leadership, pride through involvement, responsibility, development of communication skills, and problem solving.

Academic Integrity

A. Policy Statement. Students are expected to abide by the standards of academic integrity established by their teachers and school administration. Standards of academic integrity are established for students to learn as much as possible from instruction, for students to be given grades which accurately reflect the student's level of learning and progress, to provide a level playing field for all students, and to develop appropriate values. Cheating and plagiarism violate the standards of academic integrity. Sanctions will be imposed against students who engage in such conduct.

B. Definitions. The following definitions provide a guide to the standards of academic integrity:

1. Cheating means intentionally to misrepresent the source, nature, or other conditions of academic work so as to accrue undeserved credit, or to cooperate with someone else in such misrepresentation. Such misrepresentations may, but need not necessarily, involve the work of others. Cheating includes, but is not limited to:

(a) Tests (includes tests, quizzes and other examinations or academic performances):

1. Advance Information: Obtaining, reviewing or sharing copies of tests or information about a test before these are distributed for student use by the instructor. For example, a student engages in cheating if, after having taken a test, the student informs other students in a later section of the questions that appear on the test.
2. Use of Unauthorized Materials: Using notes, textbooks, pre-programmed formula in calculators, or other unauthorized material, devices or information while taking a test except as expressly permitted. For example, except for "open book" tests, a student engages in cheating if the student looks at personal notes or the textbook during the test.
3. Use of Other Student Answers: Copying or looking at another student's answers or work, or sharing answers or work with another student, when taking a test, except as expressly permitted. For example, a student engages in cheating if the student looks at another student's paper during a test. A student also engages in cheating if the student tells another student answers during a test or while exiting the testing room, or knowingly allows another student to look at the student's answers on the test paper.
4. Use of Other Student to Take Test. Having another person take one's place for a test, or taking a test for another student, without the specific knowledge and permission of the instructor.
5. Misrepresenting Need to Delay Test. Presenting false or incomplete information in order to postpone or avoid the taking of a test. For example, a student engages in cheating if the student misses class on the day of a test, claiming to be sick, when the student's real reason for missing class was because the student was not prepared for the test.

(b) Papers (includes papers, essays, lab projects, and other similar academic work):

1. Use of Another's Paper: Copying another student's paper, using a paper from an essay writing service, or allowing another student to copy a paper, without the specific knowledge and permission of the instructor.
2. Re-use of One's Own Papers: Using a substantial portion of a piece of work previously submitted for another course or program to meet the requirements of the present course or program without notifying the instructor to whom the work is presented.
3. Assistance from Others: Having another person assist with the paper to such an extent that the work does not truly reflect the student's work. For example, a student engages in cheating if the student has a draft essay reviewed by the student's parent or sibling, and the essay is substantially re-written by the student's parent or sibling. Assistance from home is encouraged, but the work must remain the student's.
4. Failure to Contribute to Group Projects. Accepting credit for a group project in which the student failed to contribute a fair share of the work.

5. **Misrepresenting Need to Delay Paper.** Presenting false or incomplete information in order to postpone or avoid turning in a paper when due. For example, a student engages in cheating if the student misses class on the day a paper is due, claiming to be sick, when the student's real reason for missing class was because the student had not finished the paper.

(c) **Alteration of Assigned Grades.** Any unauthorized alteration of assigned grades by a student in the teacher's grade book or the school records is a serious form of cheating.

2. **Plagiarism** means to take and present as one's own a material portion of the ideas or words of another or to present as one's own an idea or work derived from an existing source without full and proper credit to the source of the ideas, words, or works. Plagiarism includes, but is not limited to:

- a. **Failure to Credit Sources:** Copying work (words, sentences, and paragraphs or illustrations or models) directly from the work of another without proper credit. Academic work frequently involves use of outside sources. To avoid plagiarism, the student must either place the work in quotations or give a citation to the outside source.
- b. **Falsely Presenting Work as One's Own:** Presenting work prepared by another in final or draft form as one's own without citing the source, such as the use of purchased research papers or use of another student's paper.

3. Artificial Intelligence

Stanton Community Schools acknowledges that artificial intelligence continues to emerge as a resource that may assist students with future technology and different wants of learning. However, artificial intelligence also poses a challenge to delineate the responsible use of artificial intelligence with student plagiarism. As a result, the Board of Education adopts this Policy to specifically address how the District will address academic honesty and integrity regarding a student's use of artificial intelligence.

Permissible Uses of Artificial Intelligence in School Assignments

Students may use artificial intelligence or related platforms when any of the following occurs:

1. The student receives advance permission from the teacher for the given assignment or project; or
2. The teacher's classroom rules or expectations established artificial intelligence as a permissible resource for students to access.

Any student with questions about the use of artificial intelligence should contact their teacher in advance of using artificial intelligence to assist with any assignment. It is the responsibility of each student to understand the permissible use (if any) of artificial intelligence in a given class or a particular assignment. Students must be fully forthright and honest about their use of artificial intelligence to assist with any school assignment.

Impermissible Uses of Artificial Intelligence in School Assignments

Unless otherwise permitted by this Policy, students may not use artificial intelligence or related platforms to assist or complete any assignment, project, test, or other school-related task. The impermissible use of artificial intelligence may subject the student to discipline in accordance with the District's plagiarism policy and academic dishonesty rules.

4. **"Contributing"** to academic integrity violations means to participate or assist another in cheating or plagiarism. It includes but is not limited to allowing another student to look at your test answers, to copy your papers or lab projects, and to fail to report a known act of cheating or plagiarism to the instructor or administration.

C. Sanctions. The following sanctions will occur for academic integrity offenses:

1. **Academic Sanction.** The instructor will refuse to accept the student's work in which the cheating or plagiarism took place, assign a grade of "F" or zero for the work, and require the student to complete a test or project in place of the work within such time and under such conditions as the instructor may determine appropriate. In the event the student completes the replacement test or project at a level meeting minimum performance

standards, the instructor will assign a grade which the instructor determines to be appropriate for the work. Credit for the class may be withheld pending successful completion of the replacement test or project.

2. Report to Parents and Administration. The instructor will notify the Principal of the offense and the instructor or Principal will notify the student's parents or guardian.
3. Student Discipline Sanctions. Academic integrity offenses are a violation of school rules. The Principal may recommend sanctions in addition to those assigned by the instructor, up to and including suspension or expulsion. Such additional sanctions will be given strong consideration where a student has engaged in a serious or repeated academic integrity offense or other rule violations, and where the academic sanction is otherwise not a sufficient remedy, such as for offenses involving altering assigned grades or contributing to academic integrity violations.

Cheating

Students who cheat on tests or help other students will not be tolerated. This applies to daily work as well. Plagiarism, or claiming others work as your own, is considered cheating and will be dealt with accordingly. Students learn by doing their own work. Specific penalties for cheating will be assigned by the individual teacher and may be reflected in a student's final grade for the course.

Article 6 – Support Services

SAT/MTSS

Students having difficulties in a class may be referred to the Student Assistance Team (SAT) or the MTSS Team (Multi-Tiered System of Support) in an effort to help the student achieve to their fullest potential. If the student has never been tested, consent papers will be filled out and the testing program set up with ESU #8 or as the Guidance Department sees fit. The SAT will work with the teacher(s), student, and parents in order to help improve the overall academic situation for the student.

Special Education Identification and Placement Procedures

Meaning of Special Education

Special education means educational experiences, curriculum, and services, including transportation, through the use of staff, facilities, equipment and classrooms which have been adapted to provide special instruction for students with disabilities. In addition, special education provides the support services necessary for evaluation, placement, and instruction for students with disabilities. These services are free to parents unless they elect to place their child in a program other than one approved by the school district.

Identifying Students with Disabilities

The first step is for parents to provide written permission to have their child evaluated. The request for permission will include a description of the action to be taken and a description of each evaluation procedure. Written statements showing the results of the evaluation and the reasons for placement in a special education program must be kept on file. Within 30 days after a student has been verified as having a disability, a conference will be held with parents. Advance notice will be given. At the conference, an individual education program (IEP) will be developed.

Students Who May Benefit

A student verified as having autism, behavior disorder, hearing impairment, mental handicap, orthopedic impairment, other health impairment, specific learning disability, speech language impairment, traumatic brain injury, or visual handicap may be placed in regular education with support services or may benefit from a special education classroom or service.

Independent Evaluation

If a parent disagrees with an evaluation completed by the school district, the parent has a right to request an independent educational evaluation at public expense. Parents should direct inquiries to school officials to determine if the school district will arrange for further evaluation at public expense. If school district officials feel the original evaluation was appropriate and the parents disagree, a due process hearing may be initiated. If it is determined that the original evaluation was appropriate, parents still have the right to an independent educational evaluation at their own expense.

Reevaluation

Students identified for special education will be reevaluated at least every three years by the IEP team. The IEP team will review existing evaluation data on the student and will identify what additional data, if any, are needed. The school district shall obtain parental consent prior to conducting any reevaluation of a student with a disability.

Individual Education Program (IEP)

Each student with a disability must have a written IEP prepared by the staff in cooperation with parents specifying programs and services which will be provided by the schools. If necessary, the district will arrange for interpreters or other assistants to help parents in preparing and understanding the IEP. Once in place, the program is reviewed on a regular basis with the parent.

An IEP is developed in a conference setting. Parents will be notified of the persons who will be in attendance. The IEP conference shall include at least the following:

1. A representative of the school district;
2. An individual who can interpret the instructional implications of evaluation results;
3. One or both parents;
4. The child (when appropriate);
5. At least one regular education teacher if the child is, or may be participating in the regular education environment;
6. At least one special education teacher;
7. A representative of the nonpublic school if the child is attending a nonpublic school;
8. A representative of a service agency if the child is receiving services from an approved service agency; and
9. Other individuals, at the discretion of the parent or school district.
10. It is permissible for parents to bring other persons to the IEP meeting, but it is a good idea to inform the school before the scheduled meeting. The school district will provide parents with a copy of the IEP.

Special Education Placement

The student's placement in a special education program is dependent on the student's educational needs as outlined in the individual education program (IEP). The school district must assure that students with disabilities are educated with students who do not have disabilities, to the maximum extent possible. Students are entitled to have supplementary aids and services to help them in a regular educational setting. Students with disabilities may be placed in special classes, separate schools or other situations outside the regular educational environment when the nature of the child's needs require specialized educational techniques which are not available in current settings. Determination of a student's educational placement will be made by a team of persons who knows the student and who understands the tests and procedures that assess the student's learning abilities. Team members know the available programs and services which might help the student. Parents are asked for written consent to determine whether or not they approve the educational placement recommended for their child. If the parent does not speak English or is hearing impaired, an interpreter may be requested. Written notice shall be given to parents at a reasonable time before the school district:

1. Proposes to initiate or change the identification, evaluation, verification or educational placement of a child or the provision of a free appropriate public education; or
2. Refuses to initiate or change the identification, evaluation, or educational placement of the child or the provision of a free appropriate public education to the child.

Alternative Programs

Parents have a right to know about available private and public programs, other than those offered by the schools. The school district staff will provide information about those programs on request. If parents place the student in one of those programs, however, the school district is not required to pay for the student's education.

Transportation of Students Receiving Special Education

The district special education staff will make arrangements for transportation for eligible students to the extent such is required by the student's IEP. Students assigned to special education programs requiring attendance at schools outside their regular attendance area will be transported. Special conditions may warrant that special education students receive transportation to their assigned schools. If parents are dissatisfied with a transportation decision, they may contact the Superintendent for a review.

Access to Student Records

Parents have the right to inspect and review any education records relating to their child which are collected, maintained, or used by the school district in providing educational services.

Non-Public School Students

Students in state-approved nonpublic schools may participate in special education programs in the same manner as public-school students.

Parental Review of Programs

Parents who want to review their child's placement for any reason should request an IEP team meeting. If parents are not satisfied with the results of the conference, they may appeal to the Nebraska department of education for a formal hearing to be conducted by a state hearing officer. Parents dissatisfied by the findings and decisions made in a state level hearing have the right to bring civil action.

Plans and Budget

With the exception of personally identifiable student records, district special education plans and budgets are available for public inspection.

The proceeding section was a summary of the Stanton Community Schools district plan for special education students. Anyone interested in obtaining a copy of the complete district policy or a copy of the Nebraska Department of Education Rule 51 (complaint procedures) or Rule 55 (appeal procedures) may contact the Superintendent at the Stanton Community Schools.

Students with Disabilities: Section 504

Accommodations and related services are made available to students with disabilities under Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973. Under Section 504, parents have the following rights:

1. Have your child take part in, and receive benefits from, public education programs without discrimination because of your child's disability.
2. Have the school district advise you of your rights under federal law.
3. Receive notice with respect to identification, evaluation or placement of your child.
4. Have your child receive a free appropriate public education. This includes the right to be educated with non-disabled students to the maximum extent appropriate. It also includes the right to have the school district make reasonable accommodations to allow your child an equal opportunity to participate in school and school-related activities.
5. Have your child receive services and be educated in facilities which are comparable to those provided to students without disabilities.
6. Have your child receive an individualized evaluation and receive special education and related services if your child is found eligible under Section 504.

7. Have evaluation, eligibility, educational and placement decisions made based on a variety of information sources and by persons who know your child and who are knowledgeable about the evaluation data and placement options.
8. Have transportation provided to and from an alternative placement setting at no greater cost to you than would be incurred if your child were placed in a program operated by the school district.
9. Have your child be given an equal opportunity to participate in nonacademic and extracurricular activities offered by the school district.
10. Examine all relevant records relating to decisions regarding your child's identification, evaluation and placement. Obtain copies of educational records at a reasonable cost on the same terms as records are provided students without a disability unless the fee would effectively deny you access to the records.
11. Receive a response from the school district to reasonable requests for explanations and interpretations of your child's records.
12. Request amendment of your child's educational records if there is reasonable cause to believe that they are inaccurate, misleading or otherwise in violation of the privacy rights of your child. If the school district refuses this request, it shall notify you within a reasonable time, and advise you of the right to a hearing.
13. File a local grievance in accordance with school policy.
14. Request an impartial hearing related to decisions regarding your child's identification, eligibility, and educational program or placement with opportunity for participation by the person's parents or guardian and representation by counsel, and a review procedure. This is provided in the local grievance procedure.

Health Services

Student Illnesses

School health personnel will notify parents when a student needs to be sent home from school due to illness. Conditions requiring a student be sent home include: Temperature of 100°F or greater, vomiting, diarrhea, unexplained rashes, live head lice, or on determination by the school nurse that the child's condition prevents meaningful participation in the educational program, presents a health risk to the child or others, or that medical consultation is warranted unless the condition resolves. Please include emergency daytime phone numbers on your child's enrollment card so that you can be reached if your child becomes ill or injured while at school. Please also inform your school health office of any health-related information you feel is important for your student's success in the classroom and/or safety at school.

According to Nebraska state regulation Title 173 NAC3, when a student is sent home with a temperature of 100 or greater, the student shall be excluded from school until fever free for 24 hours without the use of fever-reducing medication.

Guidelines for Administering Medication

Teachers are not permitted to give any medication to the students. Medications are to be taken in the presence of the office staff or the nurse and are to be stored in the office only with permission slip signed.

Whenever possible your child should be provided medications by you outside of school hours. In the event it is necessary that the child take or have medication available at school, the parents/guardians must provide a signed written consent for the child to be given medication at school. A consent form is available at the school health office.

Medications must be provided to the school by the parent/guardian in the pharmacy-labeled or manufacturer-labeled bottle. Repackaged medications will not be accepted. All medications also require a physician's authorization to be given at school. The school nurse may limit medications to those set forth in the Physician's Desk Reference (PDR). Please limit the amount of medication provided to the school to a 30-day supply.

School Health Screening

Children in Kindergarten through fourth grade are screened for vision, hearing, dental defects, height and weight. Students entering the Student Assistance Process at any grade level, and those about whom health concerns are identified to the school nurse, may also be screened. Parents are notified of any health concerns as they are identified. Parents who do not wish their child to participate in the school screening program must communicate this in writing to the school health office where their child attends at the start of the school year. Because Nebraska statutes require school-age screening, parents who remove their child from the screening program must submit findings from an alternate medical provider to the school by December 1.

Physical Examination

Evidence of a physical examination by a qualified physician is required within six months prior to the entrance of the child into any Early Childhood Special Education classes, kindergarten and the seventh grade, or in the case of transfer from out of state to any other grade. A parent or guardian who objects may submit a written statement of refusal for his or her child. The statement will be kept in the student's file. Waiver forms are available in the school health office.

Guidelines for Head Lice

The following guidelines are in place to: better control a nuisance condition; reduce absenteeism due to head lice; and involve parents as partners with the school in control efforts:

1. Children will be sent home from school for live head lice. In the event the child has TWO cases of live lice in a semester, he or she will be sent home until free of both live lice and nits (eggs).
2. Health office staff will provide written treatment information and instructions, including how to check and identify head lice*.
3. A child who is sent home from school for head lice should miss no more than two school days.
4. A child who has been sent from school due to head lice must come to the health office for inspection before returning to class.
5. A child who returns to class with nits (eggs) will be checked again in 7-10 days.
6. Families are encouraged to report head lice to the school health office.
7. Individual buildings will perform classroom-wide or school-wide head checks as needed in order to control the condition at school.

*Nit removal will be emphasized for effective management of the condition. For more information call the nurse at your child's school.

Asthma, Anaphylaxis, and Allergic Reaction Protocol

The district will adopt and implement the Emergency Response to Life-Threatening Asthma or Systemic Allergic Reactions (Anaphylaxis) Protocol as required by the Nebraska Department of Education.

The Superintendent, in conjunction with licensed health personnel, shall establish administrative regulations for the implementation of this policy during regular hours while school classes are in session. The regulations established shall comply with Nebraska department of education rules regarding the protocol to follow in case of a life-threatening asthma or systemic allergic reaction (including anaphylaxis) and use of an EpiPen and albuterol. Also, these shall ensure that each school building will procure and maintain the equipment and medication necessary under the protocol in case of any student or school staff emergency. Staff training in using the protocol shall occur at least once annually, and as needed. Records of training and occurrences of administering medication under the protocol shall be maintained.

The Emergency Protocol shall be implemented, and the equipment and medication necessary to implement the Emergency Protocol shall be maintained, at each school building while school is in session. For purposes of the Emergency Protocol, the phrase "while school is in session" is defined as the core instructional school day. The "core instructional school day" is defined as that portion of each day school is in session during which teachers are on duty to

provide and students are scheduled to receive instruction in the School District's curriculum, generally beginning at 8:00 a.m. and ending at 3:30 p.m. The Emergency Protocol shall not be required to be implemented other than in the school buildings while school is in session, and as such is not required to be implemented at extracurricular activities, on school buses, or during school field trips. Implementation of the Emergency Protocol at such non-mandatory times or places shall be made in the discretion of the administration and shall be subject to the availability of the employees designated or trained in implementation of the Emergency Protocol and the availability of the necessary equipment and medication at such times or places.

The parent or guardian of a student of minority age may sign a waiver requesting that their student not receive emergency treatment under this protocol.

The Superintendent or designee shall further develop and implement protocols to address anaphylaxis and the emergency use of epinephrine at school buildings and school-sponsored activities. A school nurse or trained staff member may administer epinephrine to any individual believed to be experiencing anaphylaxis. These protocols will also address the District's response, documentation, notification, and reporting any instances of administering epinephrine. The District will continue to implement individualized health or Section 504 plans for students with known severe allergies, and nothing in this policy limits rights or accommodations under Section 504, the ADA, or the IDEA.

Article 7 – Drugs, Alcohol and Tobacco

Section 1 Drug-Free Schools

The District is a safe and drug-free schools zone. Any use, possession, distribution, manufacture, sale, consumption, or ingestion of illicit drugs or tobacco products on school grounds, at a school activity, or in a school vehicle is strictly prohibited.

Section 2 Education and Prevention

The District promotes comprehensive, age appropriate, developmentally based drug and alcohol education and prevention programs. The curriculum includes the teaching of both proper and incorrect use of drugs and alcohol for all students in all grades.

Drug and Alcohol Education and Prevention Program of the District Pursuant to the Safe and Drug-Free Schools and Communities Laws and Regulations. All students will be provided with an age appropriate, developmentally based drug and alcohol education and prevention program. The program educates on the adverse effects of the use of illicit drugs and alcohol, with the primary objective being the prevention of illicit drug and alcohol use by students.

Drug and Alcohol Counseling, Rehabilitation and Re-entry Programs. Information concerning available drug and alcohol counseling, rehabilitation, and re-entry programs is available to all of the students upon request of the Counselor.

Safe and Drug-Free Schools—Parental Notice. Pursuant to the provisions of federal law, if, upon receipt of information regarding the content of safe and drug free school programs and activities other than classroom instruction, a parent objects to the participation of their child in such programs and activities, then the parent may notify the District of such objection in writing. Upon receipt of such notice, the student will be withdrawn from the program or activity to which parental objection has been made.

Section 3 Standards of Student Conduct Pertaining to Drugs, Alcohol and Tobacco

The District prohibits the possession, use, or distribution of illicit drugs (including electronic nicotine delivery systems) and alcohol on school premises, in school vehicles, or as a part of any of the school's activities on or off school premises. The conduct prohibited includes, but not be limited to, the following:

1. Possession, use, distribution or being under the influence of any controlled substance, including but not limited to marijuana, any narcotic drug, any hallucinogen, any stimulant, or any depressant.
2. Possession of any prescription drug in an unlawful fashion.
3. Possession, use, distribution or being under the influence of alcohol.
4. Possession, use, distribution, or being under the influence of any abusable glue or aerosol paint or any other chemical substance for inhalation, including but not limited to lighter fluid, whiteout, and reproduction fluid, when such activity constitutes a substantial interference with school purposes.
5. Possession, use, or distribution of any look-alike drug or look-alike controlled substance when such activity constitutes a substantial interference with school purposes.
6. Possession, use or distribution of any tobacco product.

Disciplinary Sanctions

Violation of any of the above prohibited conduct will result in student discipline, up to and including expulsion and referral to appropriate authorities for criminal prosecution. In particular, students should be aware that:

1. Violation of these standards may result in suspension or expulsion.
2. Prohibited substances will be confiscated and unlawful substances will be turned over to law enforcement authorities.
3. The student may be referred for counseling or treatment.
4. Parents or legal guardians will be notified.
5. Law enforcement will be notified.
6. If it appears there is imminent danger to the student, other students, school personnel, or students involved, emergency medical services will be contacted.

Article 8 – Student Conduct

Student Conduct and Discipline Policies

The common goal of students, parents, faculty, and administration of Stanton Community Schools is to maintain a school atmosphere which is conducive to learning. To achieve this, Stanton Community Schools will continue to review and distribute a set of reasonable and fair rules and policies. Violations of the Stanton Community Schools' rules and policies will result in disciplinary action.

Code of Conduct & Legal Responsibilities

Students at all levels have a basic responsibility to conduct themselves at all times so as to reflect credit on their school and themselves. This basic responsibility applies not only to school hours but also while attending school activities home and away. Each student is expected to establish for himself/herself a reasonable code of behavior, which reflects good taste, decency, and sensitivity to the rights of others. Any student causing disruptive behavior in the classroom may be subject to the following disciplinary measures:

1. Verbal warning
2. Contact parents
3. See the student after school
4. Use other disciplinary measures
5. Refer to the student assistance team
6. Bring report to the principal

7. Detention of 20 minutes
8. One day in-school suspension
9. Three days in-school suspension
10. Three days out-of-school suspension and one day in-school suspension
11. Long term suspension (20 days)
12. Recommendation for expulsion from school

The administration will deal with discipline on an individual basis. In order that students may better understand the administration, the following is presented:

1. Respect the rights of others.
2. Remember that for every privilege you assume responsibility.
3. Students will be expected to always walk in a respectable manner in the hallways.
4. Remember the restrooms have not been provided for public gatherings or talk sessions nor are the halls to be used as bulletin boards.
5. Remember that the purpose of this school is to provide formal education.

Now and then, a few students may display extremely poor behavior. In such cases, students may be suspended from class and school attendance. Two types of suspensions may result from the misbehavior.

It is the policy of the Stanton Community Schools not to discriminate on the basis of sex, race, color, or national origin, or handicap in its educational programs, activities, or employment as required by Title VI, Title IX, and Section 504 of federal law. As a student of this school, you are protected from discrimination.

Teacher Authority

Any teacher or non-certified staff members have the authority and the responsibility to warn and correct students for misconduct anywhere in the building, on school grounds, or at school sponsored functions, home or away, even though he/she may not have the student in class. Students are expected to show respect and cooperate with instructors and staff members in all situations.

Forms of School Discipline

Short-Term Suspension

Students may be excluded by the principal or his/her designee from school or any school function for a period of up to five (5) school days (short-term suspension) on the following grounds:

1. Conduct constituting grounds for expulsion whether the conduct occurs on or off school grounds; or
2. Other violations of rules and standards of behavior adopted by the Stanton Community Schools' board of education or the administrative or teaching staff of the school, which occur on or off school grounds, if such conduct interferes with school purposes or there is a nexus between such conduct and school.

The following process will apply to short-term suspensions:

1. The principal or the principal's designee shall make a reasonable investigation of the facts and circumstances. In addition, such short-term suspension will be made only after a determination that the suspension is necessary to help any student, to further school purposes, or to prevent an interference with school purposes.
2. Prior to commencement of the short-term suspension, the student will be given oral and written notice of the charges against the student. The student will be advised of what the student is accused of having done, an explanation of the evidence the authorities have, and be afforded an opportunity to explain the student's version of the facts.
3. Within 24 hours or such additional time as is reasonably necessary, not to exceed an additional 48 hours following the suspension, the principal or administrator will send a written statement to the student and the student's parent or guardian describing (i) the student's conduct, misconduct, or violation of the rule or

standard; (ii) and the reason for the action taken; (iii) the actions taken by the school to attempt or address or alleviate the behavior prior to suspension; (iv) resources the school is able to provide or recommend to assist the student; and (v) how the school plans to address the behavior moving forward, including strategies to maximize the student's continued participation in school.

4. An opportunity will be given to the student, and the student's parent or guardian, to have a conference with the principal or administrator ordering the short-term suspension before or at the time the student returns to school. The principal or administrator shall determine who in addition to the parent or guardian is to attend the conference. The principal shall document their attempt to make a reasonable effort to hold a conference with the parent or guardian.
5. A student who is on a short-term suspension shall not be permitted to be on school grounds without the express permission of the principal.

Long-Term Suspension

A long-term suspension means an exclusion from school and any school functions for a period of more than five school days but less than twenty school days. A student who is on a long-term suspension shall not be permitted to be on school grounds without the express permission of the principal. A notice will be given to the student and the parents/guardian when the Principal recommends a long-term suspension. The notice will include a description of (i) the student's conduct, misconduct, or violation of the rule or standard; (ii) the reasons for the action taken; (iii) the actions taken by the school to attempt to address or alleviate the behavior prior to suspension; (iv) resources the school is able to provide or recommend to assist the student; and (v) how the school plans to address the behavior moving forward, including strategies to maximize the student's continued participation in school.

Expulsion

1. **Meaning of Expulsion.** Expulsion means exclusion from attendance in all schools, grounds and activities of or within the system for a period not to exceed the remainder of the semester in which it took effect unless the misconduct occurred (a) within ten school days prior to the end of the first semester, in which case the expulsion shall remain in effect through the second semester, or (b) within ten school days prior to the end of the second semester, in which case the expulsion shall remain in effect for summer school and the first semester of the following school year, or (c) unless the expulsion is for conduct specified in these rules or in law as permitting or requiring a longer removal, in which case the expulsion shall remain in effect for the period specified therein. Such action may be modified or terminated by the school district at any time during the expulsion period. A student who has been expelled shall not be permitted to be on school grounds without the express permission of the Principal. A notice will be given to the student and the parents/guardian when the Principal recommends an expulsion. The notice will include a description of (i) the student's conduct, misconduct, or violation of the rule or standard; (ii) the reasons for the action taken; (iii) the actions taken by the school to attempt to address or alleviate the behavior prior to suspension; (iv) resources the school is able to provide or recommend to assist the student; and (v) how the school plans to address the behavior moving forward, including strategies to maximize the student's continued participation in school.
2. **Suspensions Pending Hearing.** When a notice of intent to discipline a student by long-term suspension, expulsion, or mandatory reassignment is filed with the superintendent, the student may be suspended by the principal until the date the long-term suspension, expulsion, or mandatory reassignment takes effect if the principal determines that the student must be suspended immediately to prevent or substantially reduce the risk of (a) interference with an educational function or school purpose or (b) a personal injury to the student himself or herself, other students, school employees, or school volunteers. If the student is suspended pending the outcome of the hearing, the student may complete classwork and homework, including, but not limited to, examinations, missed during the period of suspension. During this period, the student will not be required to attend the alternative programs for expelled students in order to complete classwork or homework.
3. **Summer Review.** Any expulsion that will remain in effect during the first semester of the following school year will be automatically scheduled for review before the beginning of the school year in accordance with law.

4. **Alternative Education.** Students who are expelled may be offered an alternative education program that will enable the student to continue academic work for credit toward graduation. A student will not be required to attend the alternative education program in order to complete classwork and homework. In the event an alternative education program is not provided, a conference will be held with the parent, student, Principal or another school representative assigned by the Principal, and a representative of a community organization that assists young people or that is involved with juvenile justice to develop a plan for the student in accordance with law.
5. **Suspension of Enforcement of an Expulsion.** Enforcement of an expulsion action may be suspended (i.e., “stayed”) for a period of not more than one full semester in addition to the balance of the semester in which the expulsion takes effect. As a condition of such suspended action, the student and parents will be required to sign a discipline agreement.
6. **Students Subject to Juvenile or Court Probation.** Prior to the readmission to school of any student who is less than nineteen years of age and who is subject to the supervision of a juvenile probation officer or an adult probation officer pursuant to the order of the District Court, County Court, or Juvenile Court, who chooses to meet conditions of probation by attending school, and who has previously been expelled from school, the Principal or the Principal’s designee shall meet with the student’s probation officer and assist in developing conditions of probation that will provide specific guidelines for behavior and consequences for misbehavior at school (including conduct on school grounds and conduct during an educational function or event off school grounds) as well as educational objectives that must be achieved. If the guidelines, consequences, and objectives provided by the Principal or the Principal’s designee are agreed to by the probation officer and the student, and the court permits the student to return to school under the agreed to conditions, the student may be permitted to return to school. The student may with proper consent, upon such return, be evaluated by the school for possible disabilities and may be referred for evaluation for possible placement in a special education program. The student may be expelled or otherwise disciplined for subsequent conduct as provided in Board policy and state statute.
7. **Returning from Expulsion.** At the conclusion of an expulsion, the District will reinstate the student and accept nonduplicative, grade-appropriate credits earned by the student during the term of expulsion from any Nebraska accredited institution or institution accredited by one of the six regional accrediting bodies in the United States.
8. **Exception for Pre-Kindergarten through Second Grade Students.** Notwithstanding the foregoing, a pre-kindergarten through second grade student shall not be suspended, unless the student (1) brings a deadly weapon to school grounds, a school vehicle, or a school activity or (2) engages in violent behavior capable of causing physical harm to another student or school employee. In all other circumstances, the Principal or designee shall implement appropriate alternative disciplinary measures on a case-by-case basis. A student who brings a deadly weapon may be expelled in accordance with this Policy’s disciplinary procedures.

Emergency Exclusion

A student may be excluded from school in the following circumstances:

- a. If the student has a dangerous communicable disease transmissible through normal school contacts and poses an imminent threat to the health or safety of the school community;
- b. If the student’s conduct presents a clear threat to the physical safety of himself, herself, or others, or is so extremely disruptive as to make temporary removal necessary to preserve the rights of other students to pursue an education.

Any emergency exclusion shall be based upon a clear factual situation warranting it and shall last no longer than is necessary to avoid the dangers described above.

If the emergency exclusion will be for five school days or less, the procedures for a short-term suspension shall be followed. If the Superintendent or his or her designee determines that an emergency exclusion shall extend beyond five days, a hearing is to be held and a final determination made within ten school days after the initial date of exclusion. Such procedures shall substantially comply with the procedures set forth in this policy for a long-term suspension or expulsion and be modified only to the extent necessary to accomplish the hearing and determination within this shorter time period.

Other Forms of Student Discipline

Administrative and teaching personnel may also take actions regarding student behavior, other than removal of students from school, which are reasonably necessary to aid the student, further school purposes, or prevent interference with the educational process. Such actions may include, but are not limited to, counseling of students, parent conferences, rearrangement of schedules, requirements that a student remain in school after regular hours to do additional work, restriction of extracurricular activity, or requirements that a student receive counseling, psychological evaluation, or psychiatric evaluation upon the written consent of a parent or guardian to such counseling or evaluation. The actions may also include in-school suspensions. When in-school suspensions, after-school assignments, or other disciplinary measures are assigned, the student is responsible for complying with such disciplinary measures. A failure to serve such assigned discipline as directed will serve as grounds for further discipline, up to expulsion from school.

Student Conduct

Students have an opportunity to learn by sharing some of the responsibility for creating a good learning environment. To help maintain a quality instructional environment for all students attending Stanton Community Schools, all students are expected to refrain from the following conduct. This refers to board policy #5101.

Grounds for Short-Term Suspension, Long Term Suspension, Expulsion or Mandatory Reassignment:

The following conduct has been determined by the Board of Education to have the potential to seriously affect the health, safety or welfare of students, staff and other persons or to otherwise seriously interfere with the educational process. Such conduct constitutes grounds for long-term suspension, expulsion, or mandatory reassignment, and any other lesser forms of discipline. The conduct is subject to the consequence of long-term suspension, expulsion, or mandatory reassignment where it occurs on school grounds, in a vehicle owned, leased, or contracted by the school and being used for a school purpose or in a vehicle being driven for a school purpose by a school employee or an employee's designee, or at a school-sponsored activity or athletic event. Mandatory reassignment shall be subject to the same procedural requirements and protections as long-term suspension and expulsion.

1. Willfully disobeying any reasonable written or oral request of a school staff member, or the voicing of disrespect to those in authority.
2. Use of violence, force, coercion, threat, intimidation, harassment, or similar conduct in a manner that constitutes a substantial interference with school purposes or making any communication that a reasonable recipient would interpret as a serious expression of an intent to harm or cause injury to another.
3. Willfully causing or attempting to cause substantial damage to property, stealing or attempting to steal property of substantial value, repeated damage or theft involving property, or setting or attempting to set a fire of any magnitude.
4. Causing or attempting to cause personal injury to any person, including any school employee, school volunteer, or student. Personal injury caused by accident, self-defense, or other action undertaken on the reasonable belief that it was necessary to protect some other person shall not constitute a violation of this subdivision.
5. Threatening or intimidating any student for the purpose of or with the intent of obtaining money or anything of value from such student or making a threat which causes or may be expected to cause a disruption to school operations.
6. Knowingly possessing, handling, or transmitting any object or material that is ordinarily or generally considered a weapon or that has the appearance of a weapon or bringing or possessing any explosive device, including fireworks.

7. Engaging in selling, using, possessing or dispensing of alcohol, tobacco, narcotics, drugs, controlled substance, or an inhalant; being under the influence of any of the above; possession of drug paraphernalia, or the selling, using, possessing, or dispensing of an imitation controlled substance as defined in section 28-401 of the Nebraska statutes, or material represented to be alcohol, narcotics, drugs, a controlled substance or inhalant. Tobacco means any tobacco product (including but not limited to cigarettes, cigars, and chewing tobacco), vapor products (such as e-cigarettes), alternative nicotine products, tobacco product look-alikes, and products intended to replicate tobacco products either by appearance or effect. Use of a controlled substance in the manner prescribed for the student by the student's physician is not a violation. The term "under the influence" has a less strict meaning than it does under criminal law; for school purposes, the term means any level of impairment and includes even the odor of alcohol or illegal substances on the breath or person of a student; also, it includes being impaired by reason of the abuse of any material used as a stimulant.
8. Public indecency or sexual conduct. This includes "deep fakes" or other computer-generated images of other students or staff intended to bully, harass, intimidate, or humiliate another student or staff member.
9. Engaging in bullying, which includes any ongoing pattern of physical, verbal, or electronic abuse on school grounds, in a vehicle owned, leased, or contracted by a school being used for a school purpose by a school employee or a school employee's designee, or at school-sponsored activities or school-sponsored athletic events.
10. Sexually assaulting or attempting to sexually assault any person. This conduct may result in an expulsion regardless of the time or location of the offense if a complaint alleging such conduct is filed in a court of competent jurisdiction.
11. Engaging in any activity forbidden by law which constitutes a danger to other students or interferes with school purposes. This conduct may result in an expulsion regardless of the time or location of the offense if the conduct creates or had the potential to create a substantial interference with school purposes, such as the use of the telephone or internet off-school grounds to threaten.
12. A repeated violation of any rules established by the school district or school officials if such violations constitute a substantial interference with school purposes, including (but not limited to) a violation of the District's dress code and electronic communication device rules.
13. Truancy or failure to attend assigned classes or assigned activities; or tardiness to school, assigned classes or assigned activities.
14. The use of language, written or oral, or conduct, including gestures, which is profane or abusive to students or staff members. Profane or abusive language or conduct includes, but is not limited to, that which is commonly understood and intended to be derogatory toward a group or individual based upon race, gender, disability, national origin, or religion.
15. Willfully violating the behavioral expectations for riding school buses or vehicles.

A student who engages in the following conduct shall be expelled for the remainder of the school year in which it took effect if the misconduct occurs during the first semester, and if the expulsion for such conduct takes place during the second semester, the expulsion shall remain in effect for the first semester of the following school year, with the condition that such action may be modified or terminated by the school district during the expulsion period on such terms as the administration may establish:

- a. The knowing and intentional use of force in causing or attempting to cause personal injury to a school employee, school volunteer, or student, except if caused by accident, self-defense, or on the reasonable belief that the force used was necessary to protect some other person and the extent of force used was reasonably believed to be necessary, or
- b. The knowing and intentional possession, use, or transmission of a dangerous weapon other than a firearm. The term "dangerous weapon" includes any personal safety or security device (such as tasers, mace and pepper spray). If a student desires to carry or possess a personal safety or security device, the student must obtain prior approval from the building principal before bringing such device on school grounds. If a student obtains prior approval from the building principal, the student must store the device during the school day in the student's locker, in the

main office or in another secure location designated by the building principal. A student shall not carry a personal safety or security device during the school day.

Knowingly and intentionally possessing, using, or transmitting a firearm on school grounds, in a school-owned or utilized vehicle, or during an educational function or event off school grounds, or at a school-sponsored activity or athletic event. This conduct shall result in an expulsion for one calendar year. "Firearm" means a firearm as defined in 18 U.S.C. 921, as that statute existed on January 1, 1995. That statute includes the following statement: "The term 'firearm' means (a) any weapon (including a starter gun) which will or is designed to or may readily be converted to expel a projectile by the action of an explosive; (b) the frame or receiver of any such weapon; (c) any firearm muffler or firearm silencer; or (d) any destructive device." The Superintendent may modify such one year expulsion requirement on a case-by-case basis, provided that such modification is in writing.

Bringing a firearm or other dangerous weapon to school for any reason is discouraged; however, a student will not be subject to disciplinary action if the item is brought or possessed under the following conditions:

- a. Prior written permission to bring the firearm or other dangerous weapon to school is obtained from the student's teacher, building administrator and parent.
- b. The purpose of having the firearm or other dangerous weapon in school is for a legitimate educational function.
- c. A plan for its transportation into and from the school, its storage while in the school building and how it will be displayed must be developed with the prior written approval by the teacher and building administrator. Such plan shall require that such item will be in the possession of an adult staff member at all times except for such limited time as is necessary to fulfill the educational function.
- d. The firearm or other dangerous weapon shall be in an inoperable condition while it is on school grounds.
- e. For personal safety or security devices, the student abides by the requirements set forth above.

Additional Student Conduct Rules

The following additional student conduct rules are established. Failure to comply with such rules is grounds for disciplinary action. When such conduct occurs on school grounds, in a vehicle owned, leased, or contracted by school being used for a school purpose or in a vehicle being driven for a school purpose by a school employee or by his or her designee, or at a school sponsored activity or athletic event, the conduct is grounds for long-term suspension, expulsion or mandatory reassignment.

Student Appearance

Students at Stanton Community Schools are expected to dress in a way that is appropriate for a school setting. Students should not dress in a manner that is reasonably forecasted to interfere with the learning environment or teaching process in our school. Following is a list of examples of attire that will not be considered appropriate, such list is not exclusive and other forms of attire deemed inappropriate by the administration may be deemed inappropriate for the school setting:

- Clothing that shows an inappropriate amount of bare skin or underwear or clothing that is too tight, revealing or baggy, or tops and bottoms that do not overlap or otherwise of an appropriate size and fit so as to be revealing or drag on the ground.
- Any material that is sheer or lightweight enough to be seen through unless an undergarment which meets dress code is worn underneath.
- Tank tops with straps less than a 2-inch width.
- Shorts, skirts, or dresses shorter than mid-thigh (in front and back) and strapless dresses.
- Pants or shorts with holes showing skin above the mid-thigh.
- Headwear including hats, caps, scarves, and bandanas.
- Clothing that advertises or promotes beer, alcohol, tobacco, and illegal drugs.

- Clothing or jewelry, which exhibits nudity, makes sexual references, or carries lewd, indecent, or vulgar double meaning.
- Clothing that displays profanity or pictures which are in poor taste.
- Clothing or jewelry that is gang related.
- Clothing or jewelry that could be used as weapons (chains, spiked apparel) or that would encourage “horse play” or that would damage property (e.g. cleats).

A student who is a member of an indigenous tribe of the United States or another country may wear tribal regalia in any location where the student is authorized to be on such school grounds or at any school function, as long as the tribal regalia does not interfere with the educational process and does not endanger another person, as determined by the administration. Further, students will also be permitted to wear attire, including religious attire, natural and protective hairstyles, adornments or other characteristics associated with race, national origin, or religion, as long as the attire does not interfere with the educational process and does not endanger another person, as determined by the administration.

No student shall be disproportionately affected by a dress code or grooming policy enforcement because of the student’s gender, race, color, religion, disability, or national origin.

No school staff shall permanently or temporarily alter or cut a student’s hair.

The final decision regarding attire and grooming will be made by the administration. In the event a student is uncertain as to whether a particular item or method of grooming is consistent with the school’s guidelines, the student should contact the Principal for approval, and may also review such additional posting of prohibited items or grooming which may be available in the Principal’s office.

A student dress code violation will be treated as a minor rule violation and may not require the student to miss substantial classroom time, instructional time, or school activities. However, a repeated violation of school rules may subject the student to further discipline.

Playground Conduct

It is a school philosophy that playground time should be a free and relaxing time for students, but with several groups of children on the playground at the same time, safety becomes an important factor. Teachers and aides are asked to supervise in a way they would not be liable in case of an accident. Therefore, playground supervisors have absolute authority while supervising students on the playground.

All students of the Stanton Elementary School will be expected to follow these rules:

1. Be safe.
2. Be respectful.
3. Be responsible.

Stanton Elementary Playground Rules

1. “On Pockets” only when going down the slides and when swinging. The slide is a one-way slide, DOWN.
2. Football, tag, and kicking games are not permitted on the cement.
3. Playing between the buildings is not allowed.
4. Chasing and catching games are not permitted.
5. Tackling is not allowed at any time.
6. Wall ball is not allowed.
7. If a ball rolls onto the parking lot, child must notify an adult.
8. Toys from home are not allowed. Balls from home are okay, as long as they are shared.
9. Pretend weapons or fighting games are not permitted.
10. Do not throw snow at anyone or anything. Snow can be used for creating sculptures.
11. Everyone can play. Try to keep teams even.

12. Treat everyone in a safe and helpful way.
13. The playground supervisor may eliminate an activity that is dangerous or has potential for injury.

Misbehavior on the playground for students in grades K through 4 will result in the loss of playground privileges for a specified amount of time.

The principal, teachers, and paraprofessionals may take playground privileges away from students in order to maintain a safe environment for all.

Bus Regulations, Rules, and Violations

The administration and operation of a school bus program for any school district is a complex procedure. There are problems encountered in such a program which affect the daily operation of the buses. A successful school bus operation requires combined efforts of the Board of Education, the administration, the teachers, the bus drivers, the parents, and the students. The specific responsibilities of the bus drivers and the nature of their conduct in relationship to the wholesome development of the children, who ride the buses, are matters of serious concern. Presented here are some of the responsibilities which students and parents should assume if pupil transportation is to be a satisfactory part of the overall educational program.

Rules for Students Riding the Bus:

(All school rules apply to students while they are riding a bus. This is considered part of a school day!)

1. Students are under the authority of the bus drivers.
2. Students shall be on time for the bus both morning and evening.
3. Students should be careful in approaching bus stops and walk on the left side of the road toward oncoming traffic.
4. Students shall refrain from talking to the driver.
5. Students shall keep the bus clean and refrain from damaging it.
6. Sunflower seeds on the bus are prohibited.
7. Students shall enter and leave the bus at school loading stations and highway bus stops in orderly fashion and in accordance with instruction.
8. Students must refrain from crowding and pushing.
9. Each student must go directly to his or her seat upon entering the bus.
10. Students must keep sharp objects off upholstery.
11. Books and other property must be properly stored out of the way, and the aisle must be clear at all times.
12. Students must avoid playing or loitering on the highway when awaiting the bus.
13. Emergency doors are to be used only in an emergency.
14. Remain seated until the bus stops and the stop arm is extended; depart from the bus and wait for a signal from the driver before crossing the road.
15. While waiting for the bus after school, do not push others to rush to the curb.
16. If you wish to depart from the bus at a location other than the assigned stop, notify the driver well in advance.
17. No foul language, threats or annoying harassment to others is allowed.

If your students are ill and the bus need not make a stop at your residence, a telephone call to the office at 402-439-2250 should be made prior to the usual pick up time.

Violation of Bus Rules:

To ensure the safety of all students transported by school buses, the following procedure will be in effect should a student violate the outline regulation:

1. Verbal warning from the bus driver to the student.
2. Verbal warning from the bus driver to the student and a telephone call home

3. Possible suspension from the bus for a period of two weeks. Possible suspension from the bus for a semester OR the remainder of the school year.

Serious Violations:

Some violations are considered more serious and could lead to immediate suspension up to a semester or the remainder of the school year.

1. Students extending hands, arms or head through the bus window.
2. Vulgar language.
3. Loud talking or talking while the bus is at a railroad crossing.
4. Students not being courteous and not listening to the bus driver.
5. Rough housing or fighting on the bus.
6. Throwing objects in the bus or out the bus windows.
7. Tampering with the bus or any of its equipment.

Harassment and Bullying Policy

It is the policy of Stanton Community Schools that “bullying” type behavior is not to be permitted. These guidelines are established to respond specifically to bullying behavior. Students and parents are advised that other response measures are also in place and set forth in Article 10 of this handbook for behavior which is discriminatory or harassing on unlawful grounds (e.g., sexual harassment, harassment of students with disabilities, race harassment, etc.) There will be severe and serious consequences for this type of behavior and will be dealt with accordingly.

1. The first time school personnel become aware of a possible harassment; the student will be sent to the principal so the concern can be addressed.
2. The second time school personnel become aware of a harassment incident, parents will be notified, and further consequences will be dealt with by the administration.
3. If a student fails to respond positively to the corrective measures of the harassment program, the student will be suspended from school for a minimum of five school days, up to expulsion.

School authorities will determine the action necessary to ensure a safe learning environment for all students.

Specific Rule Items

The following conduct may result in disciplinary action which, in the repeated violations, may result in discipline up to expulsion:

1. Students are not given locker passes, restroom passes or telephone passes to leave a classroom or study hall unless special circumstances arise.
2. Students in the hallway during class time must have a pass with them.
3. Gum, candy, seeds, etc. are not allowed in the school building or classrooms.
4. Students are expected to bring all books and necessary materials to class.
5. Assignments for all classes are due as assigned by the teacher.
6. Students are not to operate the mini-blinds or the windows.
7. Classes are ended by the teacher. Students are not to begin to pack up or leave the class until the dismissal bell has rung or the teacher has dismissed the class.
8. Students are to be in their seats and ready for class on the tardy bell.
9. Special classes such as Music, Art, P.E., Library and computer courses will have other safety or clean up rules that will be explained to students by that teacher which must be followed.
10. Students are not to bring “nuisance items” to school. A nuisance item is something that is not required for educational purposes and which would cause a distraction to the student or others.
11. Students are to stand back from the entry steps and doors in the mornings before school and at noon before the bell so that others may pass in and out of the entry doors.
12. Snow handling is prohibited.

Electronic Communication Devices and Cell Phones

All students are prohibited from accessing or using an electronic communication device while on school property or attending a school instructional function, unless:

1. When required by a student's Individualized Education Program or 504 Plan;
2. When authorized by the District for educational purposes during instructional time;
3. In the case of an emergency or perceived threat of danger;
4. When necessary to monitor or manage a student's health care; or
5. When determined appropriate by the Superintendent or Superintendent's designee.

All exceptions listed herein must be approved in advance by the appropriate school staff member. Any student who violates this Policy may be subject to discipline under the District's Student Discipline Policy.

a. Definitions.

(1) "Electronic devices" include, but are not limited to, cell phones, Mp3 players, iPods, personal digital assistants (PDAs), compact disc players, portable game consoles, cameras, digital scanners, lap top computers, and other electronic or battery powered instruments which transmit voice, text, or data from one person to another.

(2) "Sexting" means generating, sending or receiving, encouraging others to send or receive, or showing others, through an electronic device, a text message, photograph, video or other medium that:

- (i) Displays sexual content, including erotic nudity, any display of genitalia, unclothed female breasts, or unclothed buttocks, or any sexually explicit conduct as defined at Neb. Rev. Stat. § 28-1463.02; or
- (ii) Sexually exploits a person, whether or not such person has given consent to creation or Distribution of the message, photograph or video by permitting, allowing, encouraging, disseminating, distributing, or forcing such student or other person to engage in sexually explicit, obscene or pornographic photography, films, or depictions; or,
- (iii) Displays a sexually explicit message for sexual gratification, flirtation or provocation, or to request or arrange a sexual encounter.

b. Possession and Use of Electronic Devices.

(1) Students are not permitted to possess or use any electronic devices during class time or during passing time except as otherwise provided by this policy. Cell phone usage is strictly prohibited during any class period; including voice usage, digital imaging, or text messaging.

(2) Students are permitted to possess and use electronic devices before school hours, at lunch time, and after school hours, provided that the student not commit any abusive use of the device (see paragraph (d)(1). Administrators have the discretion to prohibit student possession or use of electronic devices on school grounds during these times in the event the administration determines such further restrictions are appropriate; an announcement will be given in the event of such a change in permitted use.

(3) Electronic devices may be used during class time when specifically approved by the teacher or a school administrator in conjunction with appropriate and authorized class or school activities or events (i.e., student use of a camera during a photography class; student use of a lap top computer for a class presentation).

(4) Students may use electronic devices during class time when authorized pursuant to an Individual Education Plan (IEP), a Section 504 Accommodation Plan, or a Health Care Plan, or pursuant to a plan developed with the student's parent when the student has a compelling need to have the device (e.g., a student whose parent is in the hospital could be allowed limited use of the cell phone for family contacts, so the family can give the student updates on the parent's condition).

c. Violations.

(1) Prohibited Use of Electronic Devices: Students shall not use electronic devices for:

- (a) activities which disrupt the educational environment;
- (b) illegal activities in violation of state or federal laws or regulations;

- (c) unethical activities, such as cheating on assignments or tests;
- (d) immoral or pornographic activities;
- (e) activities in violation of Board or school policies and procedures relating to student conduct and harassment;
- (f) recording others (photographs, videotaping, sound recording, etc.) or otherwise transmitting images and/or sounds of another person or persons without direct administrative approval and consent of the person(s) being recorded, other than recording of persons participating in school activities that are open to the public;
- (g) "sexting;" or
- (h) activities which invade the privacy of others. Such student misuses will be dealt with as serious school violations, and immediate and appropriate disciplinary action will be imposed, including, but not limited to, suspension and expulsion from school.

(2) Disposition of Confiscated Electronic Devices: Electronic devices possessed or used in violation of this policy may be confiscated by school personnel and returned to the student or parent/guardian at an appropriate time. If an electronic device is confiscated, the electronic device shall be taken to the school's main office to be identified, placed in a secure area, and returned to the student and/or the student's parent/guardian in a consistent and orderly way.

- (i) First Violation: Depending upon the nature of the violation and the imposition of other appropriate disciplinary action, consequences at a minimum may include a Article 5 STUDENTS Policy No. 5101 Page 15 of 18 relinquishment of the electronic device to the school administration and a conference between the student and school principal or assistant principal. The electronic device shall remain in the possession of the school administration until such time as the student personally comes to the school's main office and retrieves the electronic device.
- (ii) Second Violation: Depending upon the nature of the violation and the imposition of other appropriate disciplinary action, consequences at a minimum may include a relinquishment of the electronic device to the school administration and a conference between the student and his/her parent/guardian and the school principal or assistant principal. The electronic device shall remain in the possession of the school administration until such time as the student's parent/guardian personally comes to the school's main office and retrieves the electronic device.
- (iii) Third Violation: Depending upon the nature of the violation and the imposition of other appropriate disciplinary action, consequences at a minimum may include a relinquishment of the electronic device to the school administration, a conference between the student and his/her parent/guardian and the school principal or assistant principal, and suspension of the student from school. The electronic device shall remain in the possession of the school administration until such time as the student's parent/guardian personally comes to the school's main office and retrieves the electronic device.

(3) Penalties for Prohibited Use of Electronic Devices: Students who receive a "sexting" message are to report the matter to a school administrator and then delete such message from their electronic device. Students shall not participate in sexting or have any "sexting" message on their electronic devices regardless of when the message was received while on school grounds or at a school activity. Students who violate the prohibitions of this policy shall be subject to the imposition of appropriate disciplinary action, up to and including expulsion, provided that at a minimum the following penalties shall be imposed:

- (i) Students found in possession of a "sexting" message shall be subject to a one (1) day suspension from school.
- (ii) Students who send or encourage another to send a "sexting" message shall be subject to a five (5) day suspension from school.

(4) Reporting to Law Enforcement: Violations of this policy regarding the prohibited use of electronic devices that may constitute a violation of federal or state laws and regulations, including, but not limited to, the Nebraska Child Protection Act or the Nebraska Child Pornography Prevention Act shall be reported to appropriate legal authorities and law enforcement.

d. Responsibility for Electronic Devices. Students or their parents/guardians are expected to claim a confiscated electronic device within ten (10) days of the date it was relinquished. The school shall not be responsible, financially or otherwise, for any unclaimed electronic devices. By bringing such devices to school, students and parents authorize the school to dispose of unclaimed devices at the end of each semester. The District is not responsible for the security and safekeeping of students' electronic devices and is not financially responsible for any damage, destruction, or loss of electronic devices.

Network, E-Mail, Internet and Other Computer Use Rules

(a) General Rules:

- (i) The network is provided to staff and students to conduct research and communicate with others. Access to network services is given to staff and students who have agreed to act in a responsible manner. Parental permission is required for student use. Access for all staff and students is a privilege and not a right.
- (ii) Individual users of the district network are responsible for their behavior, actions, problems, and communications involving and over the network. Users will comply with district rules and will honor the agreements they have signed. Beyond clarification of such rules, the district is not responsible for restricting, monitoring, editing, or controlling the information, equipment or communications of individuals utilizing the network or the end product or result of such utilization.
- (iii) Network storage areas shall be treated like school lockers for students. Network administrators may review files, information, equipment, messages and communications of staff and students to maintain system integrity and ensure that users are using the network system responsibly. Users should not expect that files or any information stored or otherwise used or retained on the network, district servers, or in computers, will be private. No reasonable expectation of privacy shall exist in relation to network use.
- (iv) Users should not expect, and the district does not warrant, any information or products obtained from the network, that files or information stored, obtained or used on the network will be private, and use of the network waives and relinquishes all such privacy rights, interests or claims to confidentiality the user may have under state or federal law.
- (v) The district will not be liable for, and does not warrant in any way, purchases made by any user over the network. Users shall not make purchases of goods and/or services via the district's network.

(b) Policy and Rules for Acceptable Use of Computers and the Network: The following policy and rules for acceptable use of computers and the network, including Internet, shall apply to all district administrators, faculty, staff and students. The term "Users", as contained herein, shall apply to all such individuals. The Superintendent, or the Superintendent's designee, is hereby delegated all authority and is the ultimate person in charge of the district network and technology resources or equipment, and the same shall also be under the direct supervision of the site or building administrator where located, sometimes herein called "network administrators."

- (i) Users shall not erase, remake, or make unusable anyone else's computer, information, files, programs or disks. In addition to any other disciplinary action or legal action that may occur, any user violating this rule shall be liable for any and all damages to the computer, information, files, programs or disks.
- (ii) Users shall not let other persons use their name, account, log-on password, or files for any reason (except for authorized staff members).
- (iii) Users shall not use or try to discover another user's account or password.

- (iv) Users shall not use the computers or network for non-instructional or non-administrative purposes (e.g., games or activities for personal profit).
 - (v) Users shall not use the computer for unlawful purposes, such as illegal copying or installation of unauthorized software.
 - (vi) Users shall not copy, change, or transfer any software or documentation provided by teachers, or other students without permission from the network administrators.
 Users shall not write, produce, generate, copy, propagate, or attempt to introduce any computer code, software or information designed to self-replicate, damage, or otherwise hinder the performance of the network or any computer's memory, file system, or software. Such software is often called a bug, virus, worm, Trojan horse, or similar name.
 - (viii) Users shall not use the computer to annoy or harass others with language, images, or threats. Users shall not access, accept, create or send any obscene, vulgar, lewd, tasteless, or objectionable messages, information, language, or images.
 Users shall not damage the network or equipment, damage information belonging to others, misuse network resources, or allow others to misuse network resources. In addition to any other disciplinary action or legal action that may occur, any user violating this or any other rule shall be liable for any and all damages to the computer, network, information, files, programs or disks.
 Users shall not tamper with computers, networks, printers, or other associated equipment except as directed by the teacher or network administrator.
 Users shall not take technology equipment (hardware or software) from the school grounds or remove such from computer work areas without written permission of the network administrator.
- (c) Etiquette and Rules for Use of Computers and the Network: All users of computers and the network are expected to abide by the generally accepted rules of network etiquette. Informal rules of behavior have evolved for the use of and communication on the network, Internet and other on-line services. Breaches can result in harsh criticism by others. These rules of behavior include (but are not limited to) the following:
- (i) Be polite. Do not become abusive in your messages to others.
 - (ii) Use appropriate language. Do not swear, use vulgarities or any other inappropriate language, message, information or images.
 - (iii) Do not reveal your personal account, address or phone numbers, or that of other students or colleagues.
 - (iv) Note that electronic mail (email) is specifically not guaranteed to be private. People who operate the system do have access to mail. Messages relating to or in support of illegal activities may be reported to the authorities. Messages which violate the rules will result in disciplinary action.
 - (v) All communications and information accessible via the network should be assumed to be private property of others.
 - (vi) Do not place unlawful information on any network system.
 Keep paragraphs and messages short and to the point. Focus on one subject per message.
 - (vii) Include your signature at the bottom of email messages. Your signature footer should include your name, position, affiliation, and network or Internet address.
 Other rules may be established by the network administrators or teachers from time to time.
- (d) Penalties for Violation of Rules: All of the policies, rules, and procedures for acceptable use of computers and the network are intended to make the computers and the network more reliable for users. They are also intended to minimize the burden of administrating the networks so that more time can be spent on education and enhancing services. Use of the computer and access to telecommunications resources is a privilege and not a right. Violation of the policies, rules, and procedures concerning the use of computers and the network may result in disciplinary action up to, and including, loss of access, suspension and/or expulsion of students from school and loss of access, suspension, termination, non-renewal or cancellation of the contract of administrators, teachers, or other school employees.

- (e) Student and Parent Agreements: Students and parents may be required to sign a computer and network use agreement as a condition of the student being permitted to use such equipment.

Risks of Social Networking:

The purpose of this message is to give our students information about the risks of using social networking sites.

These sites are public sources of information. The information may be seen by your school administrators, your parents, and law enforcement. It is also accessible to people who you don't even know now, but may later want to impress—such as university admissions and scholarship officials and prospective employers. In fact, many large companies now search the internet as a means of conducting background checks on job applicants. What you say now may affect you years later.

What you say now may also affect you right now. Pictures or writings that show that you have violated student conduct rules may result in school discipline. A picture of a student drinking a beer may very well lead to a suspension from activities if the school learns about it. Criminal charges may be filed against you based on information posted.

Here are some common-sense guidelines that you should follow when using social media and the Internet in general:

- ❑ Don't forget that your profile and forums are public spaces. Don't post anything you wouldn't want the world to know (e.g., your phone number, address, IM screens name, or specific whereabouts).
- ❑ Avoid posting anything that would make it easy for a stranger to find you, such as where you hang out every day after school.
- ❑ People aren't always who they say they are. Be careful about adding strangers to your friends list. It's fun to connect with new friends from all over the world but avoid meeting people in person whom you do not fully know. If you must meet someone, do it in a public place and bring a friend or trusted adult.
- ❑ Harassment, hate speech and inappropriate content should be reported. If you feel someone's behavior is inappropriate, react. Talk with a trusted adult or report it to the authorities.
- ❑ Don't post anything that would embarrass you later. Think twice before posting a photo or info you wouldn't want your parents or boss to see!
- ❑ Don't mislead people into thinking that you're older or younger. If you lie about your age, social media platforms will delete your profile.

We urge all students to follow these common-sense guidelines.

Reporting Student Law Violations

1. Cases of law violations or suspected law violations by students will be reported to the police and to the student's parents or guardian as soon as possible.
2. When a principal or other school official releases a minor student to a peace officer (ex. police officer, sheriff, and all other persons with similar authority to make arrests) for the purpose of removing the minor from the school premises, the principal or other school official shall take immediate steps to notify the parent, guardian, or responsible relative of the minor regarding the release of the minor to the officer and regarding the place to which the minor is reportedly being taken, except when a minor has been taken into custody as a victim of suspected child abuse, in which case the principal or other school official shall provide the peace officer with the address and telephone number of the minor's parents or guardian.
3. In an effort to demonstrate that student behavior is always subject to possible legal sanctions regardless of where the behavior occurs it shall be the policy of the Stanton Community Schools to notify the proper legal authorities when a student engages in any of the following behaviors on school grounds or at a school sponsored event:

- A. Knowingly possessing illegal drugs or alcohol
- B. Assault
- C. Vandalism resulting in significant property damage
- D. Theft of school or personal property of a significant nature
- E. Automobile accident
- F. Any other behavior which significantly threatens the health or safety of students, staff or other persons or which is required by law to be reported.

Due Process Procedure

Procedures for long term suspension, expulsion or mandatory reassignment: the following procedures shall be followed with regard to any long term suspension, expulsion, or mandatory reassignment.

1. The principal shall prepare a written summary of the alleged violation and the evidence supporting the alleged violation with the superintendent or his or her designee.
2. If the principal determines that the student must be suspended immediately to prevent or substantially reduce the risk of (a) interference with an educational function or school purpose or (b) a personal injury to the student himself or herself, other students, school employees, or school volunteers, and a notice of intent to discipline the student by long term suspension, expulsion, or mandatory reassignment is filed with the superintendent or his or her designee, the student may be suspended by the principal until the date the long term suspension, expulsion, or mandatory reassignment takes effect if no hearing is requested or, if a hearing is requested, the date the hearing examiner makes the report of his or her findings and a recommendation of the action to the superintendent.
3. The principal or his or designee shall serve by registered or certified mail or by personal service the student and the student's parents or guardian with a written notice within two school days of the date of the decision to recommend long term suspension or expulsion. Said notice shall include the following:
 - A. The rule or standard of conduct allegedly violated and the acts of the student alleged to constitute a cause of long term suspension or expulsion including a summary of the evidence to be presented against the student as submitted by the principal or assistant principal.
 - B. The penalties to which the student may be subjected and the penalty which the principal, or his or her designee has recommended in the charge.
 - C. A statement explaining the student's right to a hearing upon request on the specified charges.
 - D. A description of the hearing procedures provided by these policies along with procedures for appealing any decision rendered at the hearing.
 - E. A statement that the administrative representative, legal counsel for school, the student, the student's parents, or the student's representative or guardian shall have the right to examine the student's academic and disciplinary records and any affidavits to be used at the hearing concerning the alleged misconduct, and the right to know the identity of the witnesses to appear at the hearing and the substance of their testimony.
 - F. A form or a request for hearing to be signed by such parties and delivered to the principal or his or her designee in person or by registered or certified mail.
4. Nothing in this policy shall preclude the student, student's parents, guardian or representative from discussing and settling the matter with appropriate school personnel prior to the hearing stage.
5. In the event that the principal has not received a request for hearing within five school days following receipt of the written notice, the punishment recommended in the charge by the principal, or his or designee shall automatically go into effect.
6. If a hearing is requested more than five school days following the actual receipt of the written notice, but not more than thirty calendar days after actual receipt, the student shall be entitled to a hearing but the punishment imposed may continue in effect pending final determination.
7. If a request for hearing is not received within thirty calendar days following the mailing or delivery of the written notice, the student shall not be entitled to a hearing.
8. In the event that a hearing is required to be provided, the superintendent shall appoint a hearing officer.

Hearing Procedure

1. **Hearing Officer.** The hearing officer shall be any person designated by the superintendent. The hearing officer shall be an individual who has had no involvement in the charge, will not be a witness at the hearing and who has not brought the charges against the student. It shall be the duty of the hearing officer to remain impartial throughout all deliberations. The hearing officer shall be available prior to any hearing held pursuant to this policy to answer any questions the administrative representative, the student, the student's parents, or guardian, may have regarding the nature and conduct of the hearing.
2. **Administrative Representative.** The principal may appoint an administrative representative to present the facts and evidence. Such administrative representative may be an attorney or may be represented by an attorney, but any such attorney shall not advise the hearing officer or parties who may review the proceedings as their counsel.
3. **Notice of Hearing.** If a hearing is requested within five school days of receipt of the notice, the hearing officer shall, within two school days after being appointed, give written notice to the administrative representative, and the student, the student's parents or guardian of the time and place for the hearing. The hearing shall be scheduled within a period of five school days after it is requested. No hearing shall be held upon less than two school days' actual notice to the administrative representative, and the student, the student's parents, or guardian, except with the consent of all of the parties.
4. **Continuance.** Upon written request of the student or the student's parents or guardian, the hearing officer shall have the discretionary authority to continue from time to time the hearing. In addition, the hearing officer may continue the hearing upon any good cause.
5. **Access to Records.** The administrative representative, the student, the student's parent or guardian and the legal counsel of the student shall have the right to examine the records and affidavits and the statements of the any witnesses in the possession of the Stanton Community Schools board of education at any reasonable time prior to the hearing.
6. **Hearing Procedure.** The hearing shall be attended by the hearing officer, the student, the student's parents, or guardian, the student's representative if any, and the administrative representative. Witnesses shall be present only when they are giving information at the hearing or with the consent of both parties. The student may be excluded at the discretion of the hearing officer at times when the student's psychological evaluation or emotional problems are being discussed. The student or the student's parents or guardian or both may be represented by legal counsel. The hearing examiner may exclude anyone from the hearing when his/her actions substantially disrupt an orderly hearing. The formal rules of evidence shall not apply at the hearing. The administrative representative shall present to the hearing officer statements, in affidavit form, of any person having information about the student's conduct and the student's records, but not unless such statements and records have been made available to the student, the student's parents, guardian or representative prior to the hearing. The information contained in such records shall be explained and interpreted prior to or at the hearing to the student, parents or guardian, or representative at their request, by appropriate school personnel. The student, the student's parents, guardian, or representative, the administrative representative or the hearing officer may ask witnesses to testify at the hearing. Such testimony shall be under oath and the hearing officer shall be authorized to administer the oath. The student, parent, guardian, or representative, administrative representative, or the hearing officer shall have the right to question any witness giving information at the hearing, the student may testify in his/her defense in which case he/she shall be subject to cross-examination nor will any conclusion be drawn there from. Any person giving evidence by written statement or in person at a hearing shall be given the same immunity from liability as a person testifying in a court case. A single hearing may be conducted for more than one student if in the discretion of the hearing examiner a single hearing is not likely to result in confusion or prejudice to the interest of any of the students involved. If during the conduct of such a hearing, the hearing examiner concludes that any of such student's interests will be substantially prejudiced by a group hearing, or that confusion is resulting, the hearing examiner may order a separate hearing for each or any of said students.
7. **Availability of Witnesses.** The hearing officer will have the authority to subpoena any witnesses to the hearing and shall make reasonable efforts to assist in obtaining the attendance of any witnesses requested by the student, student's parents or guardian or their legal representative.

8. Record. The proceedings of the hearing shall be recorded at the expense of the school district.
 9. Findings. Within a reasonable time after the conclusion of the hearing, the hearing officer shall prepare and submit to the superintendent of schools his/her findings and recommendation as to disposition. This report shall explain, in terms of the needs of both the student and the school board, the reasons for the particular action recommended. Such recommendation may range from no action, through the entire field of counseling, to long-term suspension, expulsion, or mandatory reassignment.
 10. Review by Superintendent. The superintendent of schools shall review the findings and recommendations of the hearing officer and in his/her discretion may also review any of the facts and evidence presented at the hearing and based upon such report and the facts shall determine the sanctions to be imposed. However, the superintendent may not impose a more severe sanction than that imposed by the hearing officer.
 11. Notice of Determination. Written notice of the findings and recommendations of the hearing officer and the determination of the superintendent of schools shall be made by certified registered mail or by personal delivery to the student, the student's parents or guardian. Upon receipt of such written notice by the student and/or parents and guardian, the determination of the superintendent shall take immediate effect.
 12. Appeal to Board. The student, student's parents or guardian may, within seven school days following the receipt of the superintendent's decision, submit to the superintendent of schools a written request for a hearing before the board of education.
 13. Review by Board of Education. Upon receipt of the request for review of the superintendent's determination, the board of education or a committee of not less than three members shall, within ten school days, hold a hearing on the matter. Such hearing shall be made on the record except that the board may admit new or additional evidence to avoid substantial threat of unfairness. Such new evidence shall be recorded. The board of education or committee thereof may withdraw to deliberate privately upon the record and new evidence. Any such deliberation shall be held in the presence only of board members in attendance at the appeal proceeding, but may be held in the presence of legal counsel who has not previously acted as the administrative representative in presenting the school's case before the hearing officer. If any questions arise during such deliberations which require additional evidence, the board of education or committee thereof may require the hearing to receive such evidence, subject to the right of all parties to be present. A record of any such new or additional evidence shall be made and shall be considered as a part of the record and based upon the evidence presented at the hearing before the hearing officer, and such new or additional evidence, the board of education or the committee shall make a final disposition of the matter. The board may alter the superintendent's disposition of the case if it finds his/her decision to be too severe, but it may not impose a more severe sanction. A designated method of giving notice by the board of education or committee or committee thereof, if required, for any board review shall be by posting on the schoolhouse door.
 14. Final Decision of Board of Education. The final decision of board shall be delivered to the student and parents or legal guardian of the student by personally delivering the same or by mailing the same by certified or registered mail.
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Article 9 – Student Fees

Student Fee Waiver Procedures

The board recognizes that while certain fees, specialized equipment, or specialized attire are appropriate and authorized, some students and their families are not financially able to afford them. The school district will grant waivers upon the request to the students of families eligible for free or reduced priced meals under the federal child nutrition program.

Waivers must be requested prior to the deadline for waiver of individual categories of fees or items. Waivers will not be approved retroactively for fees previously paid or specialized items, or attire purchased by students. Only those fees and items eligible for waivers as required by state statute shall be waived.

Parents or students eligible for waivers shall make an application on the form provided by the school district. Applications may be made at any time but must be renewed annually. Denial of a waiver may be appealed to the Superintendent, but eligibility is strictly dependent upon meeting financial guidelines established by the child nutrition program. The school district will treat the application and waiver process, as any other student record and student confidentiality and access provisions will be followed. The school district will annually notify parents and students of the waiver. The student fee policy and guidelines will be published annually in the student handbook.

Regulations for Providing Required Specialized Equipment Or Attire in Extracurricular Activities

At the elementary level, activities would include field trips. There is no required specialized equipment or attire.

General Clothing Requirement Regulations

Teachers shall follow the guidelines below when establishing requirements for non-specialized clothing to be worn for specified courses. All requirements should be consistent with meeting the health, safety, and instructional needs of the course. Color and brand of the clothing should not generally be criteria for appropriateness.

Elementary Physical Education --- All students must wear appropriate clothing and tennis shoes.

Personal or Consumable Item Regulations

Teachers may require students to supply various personal or consumable items for use in courses. However, they may state that students are requested but not required to bring the following items for use in school. The school must supply any items required for coursework but not brought by the students.

The district may set reasonable general guidelines on the use of consumable items that teachers may request but not require the students to provide.

Pencils	Erasers	Graph Paper	Highlighters
Colored Pencils	Scissors	Tablets	Compass
Pens	Glue	Notebooks	Protractor
Paper	White Out	Activity Calendars	Calculator
Planners	Crayons	Markers	

Student Fees

The board realizes some activities may require additional expenditures which are properly to be borne by students as a separate charge. Such charges may be waived as specified below depending upon the student's eligibility for the free and reduced-price lunch program. In other special cases where the parent/guardian requests that the students be exempted from charges, the superintendent shall determine granting of waivers. No fees, specialized or non-specialized attire or equipment shall be required of students outside this policy. This policy does not apply to tuition payments by nonresident students.

For the purposes of this policy, the following definitions shall apply:

1. Extracurricular activities means student activities or organizations which are supervised or administered by the school district, which do not count toward graduation or advancement between grades, and in which participation is not otherwise required by the school district;
2. Postsecondary education costs means tuition and other fees associated with obtaining credit from a postsecondary educational facility.

The district may charge student fees or require students to provide specialized equipment or attire in the following areas:

1. Participation in extracurricular activities, including extracurricular music courses;
2. Admission fees and transportation charges for spectators attending extracurricular activities;

3. Postsecondary education costs, limited to tuition and fees associated with obtaining credits from the postsecondary institution;
4. Transportation fees for option students not qualifying for free lunches and nonresident students as allowed by state statute.
5. Copies of student files or records as allowed by state statute.
6. Reimbursement to the district for property lost or damaged by the student;
7. Before-and-after-school or pre-kindergarten services in accordance with state statute;
8. Summer school or night school; and
9. Breakfast and lunch programs

The superintendent shall promulgate regulations to be published annually in the student handbook authorizing and governing:

1. Any non-specialized clothing required for specified courses and activities;
2. Any personal or consumable items a student will be required to furnish for specified activities; and
3. Any specialized equipment or specialized attire which a student will be required to provide for any extracurricular activity, including extracurricular music courses.

The superintendent shall also promulgate regulations authorizing and governing the following areas:

1. All fees to be collected within the nine numbered areas of the third paragraph of this policy;
2. Any other types of specialized equipment or attire to be provided by all students in the nine numbered areas of the third paragraph of this policy;
3. Procedures and forms for students or parent/guardians to apply for waivers under this policy;
4. Deadlines for waivers for all types of fees
5. Procedures for the handling of fees related to summer school or night school; and
6. Attendance requirements and procedures in connection with evening, weekend or summer use of facilities related to all extracurricular activities to avoid conflict with this policy.
7. The maximum dollar amount of each fee must be specified as part of this policy.

Public concerns or complaints regarding required fees, attire or equipment shall be addressed under Policy 1030, Public Complaints.

The policy will be reviewed and re-adopted annually by August 1st at a regular or special meeting of the board. This shall include a review of the amount of money collected under this policy and the use of waivers as provided by this policy. The policy shall be published in the student handbook provided at no cost to each household.

Certification

On July 13, 2026, the school board held a public hearing at a meeting of the school board on a proposed student fee policy. Such public hearing followed a review of the amount of money collected from students pursuant to, and the use of waivers provided in, the student fee policy for the 2026-2027 school year. The foregoing student fee policy was adopted after such public hearing by a majority vote of the school board at an open public meeting in compliance with the public meeting laws.

Darren Soucie

Superintendent or Other Authorized School Official

Legal References:

Neb. Rev. Stat. §§79-2,125 to 79-2, 135 and Laws 2003, LB249 (The Public Elementary and Secondary Student Fee Authorization Act)

Neb. Constitution, Article VII, section 1.

Neb. Rev. Stat. §§79-241, 79-605, and 79-611 (transportation)

Neb. Rev. Stat &7902, 104 (student files or records)

Neb. Rev. Stat &79-715 (eye-protective devices)

Neb. Rev. Stat &79-737 (liability of students for damages to school books)
 Neb. Rev. Stat &79-1104 (before-and-after-school or pre-kindergarten services)
 Neb. Rev. Stat . &&79-1106 to 7901108.03 (accelerated or differentiated curriculum Program)

Cross Reference: 5195 Fines for Lost or Damage Items
 6280 Student Activities
 5202 Student Records Access
 5501 Transportation
 5195 Free or Reduced Cost Meals Eligibility
 1030 Public Complaints

Student Fee Assessments

The following fees, charges or fines will be assessed during the school year for students involved in the activities described.

Students may apply for waivers for some fees under the district waiver guidelines. The student fee policy and guidelines will be published annually in the Student Handbook. See “Activity Fees Chart” on the next page.

Activity Fees Chart

Lunch	PK-6	\$3.25
	7-12	\$3.40
	Adult	\$4.50
	A la carte	\$1.75
Breakfast	PK-6	\$2.25
	7-12	\$2.25
	Adult	\$2.75
Beverages	Milk	\$0.60
	*Milk break	\$0.60
	Juice	\$0.60
*Game admission	Varsity	\$5.00
	Non-varsity	\$4.00
Textbooks:		
<i>Uncovered</i>		\$1.00
<i>Broken spine/badly damaged</i>		Cost of replacement
<i>Cover damage</i>		\$5.00
<i>Dents, chips, marks</i>		\$5.00
<i>Spine cut/torn</i>		\$5.00
<i>Stained cover</i>		\$5.00
<i>Ink/pencil marks (not erasable)</i>		\$1.00 per page
<i>Ink/marker/stains on outside pages at sides of book</i>		\$3.00
<i>End pages/bent pages inside the book</i>		\$1.00 per page
<i>Torn (unfixable pages)</i>		\$1.00 per page
<i>Stained pages</i>		\$1.00 per page

Water damage (minor)		\$5.00
Major water damage (old or new books)		Full cost of the book
*Note: waivers are not available for these fees		

Additional specification of fees may be charged and materials which may be required pursuant to the student fee policy.

Article 10 – State & Federal Programs

Notice of Nondiscrimination

The Stanton Community School District does not discriminate on the basis of sex, disability, race (including skin color, hair texture and protective hairstyles), color, religion, military or veteran status, national or ethnic origin, age, marital status, pregnancy, childbirth or related medical condition, sexual orientation or gender identity, or other protected status in the admission, access to its facilities or programs or activities, treatment, or employment.

Designation of Coordinator(s)

Any person having inquiries concerning this district's compliance with anti-discrimination laws or policies or other programs should contact or notify the following person(s) who are designated as the coordinator for such laws, policies, or programs. The contact information for the district coordinator is:

Mr. Darren Soucie, 1007 Kingwood PO Box 749, Stanton, NE 68779, (402) 439-2250

Law, Policy or Program	Issue or Concern	Coordinator
Title VI	Discrimination or harassment based on race, color, or national origin; harassment	Superintendent
Title IX	Discrimination or harassment based on sex; gender equity	Superintendent
Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act and the Americans with Disability Act (ADA)	Discrimination, harassment or reasonable accommodations of persons with disabilities	Superintendent
Homeless student laws	Children who are homeless	Superintendent
Safe and Drug Free Schools and Communities	Safe and drug free schools	Superintendent

Elimination of Discrimination

Elimination of Discrimination. The Stanton Community Schools hereby gives this statement of compliance and intent to comply with all state and federal laws prohibiting discrimination or harassment and requiring accommodations. The school district intends to take necessary measures to assure compliance with such laws against any prohibited form of discrimination or harassment or which require accommodations, as outlined in Policy #1200.

Complaint and Grievance Procedures

Employees or students should initially report all instances of discrimination or harassment to their immediate supervisor or classroom teacher. However, if the employee or student is uncomfortable in presenting the problem to the supervisor or teacher, or if the supervisor or teacher is the problem, the employee or student is encouraged to go to the next level of supervision. In the case of a student, the Principal would be the next or alternative person to contact.

If the employee or student's complaint is not resolved to his or her satisfaction within five (5) to ten (10) calendar days, or if the discrimination or harassment continues, or if as a student you feel you need immediate help for any reason, please report your complaint to the Superintendent of Stanton Community Schools. If a satisfactory arrangement cannot be obtained through the Superintendent of Stanton Community Schools, the complaint may be processed to the Board of Education.

The supervisor, teacher or the Superintendent of Stanton Community Schools will thoroughly investigate all complaints. These situations will be treated with the utmost confidence, consistent with resolution of the problem. Based on the results of the investigation, appropriate corrective action, up to and including discharge of offending employees, and disciplinary action up to expulsion against a harassing student, may be taken. Under no circumstances will any threats or retaliation be permitted to be made against an employee or student for alleging in good faith a violation of this policy.

Multicultural Education

Students shall have an equal opportunity for a quality education without discrimination, regardless of their race, religion, color, sex, marital status, national origin, or disability. The education program shall be free of discrimination and provide equal opportunity for the students. The education program shall foster knowledge of and respect and appreciation for the culture, history and contributions of diverse cultural groups including, but not limited to, African Americans, Hispanic Americans, Native Americans, and Asian Americans. It shall place special emphasis on human relations and sensitivity toward all races. Multicultural education is the identification, selection and infusion of specific knowledge, skills, and attitudes for the purpose of:

- Affirming the culture, history and contributions that shall include but not be limited to African Americans, Asian Americans, Hispanic Americans and native Americans;
- Challenging and eliminating racism, prejudice, bigotry, discrimination and stereotyping based on race;
- Valuing multiple cultural perspectives; and
- Providing all students with opportunities to “see themselves” in the educational environment in positive ways and on a continuing basis.

To promote and support multicultural education within Stanton Community Schools, it shall be the policy and practice of this district to create opportunities for all students to achieve academically and socially in an educational environment in which all students and staff understand and respect the racial and cultural diversity and interdependence of members of our society.

Notice to Parents of Rights Afforded by Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973

The following is a description of the rights granted by federal law to qualifying students with disabilities. The intent of the law is to keep you fully informed concerning the decisions about your child and to inform you of your rights if you disagree with any of these decisions. You have the right to:

1. Have your child take part in, and receive benefits from, public education programs without discrimination because of his/her disability.
2. Have the school district advise you of your rights under federal law.
3. Receive notice with respect to identification, evaluation, or placement of your child.
4. Have your child receive a free appropriate public education.
5. Have your child receive services and be educated in facilities which are comparable to those provided to every student.
6. Have evaluation, educational and placement decisions made based on a variety of information sources and by persons who know the student and who are knowledgeable about the evaluation data and placement options.
7. Have transportation provided to and from an alternative placement setting (if the setting is a program not operated by the district) at no greater cost to you than would be incurred if the student were placed in a program operated by the district.

8. Have your child be given an equal opportunity to participate in nonacademic and extracurricular activities offered by the district.
9. Examine all relevant records relating to decisions regarding your child's identification, evaluation and placement.
10. Request mediation or an impartial due process hearing related to decisions or actions regarding your child's identification, evaluation, educational program or placement. (You and your child may take part in the hearing. Hearing requests are to be made to the Superintendent).
11. File a local grievance.

Notification of Rights Under FERPA

The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) affords parents and students over 18 years of age ("eligible students") certain rights with respect to the student's education records. They are:

1. The right to inspect and review the student's education records within 45 days of the day the district receives a request for access. Parents or eligible students should submit to the school principal (or appropriate school official) a written request that identifies the record(s) they wish to inspect. The principal will make arrangements for access and notify the parent or eligible student of the time and place where the records may be inspected.
2. The right to request the amendment of the student's education records that the parent or eligible student believes are inaccurate or misleading at the time the record was created. Parents or eligible students may ask the school district to amend a record that they believe is inaccurate or misleading. They should write the school principal, clearly identify the part of the record they want changed, and specify why it is inaccurate or misleading. If the district decides not to amend the record as requested by the parent or eligible student, the district will notify the parent or eligible student of the decision and advise them of their right to a hearing regarding the request for amendment. Additional information regarding the hearing procedures will be provided to the parent or eligible student when notified of the right to a hearing.
3. The right to consent to disclosures of personally identifiable information contained in the student's education records, except to the extent that FERPA authorizes disclosure without consent. One exception which permits disclosure without consent is disclosure to school officials with legitimate educational interests or otherwise allowed by law. A school official is a person employed by the district as an administrator, supervisor, instructor or support staff member (including health or medical staff and law enforcement unit personnel); a person serving on the school board; a person or company with whom the district has contracted to perform a special task (such as an attorney, auditor, medical consultant or therapist); or a parent or student serving on an official committee, such as a disciplinary or grievance committee or assisting another school official in performing his or her tasks. A school official has a legitimate educational interest if the official needs to review an education record in order to fulfill his or her professional responsibility. Upon request, the district discloses education records without consent to officials of another school district in which a student seeks or intends to enroll.
4. The right to file a complaint with the U.S. Department of Education concerning alleged failures by the district to comply with the requirements of FERPA. The name and address of the office that administers FERPA is:

Office of the Chief Privacy Officer
U.S. Department of Education
400 Maryland Avenue, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20202-4605

Notice Concerning Directory Information

The district may disclose directory information. The primary purpose of directory information is to allow the District to include information from your child's education records in certain school publications. Examples may include:

- A playbill, showing your student's role in a drama production;
- The annual yearbook;
- Honor roll or other recognition lists;
- Graduation programs; and
- Sports activity sheets, such as for wrestling, showing weight and height of team members.

Under FERPA, “directory information” is generally not considered harmful or an invasion of privacy if released, can also be disclosed to outside organizations without a parent’s prior written consent. Outside organizations include, but are not limited to, companies that manufacture class rings or publish yearbooks. The types of personally identifiable information that the District has designated as directory information are as follows:

1. Student’s Name, address, telephone number, and the name, address, telephone number, e-mail address and other contact information of the student’s parent/guardian or other adult acting in loco parentis or with authority to act as parent or guardian in educational matters for the student;
2. School and dates of attendance;
3. Student’s current grade;
4. Student’s enrollment status (e.g. full-time or part-time);
5. Student’s extra-curricular participation;
6. Student’s achievement awards or honors;
7. Student’s weight and height if a member of an athletic team; and
8. Student’s photograph.

The district does not designate as directory information personally identifiable information from students’ education records where the district determines that the disclosure to the potential recipient poses a risk to student safety or well-being, including but not limited to circumstances where the potential recipient is a registered sex offender and the personally identifiable information would permit the potential recipient to communicate with or otherwise contact the student, or would otherwise not be in a student’s best interests.

A parent or eligible student has the right to refuse to let the district designate information about the student as directory information. Parents or guardians may refuse to allow their student’s information to be designated as “directory information” at any time during the school year, so long as the parent or guardian notifies the Superintendent in writing.

Student Privacy Protection Policy

It is the policy of Stanton Community Schools to develop and implement policies which protect the privacy of students in accordance with applicable laws. The District’s policies in this regard include the following:

Right of Parents to Inspect Surveys Funded or Administered by the United States Department of Education or Third Parties: Parents shall have the right to inspect, upon the parent’s request, a survey created by and administered by either the United States Department of Education or a third party (a group or person other than the District) before the survey is administered or distributed by the school to the parent’s child.

Protection of Student Privacy in Regard to Surveys of Matters Deemed to be Sensitive: The District will require, for any survey of students which contain one or more matters deemed to be sensitive (see section headed “Definition of Surveys of Matters Deemed to be Sensitive”), that suitable arrangements be made to protect student privacy (that is, the name or other identifying information about a particular student). For such surveys, the District will also follow the procedures set forth in the section entitled: “Notification of and Right to Opt-Out of Specific Events.”

Right of Parents to Inspect Instructional Materials: Parents have the right to inspect, upon reasonable request, any instructional material used as part of the educational curriculum for their child. Reasonable requests for inspection of instructional materials shall be granted within a reasonable period of time after the request is received. Parents shall not have the right to access academic tests or academic assessments, as such are not within the meaning of the term “instructional materials” for purposes of this policy. The procedures for making and granting a request to inspect instructional materials are as follows: the parent shall make the request, with reasonable specificity, directly to the building principal. The building principal, within five (5) school days, shall consult with the teacher or other educator responsible for the curriculum materials. In the event the request can be accommodated, the building principal shall make the materials available for inspection or review by the parent, at such reasonable times and place as will not

interfere with the educator's intended use of the materials. In the event there is a question as to the nature of the curriculum materials requested or as to whether the materials are required to be provided, the building principal shall notify the parent of such concern, and assist the parent with forming a request which can reasonably be accommodated. If the parent does not formulate such a request, and continues to desire certain curriculum materials, the parent shall be asked to make their request to the Superintendent.

Rights of Parents to be Notified of and to Opt-Out of Certain Physical Examinations or Screenings. The general policy and practice of the District is to not administer physical examinations or screenings of students which require advance notice or parental opt-out rights under the applicable federal laws, for the reason that the physical examinations or screenings to be conducted by the District will usually fit into one of the following exceptions: (1) hearing, vision, or scoliosis screenings; (2) physical examinations or screenings that are permitted or required by an applicable State law; and (3) surveys administered to students in accordance with the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act. For physical examinations or screenings which do not fit into the applicable exceptions, the District will follow the procedures set forth in the section entitled: "Notification of and Right to Opt-Out of Specific Events."

Protection of Student Privacy in Regard to Personal Information Collected from Students: The general policy and practice of the District is to not engage in the collection, disclosure, or use of personal information collected from students for the purpose of marketing or for selling that information. The District will make reasonable arrangements to protect student privacy to the extent possible in the event of any such collection, disclosure, or use of personal information. "Personal information" for purposes of this policy means individually identifiable information about a student including: a student or parent's first and last name, home address, telephone number, and social security number. The term "personal information," for purposes of this policy, does not include information collected from students for the exclusive purpose of developing, evaluating, or providing educational products or services for, or to, students or educational institutions. This exception includes the following examples: (i) college or postsecondary education recruitment, or military recruitment; (ii) book clubs, magazines, and programs providing access to low-cost literary products; (iii) curriculum and instructional materials used by elementary schools and secondary schools; (iv) tests and assessments used by elementary schools and secondary schools to provide cognitive, evaluative, diagnostic, clinical, aptitude, or achievement information about student, or to generate other statistically useful data for the purpose of securing such tests and assessments, and the subsequent analysis and public release of the aggregate data from such tests and assessments; (v) the sale by student of products or services to raise funds for school-related or education-related activities; (vi) student recognition programs.

Parental Access to Instruments used in the Collection of Personal Information: While the general practice of the District is to not engage in the collection, disclosure, or use of personal information collected from students for the purpose of marketing or for selling that information, parents shall have the right to inspect, upon reasonable request, any instrument which may be administered or distributed to a student for such purposes. Reasonable requests for inspection shall be granted within a reasonable period of time after the request is received. The procedures for making and granting such a request are as follows: the parent shall make the request, with reasonable specificity, directly to the building principal and shall identify the specific act and the school staff member or program responsible for the collection, disclosure, or use of personal information from students for the purpose of marketing that information. The building principal, within five (5) school days, shall consult with the school staff member or person responsible for the program which has been reported by the parent to be responsible for the collection, disclosure, or use of personal information from students. In the event such collection, disclosure, or use of personal information is occurring or there is a plan for such to occur, the building principal shall consult with the Superintendent for determination of whether the action shall be allowed to continue. If not, the instrument for the collection of personal information shall not be given to any students. If it is to be allowed, such instrument shall be provided to the requesting parent as soon as such instrument can be reasonably obtained.

Annual Parental Notification of Student Privacy Protection Policy: The District provides parents with reasonable notice of the adoption or continued use of this policy and other policies related to student privacy. Such notice shall be given to

parents of students enrolled in the District at least annually, at the beginning of the school year, and within a reasonable period of time after any substantive change in such policies.

Notification to Parents of Dates of and Right to Opt-Out of Specific Events: The District will directly notify the parents of the affected children, at least annually at the beginning of the school year, of the specific or approximate dates during the school year when any of the following activities are scheduled, or are expected to be scheduled:

1. The collection, disclosure, or use of personal information collected from students for the purpose of marketing or for selling that information. (Note: the general practice of the District is to not engage in the collection, disclosure, or use of personal information collected from students for the purpose of marketing or for selling that information).
2. Surveys of students involving one or more matters deemed to be sensitive in accordance with the law and this policy; and,
3. Any non-emergency, invasive physical examination or screening that is required as a condition of attendance; administered by the school and scheduled by the school in advance; and not necessary to protect the immediate health and safety of the student or of other students. (Note: the general practice of the District is to not engage in physical examinations or screenings which require advance notice, for the reason that the physical examinations or screenings to be conducted by the District will usually fit into one of the following exceptions to the advance notice requirement and parental opt-out right:
 - (1) hearing, vision, or scoliosis screenings;
 - (2) physical examinations or screenings that are permitted or required by an applicable State law, and
 - (3) surveys administered to students in accordance with the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act.

Parents shall be offered an opportunity in advance to opt their child out of participation in any of the above listed activities.

In the case of a student of an appropriate age (that is, a student who has reached the age of 18, or a legally emancipated student), the notice and opt-out right shall belong to the student.

Definition of Surveys of Matters Deemed to be Sensitive: Any survey containing one or more of the following matters shall be deemed to be “sensitive” for purposes of this policy:

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 parent;
3. Sex behavior or attitudes;
4. Illegal, anti-social, self-incriminating or demeaning behavior;
5. Critical appraisals of other individuals with whom the student has close family relationships;
6. Legally recognized privileged or analogous relationships, such as those of lawyers, physicians, and ministers;
7. Religious practices, affiliations, or beliefs of the students or the student’s parent;
8. Income (other than that required by law to determine eligibility for participation in a program or for receiving financial assistance under such program).

Public Complaints about Employees

The board recognizes situations may arise in the operation of the school district which are of concern to parents and other members of the school district community. While constructive criticism is welcomed, the board desires to support its employees and their actions to free them from unnecessary, spiteful, or negative criticism and complaints that do not offer advice for improvement or change.

While speakers may offer objective criticism of school operations and programs during public meetings, the board will not hear personal complaints concerning district personnel nor against any person connected with the school system

unless that complaint is an agenda item having followed the process described below. To do so could expose the board to a charge of being party to slander and would prejudice any necessity to act as the final review of administrative recommendations regarding this matter. The board president will direct the patron to the appropriate means for board consideration and disposition of legitimate complaints involving individuals.

Any complaint about school personnel other than the Superintendent will be investigated by the administration before consideration and action by the board. The board will not hear charges against employees in open sessions unless an employee requests an open session.

The board firmly believes concerns should be resolved at the lowest organizational level by those individuals closest to the concern. Whenever a complaint or concern is brought to the attention of the board it will be referred to the administration to be resolved. Prior to board consideration however, the following should be completed:

1. Matters concerning any individual students, teacher, or other employee should first be addressed to the teacher or employee.
2. Unsettled matters from (1) above or problems and questions about individual attendance centers should be addressed to the employee's building Principal for certificated employees and the Superintendent for support staff.
3. If a matter cannot be settled satisfactorily by the Superintendent, it may then be brought to the board. To bring a concern regarding an employee, the individual may notify the board president for inclusion on the board agenda of a regularly scheduled board meeting in accordance with board policy.

It is within the discretion of the board to address complaints from the members of the school district community, and the board will only do so if they are in writing, signed, and the complainant has complied with this policy 1030. For a public complaint form refer to policy 1030.

Notice to Parents of Students in Programs Receiving Title I Funding

Staff Qualifications

Parents may request, and the District will provide on request (and in a timely manner), information regarding the professional qualifications of the student's classroom teachers, including at a minimum, the following:

- A. Whether the student's teacher
 1. has met State qualification and licensing criteria for the grade levels and subject areas in which the teacher provides instruction.
 2. is teaching under emergency or other provisional status through which State qualification or licensing criteria have been waived; and
 3. is teaching in the field of discipline of the certification of the teacher.
- B. Whether the child is provided services by paraprofessionals and, if so, their qualifications.

Testing Opt-Out

Parents may request, and the District will provide on request (and in a timely manner), information regarding any State or District policy regarding student participation in any State or District assessments, including the District's policy and procedure on the parental right to opt the child out of such assessment(s). The District shall also make widely available through public means (including by posting in a clear and easily accessible manner on the District's website) information on each State or District assessment, including:

- A. the subject matter assessed;
- B. the purpose for which the assessment is designed and used;
- C. the source of the requirement for the assessment;
- D. the amount of time students will spend taking the assessment, and the schedule for the assessment; and
- E. the time and format for disseminating the results.

Language Instruction Program

Parents of English learners will be informed regarding how the parents can 1) be involved in the education of their children and 2) be active participants in assisting their children to attain English proficiency, achieve at high levels within a well-rounded education and meet the State academic standards expected of all students. The District will also inform parents of an English learner identified student of opportunities to participate in various school programs, as set forth in ESSA.

School-Wide Title I Services

Stanton Elementary School operates a school-wide Title I program in an effort to raise the achievement levels of ALL of the students on the state and local curriculum standards. By bringing together the Federal resources to support school-wide reform, the principal, teachers, and other school staff, with the participation of parents, have the opportunity to:

- 1) plan the overall educational program for ALL children in the school
- 2) work together to support building goals
- 3) address the needs of students in an integrated way
- 4) spend federal resources in ways we can most effectively raise the achievement of ALL the students.

Combined District and School Title I Parent and Family Involvement

The written District parent and family engagement policy has been developed jointly with, updated periodically, and distributed to parents and family members of participating children and the local community in an understandable and uniform format. This policy agreed on by such parents is available for review on the District's website.

Shared Responsibilities for High Student Academic Achievement

The school *and* parents/family members will jointly develop a school-parent compact that outlines shared responsibility for improved academic performance. Parents and family members are involved in the planning, review, and improvement of the school's Parent and Family Engagement Policy and the Parent/Student/School Compact at the Annual Title 1 Parent Meeting.

The annual meeting will be held at a convenient time in the fall - i.e. Fall Open House/Back to School Night. The annual meeting will be held with parents to inform them about the Title 1 program - to explain the program and the requirements associated with it.

Building Capacity for Improvement

Stanton Community Schools will provide assistance, opportunities, and/or materials for helping parents and family members to understand topics relating to their students' academic achievement in a format, and when feasible, in a language the parents and family members can understand. **Examples include:** Open House, Read Across America Day activities, reading and math take home activities, MAP testing handouts, etc.

Accessibility

To the extent practicable, Stanton Community Schools will provide opportunities for the participation of parents and family members with limited English proficiency, parents and family members with disabilities, and parents of migratory children - including providing information and school reports required in a format and in a language such parents and family members can understand.

Homeless Children and Youth

The board will make reasonable efforts to identify homeless children and youth of school age within the district, encourage their enrollment and eliminate existing barriers to their receiving an education which may exist in district

policies or practices. The designated liaison for identification of homeless children and for tracking and monitoring programs and activities for these children is the Superintendent.

Homeless students are defined as lacking a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence, including:

1. Sharing the housing of other persons due to loss of housing or economic hardship;
2. Living in motels, hotels, trailer parks or camping grounds due to the lack of alternative adequate accommodations;
3. Living in emergency or transitional shelters
4. Are abandoned in hospitals
5. Awaiting foster care placement
6. Living in public or private places not designed for or ordinarily used as a regular sleeping accommodations for human beings;
7. Living in cars, parks, public spaces, abandoned buildings, substandard housing, transportation stations, or similar settings
8. Are migratory children living in conditions described in previous examples.

District Residency: To the extent feasible, homeless students will continue to be enrolled in their school of origin while they remain homeless or until the end of the academic year in which they obtain permanent housing. Instead of remaining in the school of origin, parents or guardians of homeless students may request enrollment in the school in which attendance area the student is actually living, or other schools. Attendance rights by living in attendance areas, other student assignment policies, or intra and inter-district choice options are available to homeless families on the same terms as families resident in the district.

If there is an enrollment dispute, the student shall be immediately enrolled in the school in which enrollment is sought, pending resolution of the dispute. The parent or guardian shall be informed of the district's decision and their appeal rights in writing. The district's liaison will carry out dispute resolution as provided by state rule. Unaccompanied youth will also be enrolled pending resolution of the dispute.

Placement: If the school district is unable to determine the grade level of the student because of missing or incomplete records, the school district will administer tests or utilize or reasonable means according to district policy to determine the appropriate grade level for the child.

School Records: For students transferring out of the district, records may be provided directly to the student or the student's parents. In addition, students transferring into the school district may provide cumulative records directly to the district. The school district will not require that such records be forwarded from another school district before that student may enroll. The school will then request the official records from the previous school.

Immunization Requirements: Homeless students will not be denied enrollment for lack of immunization records. The school district will make a reasonable effort to locate immunization records from the information provided or will arrange for the student to receive immunizations. Permanent exemptions for homeless students from the immunization requirement in this policy will be allowed only for medical, military or religious reasons recognized under the law.

Students defined in state law as homeless children shall be admitted without payment of tuition. Transportation of homeless students who enroll in the district shall be furnished by the district under the same guidelines applying to other students or if such transportation is necessary for compliance with federal law. Each homeless student shall be provided services for which the child is eligible comparable to services provided to other students in the school selected regardless of residency. Homeless children shall be provided access to education and other services that such children need to ensure that they have an opportunity to meet the same student performance standards to which all students are held. If a homeless child registered to attend school in the district is receiving family reconciliation services pursuant to state law, the district will work in cooperation with any county or department of social services in the district to jointly develop an educational program for the child.

Article 11 - Appendices

ACCEPTABLE USE OF COMPUTERS AND NETWORKS

STUDENT'S AGREEMENT

In order to make sure that all members of Stanton Community Schools' community understand and agree to these rules of conduct, Stanton Community Schools ask that you as a student user sign the following statement:

I have received a copy of, and have read, the Internet Safety and Acceptable Use Policy adopted by the Stanton Community Schools, and I understand and will abide by those district guidelines and conditions for the use of the facilities of Stanton Community Schools and access to the Internet. I further understand that any violation of the district guidelines is unethical and may constitute a criminal offense. Should I commit any violation, my access privileges will be revoked. School disciplinary action and/or appropriate legal action will be taken.

I agree not to hold the Stanton Community Schools, any of its employees, or any institution providing network access to Stanton Community Schools responsible for the performance of the system or the content of any material accessed through it.

Student's Name _____

Student's Signature _____ Date: _____

This form will be retained on file by authorized faculty designee for duration of applicable computer/network/Internet use.

ACCEPTABLE USE OF COMPUTERS AND NETWORKS

PARENT'S AGREEMENT

In order to make sure that all members of Stanton Community Schools' community understand and agree to these rules of conduct, we ask that you as a parent/guardian sign the following statement:

I have received a copy of, and have read, the Internet Safety and Acceptable Use Policy adopted by Stanton Community Schools. As parent or guardian of the student named below, I grant permission for my son or daughter to access networked computer services such as electronic mail (e-mail) and the Internet. I understand that this free access is designed for educational purposes. I also understand that individuals may be held liable for violations of those Terms and Conditions. However, I also recognize that it is impossible to restrict access to all controversial materials and I will not hold Stanton Community Schools responsible for materials acquired or sent via the network.

I agree not to hold the Stanton Community Schools, any of its employees, or any institution providing network access to Stanton Community Schools responsible for the performance of the system or the content of any material accessed through it.

Student's Name _____

Parent's Signature _____ Date: _____

This form will be retained on file by authorized faculty designee for duration of applicable computer/network/Internet use.

AVAILABILITY OF 2026-27 K-4 STUDENT/PARENT HANDBOOK ONLINE

The K-4 Student/Parent Handbook of Stanton Community Schools is available on the internet. Go to the school webpage at <http://www.stantonmustangs.org/> and click the "Policies/Handbooks" icon.

Because of the expense of printing the handbooks, we are asking that you consider using the internet to access and review the Handbook rather than a paper copy. Using the internet to access the Handbook will allow the district to direct printing dollars to instructional needs and eliminate the need for you to search for your handbook when you have questions throughout the year. Thank you for considering this use of technology to improve school-home communication.

Please complete and return this form by **Friday, August 21, 2026**. This will allow us time to get the Handbook to all students and parents who prefer a paper copy before school starts while avoiding the necessity of printing more copies of the Handbooks than necessary.

- ☐ Thank you for providing the K-4 Student/Parent Handbook online. I will review it on the internet. My signed receipt below acknowledges receipt of the Handbook in a satisfactory manner via the internet.
- ☐ I prefer a paper copy of the K-4 Student/Parent Handbook.

Name

RECEIPT OF 2026-27 K-4 STUDENT/PARENT HANDBOOK

This signed receipt acknowledges receipt of the K-4 Parent/Student Handbook of Stanton Community Schools. This receipt acknowledges that it is understood that the handbook contains student conduct and discipline rules. The undersigned, as student, agrees to follow such conduct and discipline rules. This receipt also serves to acknowledge that it is understood that the district's policies of non-discrimination and equity, and that specific complaint and grievance procedures exist in the handbook which should be used to respond to harassment or discrimination.

Drug-free schools statement: receipt shall also serve to demonstrate that you as parent or guardian of a student attending Stanton Community Schools have received notice of the standards of conduct of this district expected of students concerning the absolute prohibition against the unlawful possession, use, or distribution of illicit drugs and alcohol on school premises or as a part of any of the school's activities as described in board policy or administrative regulation. This notice is being provided to you pursuant to the Safe and Drug-Free Schools Law and 34 C.F.R. Part 86, both federal legal requirements for the district to obtain federal financial assistance. Your signature on this receipt acknowledges that you and your child or children who are students attending this district fully understand the district's position absolutely prohibiting the unlawful possession, use, or distribution of illicit drugs and the possession, use, or distribution of alcohol or tobacco on school premises or as a part of the school's activities as herein above described and that compliance with these standards is mandatory. Any non-compliance with these standards can and will result in punitive measures being taken against any student failing to comply with these standards.

Date: _____

Date: _____

(Student's Signature)

(Parent or Legal Guardian's Signature)

Student Grade Level _____

Return to:

Sarah Remm, elementary principal
Stanton Community Schools
506 Fir, PO Box 749
Stanton, NE 68779

Stanton Community Schools (Grades PK-6)
Social Media Permission Slip
2026-2027

Student's Name: _____ Grade: _____

We love to share all the neat things our students are doing at school, and we want to make sure you are okay with that, too. Please select below whether or not you give permission for your child's photographs, artwork, writing, or other projects to be posted on the school's social media platforms (school's website, Class Dojo, Facebook, etc.). Your child's personal information will not be shared.

_____ I **GIVE** permission for my child's picture, artwork, writing, etc. to be posted on social media.

_____ I **DO NOT** give permission for my child's picture, artwork, writing, etc. to be posted on social media.

Parent's Signature: _____ Date: _____