

# SPERRY SECONDARY SCHOOLS HANDBOOK

For students and parents

Serving students in 6<sup>th</sup> through 12<sup>th</sup> grades

**918-288-7213**

Office hours are from 7:30 AM - 3:30 PM

**Sperry School District has an automatic answering phone system.  
Press 1 for the Administration Building,  
8 for the High School,  
3 for the Middle School,  
4 for the Intermediate Elementary building,  
5 for the Primary Elementary and Early Childhood buildings.**

#### **Sperry Schools Fax Numbers**

Day Care	918-288-2046
Administration FAX number	918-288-7067
High School FAX number	918-288-7230
Middle School FAX number	918-288-7231
Intermediate Elementary FAX number	918-288-6692
Elementary FAX number	918-288-2463

Access the district website at

[www.sperry.k12.ok.us](http://www.sperry.k12.ok.us)

**This school handbook belongs to:**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

## SPERRY SECONDARY SCHOOLS HANDBOOK

*Parents are encouraged to establish a parent portal account to access their child(ren)s grades and attendance.*

These policies serve as guidelines and may from time to time be changed or revised as necessary. All state and federal regulations and guidelines may supersede or support these policies as appropriate and applicable. Daily bulletins will provide additional information or changes.

**BE SURE TO NOTE OTHER POLICIES WHICH MAY BE INCLUDED AS HANDOUTS OR WHICH MAY BE IMPLEMENTED BY THE PRINCIPAL AS NEEDED.**

### BEFORE AND AFTER SCHOOL

Students are permitted on campus no earlier than 7:15 AM unless participating in an extracurricular activity which requires earlier attendance.

Students are to leave the campus immediately after dismissal. Students are to vacate the building by 2:55 PM for there will be no adult supervision after 3:00 PM. **Students waiting for buses may NOT**

**leave campus even with the intention to return in time to catch their bus.** Students must remain in the designated waiting area until their bus or parents/guardians arrive. Once on campus, students must stay on campus.

Unauthorized departures from campus will be treated as truancies.

### VISITORS

Parents and school patrons are encouraged to visit the school. **All visitors must report to the Principal's office upon arrival, where they must sign in and receive a visitor's pass. Visitors may be required to verify identification.** The principal shall have the right to restrict or deny visitation in order to avoid interference with classroom instruction. Students and other children visitors are not permitted because of distractions to normal school programs. Early Childhood doors will lock at 8:15 AM. Students arriving after that time will be required to check in at the elementary office.

### IMMUNIZATIONS

The table below lists the immunizations currently required by the state of Oklahoma for school attendance. There are other immunizations recommended for some students such as Gardasil, Menactra, and a second Varicella vaccine that are not yet required. There are also some exceptions. If you have questions, consult your health care provider, the Tulsa County Health Department, or the Osage County Health Department. You may also call the Immunization Service at 1-800-234-6196 or visit their website at <http://imm.health.ok.gov>.

VACCINE	Pre-K	KG-6th	7th-10th	11th-12th
<b>DTaP</b> (diphtheria, tetanus, pertussis)	4 DTaP	5 DTP/DTaP	5 DTP/DTap & 1 Tdap booster	5 DTP/DTaP
<b>IPV/OPV</b> (inactivated polio/oral polio)	3 IPV/OPV	4 IPV/OPV	4 IPV/OPV	4 IPV/OPV
<b>MMR</b> (measles, mumps, rubella)	1 MMR	2 MMR	2MMR	2MMR
<b>Hep B</b> (heptitis B)	3 Hep B	3 Hep B	3 Hep B	3 Hep B
<b>Hep A</b> (heptitis A)	2 Hep A	2 Hep A	2 Hep A	2 Hep A
<b>Varicella</b> (chickenpox)	1 Varicella	1 Varicella	1 Varicella	1 Varicella

# SPERRY SECONDARY SCHOOLS HANDBOOK

## VIDEO SURVEILLANCE

Recognizing the importance of the safety of our students, Sperry Public Schools has installed video surveillance equipment. Anyone on school property may be subject to surveillance at any time.

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## SKATEBOARDS

Skateboards are not allowed on school premises at any time. This includes after school and on weekends.

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## ANNUAL ASBESTOS NOTIFICATION

Annually, as required by law, Sperry Schools must notify employees and parents that all buildings have been inspected for asbestos and a "Management Plan" is available at the Administration Office as well as the Elementary, Middle School and High School Offices. This serves as such notice.

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## CHILD FIND NOTICE

The Sperry Public School District is committed to providing comprehensive educational services to all students with disabilities in the least restrictive environment. The district makes every effort to contact, evaluate and educate all children suspected of having a disability, ages 3 through 21, under the provisions established by the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act of 1997 (IDEA). Sperry Public Schools also works with the Sooner Start Early Intervention Program in referrals for identification, evaluation and services for eligible infants and toddlers, from birth through two years of age.

The Special Education Department provides services for children, ages 3-21, with special needs. These services may include academic supports, physical therapy, occupational therapy, speech therapy and behavioral supports. Sperry Public Schools serves children under the disability categories of Developmental Delay, Hearing Impairment, Visual Impairment, Intellectual Disabilities, Multiple Disabilities, Orthopedic Impairment, Other Health Impaired, Emotional Disturbance, Specific Learning Disabilities, Speech/Language Impairment, and Traumatic

Brain Injury. The district will provide free screenings and evaluations to determine eligibility. An IEP will be developed by the IEP team in order to provide a free and appropriate education (FAPE) in the least restrictive environment for each eligible student.

The Special Services Office is located at the Elementary Building. Should you have any questions you may contact the Special Services Director at 288-7213, extension 145.

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## DISCRIMINATION IS UNLAWFUL

Sperry Public Schools does not discriminate against anyone based on race, color, national origin, sex, or qualified handicap. Any employee, student, or patron of Sperry Public Schools who feels that they have been unlawfully discriminated against should contact:

Coordinator-Special Services and 504  
918-288-7213 x145  
Title IX  
918-288-7213 x121

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## PARENT PORTAL/MESSAGING

**Sperry Public Schools provides district and/or site specific messages (voice, email, text) notifying parents/caregivers of school closings, special events, reminders, etc.** In addition, you can view your child's academic schedule and progress by following the school site link to teachers' web pages. This includes extracurricular calendars.

**(PLEASE INFORM THE DISTRICT ANY TIME YOUR CONTACT INFORMATION NEEDS TO BE UPDATED)**

Sperry Public Schools has a student management system that will assist with the management of all student records. This system, Parent Portal, is in compliance with all regulations required by law, and outlined in this handbook. Parents will have access to some of their student's records via the internet. Access to these records will be based upon a secured password that will allow parents to access only the records for their students. For additional information concerning access please contact a building office. Access to Parent Portal

## SPERRY SECONDARY SCHOOLS HANDBOOK

is available on the district Web Site: [www.sperry.k12.ok.us](http://www.sperry.k12.ok.us). In addition, you can now view your child's academic schedule by following the Edline link to teachers' web pages.

Portal and teacher web pages for check grades, classroom schedules and activities.

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### EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS

Sperry Public Schools will strive to have a well-rounded educational program that will meet the intellectual, physical, social, and emotional needs of the students. The primary purpose of school being education, the academic needs of the students will come first. All other programs are designed to supplement the academic program.

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### GRADES

The grading scale used will be as follows:

A	90-100
B	80-89
C	70-79
D	60-69
F	0-59

This grading scale will be used for classes using the weighted and non-weighted GPA systems.

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### PROGRESS REPORTS

Midway of each semester a notice of progress is sent home with each student. However, parents/guardians are encouraged to access the Parent Portal via the Sperry Schools web site to view their child(ren)'s grades, attendance, assignments and behavior status. For an accurate view of current academic progress, parents are encouraged to review their child(ren)'s grade each week. Teachers will grade student work and update the online gradebook in a timely manner.

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### GRADE CHECKS

Parents may check on their child's grades any time using Parent Portal, by contacting teachers via e-mail, or by submitting (in person) a request for grade checks to the site secretary. School staff will not be responsible for sending grade checks without a parent request for each individual grade check. Parents are encouraged to utilize Parent

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### PROFICIENCY BASED PROMOTION

1. Upon the request of a student, parent, guardian, or educator, a student will be given the opportunity to demonstrate proficiency in one or more areas of the core curriculum.
  - A. Proficiency will be demonstrated by assessment or evaluation appropriate to the curriculum area, for example: Portfolio, criterion-referenced test, thesis, project, product or performance. Proficiency in all laboratory sciences will require that students are able to perform relevant laboratory techniques.
  - B. Students shall have the opportunity to demonstrate proficiency in the core areas as identified in 70 O.S. § 11-103.6:
    - Social Studies
    - Language Arts
    - The Arts
    - Languages
    - Mathematics
    - Science
  - C. Proficiency for advancing to the next level of study will be demonstrated by a score of 90% or comparable performance on an assessment or demonstration.
  - D. The opportunity for proficiency assessment will be provided at least twice each school year.
  - E. Qualifying students are those who are legally enrolled in the district.
  - F. The district will not require registration for the proficiency assessment more than one month in advance of the assessment date.
  - G. Students will be allowed to take proficiency assessments in multiple subject areas.
  - H. Students not demonstrating proficiency will be allowed to try again during the next assessment period.
  - I. Exceptions to standard assessment may be approved by the district for students with disabilities.
2. Students demonstrating proficiency in a core curriculum area will be given credit for their learning and will be given the opportunity to advance to the next level of study in the appropriate curriculum area.

## SPERRY SECONDARY SCHOOLS HANDBOOK

- A. The school will confer with parents in making such promotion/acceleration decisions. Such factors as social and mental growth should be considered.
  - B. If the parent or guardian requests promotion/acceleration contrary to the recommendation of school personnel, the parent or guardian shall sign a written statement to that effect. This statement shall be included in the permanent record of the student.
  - C. Failure to demonstrate proficiency will not be noted on the transcript.
  - D. Students must progress through a curriculum area in a sequential manner. Elementary, middle level, or high school students may demonstrate proficiency and advance to the next level in a curriculum area.
  - E. If proficiency is demonstrated in a 9-12 curriculum area, appropriate notation will be placed on the high school transcript. The unit shall count toward meeting the requirements for the high school diploma.
  - F. Units earned through proficiency assessment will be transferable with students among school districts within the State of Oklahoma.
3. Proficiency assessment will measure mastery of the subject matter standards adopted by the State Board of Education.
  4. Options for accommodating students' needs for advancement after they have demonstrated proficiency may include, but are not limited to, the following:
    - A. Individualized instruction;
    - B. Correspondence courses;
    - C. Independent study;
    - D. Concurrent enrollment;
    - E. Cross-grade grouping;
    - F. Cluster grouping;
    - G. Grade/course advancement; and
    - H. Individualized education programs.
  5. The district will disseminate materials explaining the opportunities for proficiency based promotion to students and parents in the district each year. The subject matter standards adopted by the State Board of Education and type of assessment or evaluation for each core curriculum area will be made available upon request.
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### PROMOTION/RETENTION AND FAILING COURSES

Each school in this district will form a committee to review and make decisions regarding retention and promotion. The committee will be composed of a classroom teacher, a counselor when available, and the principal and additional personnel who may be assigned by the principal or superintendent when appropriate. No committee will be formed regarding a failing grade in a course, but such failing grade shall be shown on the student's report card.

Supportive evidence must be presented to the student and parent regarding a retention decision. This evidence must be based on:

1. Testing which actually covers the subject matter presented to the student.
2. Assignments directly related to the subject matter being taught.
3. Consideration will also be given to the student's attendance record, although this matter will not bear the same weight as items 1 and 2.
4. Consideration will also be given to the student's level of maturity (physical, mental, emotional, and social), although this matter will not bear the same weight as items 1, 2 and 3 and cannot be the sole reason for a decision to retain or promote a student.

The student and the parent must be made aware of the possibility of the student's impending retention or failing grade in a course. Any student in danger of being retained or failing a course shall be notified prior to the end of the school year that the student's performance is insufficient, and the student's parents will be mailed a written notice. The school staff will make every effort to help the student improve the student's academic standing. Promotion will be determined by successfully completed units of instruction to be established by the board of education, the superintendent and the relevant principal.

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### INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS

Sperry Public Schools issues instructional materials including, but not limited to, textbooks, workbooks, media materials, and extracurricular activities equipment to students. It is the responsibility of the student to replace or pay for unreturned items.

### FOREIGN EXCHANGE STUDENTS

Sperry High School welcomes foreign exchange students and desires for them to have a successful and meaningful year of learning our culture and language. The following conditions apply to all foreign exchange students seeking to enroll in Sperry Public Schools:

- A. No more than (1) one student from foreign exchange programs will be enrolled in Sperry Public Schools during a school year.
- B. No Sperry High School diplomas will be awarded to foreign exchange program students since state requirements encompass a four-year educational program. Foreign exchange students are not eligible for valedictorian or salutatorian honors.
- C. Student must be in excellent academic standings and be classified as a senior, or completing his/her last year of high school.
- D. Student must have the English skills necessary to complete all academic work at the high school level without special assistance.
- E. Only those students who have J-1 visas, issued pursuant to paragraph (a) (15) (J) of Section 1101 of Title 8 of the United States Code, which hold the sponsoring organization responsible will be considered for enrollment. In addition, all health, academic and discipline records must be valid, up to date and in good standing.
- F. The application to request enrollment into Sperry Public Schools as a foreign exchange student must be completed by June 1 and submitted to the Sperry High School principal. Applications are available on the district web site.

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### EXEMPTION FROM SEMESTER FINALS

*This section applies only to high school students.* Students will be exempt from semester tests if they qualify under one of the following conditions:

1. No absences and/or tardies in a class and a grade of 70% or higher.
2. No more than 1 absence and/or 1 tardy and a grade of 80% or higher.
3. No more than 2 absences and/or 2 tardies and a grade of 90% or higher.

4. Disciplinary infractions (aside from absences/tardies as specified above) automatically forfeit exemption status.
5. Students with holds must attend semester test days regardless of exemption status.
6. ***Exempt*** students having a cumulative score close to the next higher letter grade are encouraged to take the final to improve that grade. Failure of the final will not decrease the cumulative grade. If the final improves a student's grade then the intent of the policy has been accomplished.

If a student is not exempt in all classes, attendance requirement will be the same as a normal school day.

**NOTE:** For the purpose of semester final exemption, only those absences that count toward a student's 90% attendance requirement apply.

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### ACHIEVING CLASSROOM EXCELLENCE (ACE)

In June 2006, Oklahoma lawmakers passed one of the most significant pieces of education legislation in state history. "ACE" changes what students, starting with the class of 2012, must do to earn a high school diploma.

Instead of graduating after passing certain courses, the new law requires students to additionally pass four end-of-instruction (EOI) exams. The four must include Algebra I and English II and two from the following: Algebra II, Geometry, English III, Biology and US History.

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### REQUIREMENTS FOR GRADUATION

1. Credit for a subject is granted after a student has satisfactorily completed the course requirements and has satisfied any or all other obligations related to the instructional program. Based upon the high school semester schedule, each semester class receives .5 units. Beginning with the class of 2012, twenty-three (23) credits are required for graduation. Graduation units must be accumulated starting in the ninth grade and continuing through the twelfth grade.
2. Subject requirements by grade: (Exception made if the requirement has previously been met, other than for English)



# SPERRY SECONDARY SCHOOLS HANDBOOK

**Freshmen:** English I, math, science, one semester Oklahoma History, one semester government.

**Sophomore:** English II, math, biology, world history.

**Junior:** English III, math, science, and American History

**Senior:** English IV

3. Any career-tech coursework to be counted as non-elective credit must be verified by the counselor and approved by the principal.
4. Students who need more than one unit for graduation shall not be permitted to participate in the graduation exercises.
5. A student may not take more than one P.E. or Athletic credit per semester.

For students not enrolling in the College Preparatory Curriculum, parental documentation must be on file opting for the Core Curriculum.

The minimum class load for each grade is two academic subjects per semester. This includes concurrently enrolled students who may use a maximum of one class period per semester as a travel period.

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## CORE CURRICULUM PROGRAM

- 4 Units of English
- 3 Units of Math
- 3 Units of Science
- 3 Units of Social Studies

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## COLLEGE PREPARATORY PROGRAM:

- 4 Units of English
- 3 Units of Mathematics
- 3 Units of Laboratory Science
- 3 Units of History and Citizenship Skills
- 2 Units of Foreign Language or Computer Science
- 1 additional unit from the courses listed above
- 1 Art Competency
- 6 Units of Electives

Students earn 3 credits per semester (6 per school year) utilizing six 55 to 60 minute courses. Each credit earned shall be in compliance with district grading and attendance policy.

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## STUDENT CLASSIFICATION

### (High School Only)

1. Students will be classified as **sophomores** once six units are posted to their transcripts.
2. Students will be classified as **juniors** once eleven units are posted to their transcripts.
3. Students will be classified as **seniors** once seventeen units are posted to their transcript.

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## SENIOR RINGS

Senior rings may be ordered by students during their sophomore year. The standardized design was adopted by the Student Council and Board of Education.

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## WEIGHTED CLASSES

All courses taken in grades 9-12 will be included on the student transcript and will be considered when calculating the grade point average (GPA). Two GPA's will be listed on the transcripts: a college application GPA based on a 4.0 non-weighted GPA and the weighted GPA systems.

**The following weight system will be used to determine class rank:**

Courses	A	B	C	D	F
AP & Pre-AP courses	5.0	4.0	2.0	1.0	0
All other classes	4.0	3.0	2.0	1.0	0

Only Pre-AP and AP courses provided on campus by Sperry Public School certified staff who have received College Board training will be part of the weighted grade system. Sperry High School will continue to try and expand the offering of AP and Pre AP courses as is appropriate.

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## VALEDICTORIAN-SALUTATORIAN

To be eligible for valedictorian or salutatorian, a student must have been in enrolled on or before the first day of class for his/her **senior year in Sperry High School and remain in continuous attendance for the entire year.** All grades recorded in grades 9-12 (after the first semester of their senior year) will be used in the selection.

In order to qualify for co-valedictorian, the top student GPA will be taken and a .05 deduction will be taken. All students falling between the top GPA

## SPERRY SECONDARY SCHOOLS HANDBOOK

and the .05 deduction will be considered co-valedictorians. (For example:  $4.10 - .05 = 4.05$ . Any student with a GPA between 4.10 and 4.05 would meet these qualifications.)

In order to qualify for co-salutatorian, the next highest GPA after the lowest valedictorian's GPA will be used and a .05 deduction will be taken. All students falling between the next highest GPA and the .05 deduction will be considered co-salutatorians. (For example:  $4.00 - .05 = 3.95$ . Any student with a GPA between 4.00 and 3.95 would meet these qualifications.)

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### OKLAHOMA'S PROMISE (formerly OKLAHOMA HIGHER LEARNING ACCESS PROGRAM - SB 156)

Oklahoma's Promise, formerly The Oklahoma Higher Learning Access Program (OHLAP), provides access to post-secondary education opportunities for students with financial need who have demonstrated a commitment to academic success in high school. Students may apply for benefits from OHLAP Trust Fund upon graduation and enrollment in a qualified post-secondary education institution in the State of Oklahoma. Beginning in the eighth grade, caregivers of student's planning to attend a state college or university should research qualification guidelines at [www.okpromise.org](http://www.okpromise.org). Qualifying students who maintain the specified high school requirements are eligible for tuition waiver. Additional grant, scholarship, or student loan inquiries should be addressed with the counselor, or may be researched at [www.OKcollegestart.org](http://www.OKcollegestart.org).

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### OKLAHOMA SCHOLARS

Oklahoma Scholars is an effort by area businesses and school volunteers to encourage students to complete challenging courses during high school that will prepare them for jobs or higher education after graduation. Oklahoma Scholars are high school students who have completed the Scholars Course of Study, a specific sequence of academic courses in math, science, language arts, and social studies. Oklahoma Scholars will receive special recognition when they graduate with the following credits:

**4 Credits English: English I, II, III, IV**

**3 Credits Mathematics: Algebra I, Geometry, and Algebra II**

**3 Credits Science: Biology, Chemistry, Physics**

**3½ Credits Social Studies: World History, U.S. History, U.S. Government, Okla-homa History, Economics**

**2 Credits Same Foreign Language Other Than English**

*(A minimum of 2.5 GPA is required in the core subjects as well as an over-all 2.5 GPA.)*

**See your counselor for more information.**

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### HONOR SOCIETIES

Sperry students may receive recognition for excelling academically. Details about membership in scholastic societies are listed below.

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#### OKLAHOMA MIDDLE SCHOOL HONOR SOCIETY

Students in grades 6-8, whose grade point average is in the top ten percent of the total enrollment may be eligible for the Middle School Honor Roll. The grades used for determining a student's grade average are the grades of the second term of the preceding year and the first term of the current year.

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#### OKLAHOMA HIGH SCHOOL HONOR SOCIETY

Students in grades 9-12, whose grade point average is in the top ten percent of the total enrollment may be eligible for the honor roll. The grades used for determining a student's grade average are the grades of the second term of the preceding year and the first term of the current year.

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#### NATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY

Students in grades 10-12, who have spent at least one semester in this school, may become members of the National Honor Society if they meet the requirements of membership. Anyone who has a 3.5 GPA for each of the two previous semesters is eligible for membership consideration. Each prospective member must have the



## SPERRY SECONDARY SCHOOLS HANDBOOK

recommendation of three teachers before he/she will be considered. (Faculty recommendation forms may be obtained from the N.H.S. Sponsor.) In addition, three activity points are necessary. Activity points are based upon membership and participation in the various activities at school. Final decision regarding membership of candidates meeting the requirements will be determined a selection committee. Scholarship, leadership, character and service are considered in determining selection.

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### PRINCIPAL'S HONOR ROLL

Students who have maintained grades of all "A's" and "B's" for the current semester are eligible.

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### SUPERINTENDENT'S HONOR ROLL

Students will receive recognition for maintaining an A average per semester.

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### AWARDS ASSEMBLY

An awards assembly will be conducted each spring to acknowledge subject matter achievement and other appropriate awards.

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### GUIDANCE

Guidance services are available for every Sperry student. These services include assistance with educational planning, career information, interpretation of test scores, study helps, personal problems, or any questions the student may have.

1. Students must have an appointment to visit the counselor.
  2. Parents may contact the school office for a conference with the counselor.
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### AUTHORITY OF ADULT SCHOOL STAFF

All of the adult employees of the Sperry Public Schools have certain responsibilities to the school. In order to carry out these responsibilities, they have authority to direct and correct students when the need arises. If any student is directed or corrected by any adult employee, whether the

employee is faculty, clerical, cafeteria, custodial, or bus driver, the student is expected to comply. Disciplinary action will be given for students who do not comply.

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### AUTHORITY OF SUBSTITUTE TEACHERS

Our school is fortunate in having capable people to help us whenever staff members are unable to be in their classroom. A substitute teacher is an important member of our learning community and is to be treated with the utmost respect. It is important for students to remember that whole impressions of our school will be carried out into the communities in which these people live. Let us make sure that these are good impressions by being polite, helpful, and considerate. It may be helpful for the students to keep in mind that while a substitute teacher is in charge of a classroom, the substitute is in charge of classroom management and has the authority to determine classroom rules. Students have the responsibility of adjusting to the substitute's manner of conducting a classroom and should not assume that the substitute will operate in the same manner as the regular classroom teacher. A discipline referral to the office by a substitute may likely result in the assignment of a Saturday School.

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### TOBACCO - ABLE COMMISSION

Sperry Public Schools assists the Oklahoma ABLE Commission with the Prevention of Youth Access to Tobacco Act. The provisions of the Tobacco Act include, but are not limited to, the following:

- It is illegal for a person under the age of 18 to possess any tobacco products.
- It is illegal to sell or furnish tobacco products to any person under age 18
- Administrative fines may range from \$100 for a first offense to \$300 for a third fine within one year. Non-payment of an assessed fine will result in driver's license suspension.

Sperry Public Schools will follow board policy concerning discipline of tobacco violations, but will then turn violators over to the ABLE Commission for review and possible fines.

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## SPERRY SECONDARY SCHOOLS HANDBOOK

### TOBACCO - HOUSE BILL NO. 1104

BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA:

*SECTION 1.* AMENDATORY 21 O.S. 1981, Section 1241, is amended to read as follows: SECTION 1241. Any person who shall furnish to any minor by gift, sale or otherwise, any cigarettes, or cigarette papers, cigars, snuff, chewing tobacco, or any other form of tobacco product shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and upon conviction thereof shall be sentenced to pay a fine of not less than Twenty-five Dollars (\$25.00) nor more than Two Hundred Dollars (\$200.00) and be confined in the county jail not less than ten (10) days nor more than ninety (90) days for each offense.

*SECTION 2.* AMENDATORY 21 O.S. 1981, Section 1242, is amended to read as follows: SECTION 1242. Any minor being in possession of cigarettes or of cigarette papers, cigars, snuff, chewing tobacco, or any other form of tobacco product and being by police officer, constable, juvenile court officer, truant officer, or teacher in any school, asked where and from whom such cigarette papers, cigars, snuff, chewing tobacco, or any other form of tobacco product were obtained, who shall refuse to furnish such information, shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and upon conviction thereof before the district court, or any judge of the district court, such minor being of the age of sixteen (16) years or upwards shall be sentenced to pay a fine not exceeding Five Dollars (\$5.00) or to undergo an imprisonment in the jail of the proper county not exceeding five (5) days, or both; if such minor shall be under the age of sixteen (16) years, he or she shall be certified by such magistrate or justice to the juvenile court of the county for such action as said court shall deem proper.

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### ACCIDENTS

Every accident in the school buildings, on the school grounds, or on school-sponsored activities must be reported immediately to the sponsor and to the school office.

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### EMERGENCY DRILLS

Fire, tornado, lockdown, and intruder drills are conducted each semester. Each student should study the list posted in each room and know what to do in each case.

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### ELIGIBILITY RULES AND ELIGIBILITY FOR ACTIVITIES

1. Only those students who are fully eligible will be permitted to represent the school in any capacity;
2. Must be a resident of Sperry School District or satisfy the transfer rule;
3. Must have passed five subjects the previous semester (a six week ineligible period will be enforced);
4. Must be passing all subjects at the end of the week prior to the event;
5. Must not be under any disciplinary action;
6. Students must be in school attendance for one-half day to participate in any school activity on that day. (Exceptions may be made by the Principal.); and
7. Students will follow all OSSAA guidelines for eligibility.

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### RULES GOVERNING ACTIVITY TRIPS

Students who leave the school campus under school supervision on activity trips will be supervised under the following guidelines:

1. Students will not be left unsupervised under any circumstances.
  2. Students will follow the Sperry Conduct Code or will follow the dress/conduct code as outlined by their coach/sponsor.
  3. Students will remain only in the area designated by the sponsor.
  4. Alcoholic beverages and controlled dangerous substances are not permitted.
  5. Students may leave school supervision only with their parent(s) or authorized adults.
  6. Students must sit together in a group when not performing or participating.
  7. Students who refuse to co-operate with a sponsor enforcing these rules will be sent home immediately after their parents have been contacted.
  8. Students must ride the transportation provided by the school. With the sponsor's permission, a student may ride home with his/her own parents. **NO EXCEPTIONS.**
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# SPERRY SECONDARY SCHOOLS HANDBOOK

## STUDENT PURCHASES

No student will purchase anything that the school or organization is paying for, without the sponsor's permission. The Sponsor is responsible for all purchases.

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## FUNDRAISING

Non-school fund raising activities of any kind will not be permitted on campus without administrative approval.

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## LOCKERS

Students will be assigned a locker by the principal. Students are to use only the locker that he/she is assigned. Using a different locker may result in disciplinary action. Lockers are school property and students should not assume any right to privacy in the contents of the locker.

1. Locker doors are not to be banged or kicked, excessive damage will be paid for by the student.
  2. Signs and stickers are not to be put on lockers, inside or outside, without permission from the principal and then must be put on with a material that can be easily removed without damage to the locker.
  3. Elementary and Intermediate school students **may not** lock their lockers.
  4. Book bags or other bags may not be taken to the classroom and must be small enough to easily fit in the locker.
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## STUDENT VEHICLE USE AND PARKING

Students are permitted to park on school premises as a matter of privilege, not of right. The school retains authority to conduct routine patrols of the student parking lot and inspections of the exteriors of student automobiles when on school property. The interiors of student vehicles may be inspected whenever there is reasonable suspicion to believe that illegal or unauthorized materials may be inside. Refusal to allow inspection of the vehicle will result in the student's loss of on-campus parking privileges and notification of the police.

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## PARKING PERMIT

Any vehicle parked on a school parking area must display a valid parking tag. Tags may be purchased in the school offices for \$10.00. Permits are not transferable to another student's vehicle.

The following rules and regulations shall govern student parking:

1. Students who wish to park a motor vehicle in any school parking area must register the vehicle and must possess an appropriate and valid Oklahoma operator's permit or license.
  2. Students may not sit in or upon, nor may they congregate around vehicles at any time during school.
  3. Any motor vehicle must be registered with the school in order to park in the campus parking lot and must properly display the appropriate parking tag. Students driving a motor vehicle to the school campus must park the vehicle in the parking lot designated for student parking, and are not permitted to park in the interior parking area in front of the middle school, administration building, or the elementary buildings. Students will **not** park vehicles in areas designated for faculty parking, driveways, fire lanes, or on private property or adjacent side streets.
  4. All state laws, city laws, ordinances, and school rules and regulations shall be strictly enforced.
  5. Any student in violation of any of these rules may be subject to fines, disciplinary action, and/or suspension from parking and operating a vehicle on school premises.
  6. Vehicles improperly parked may be towed or immobilized at the owner's expense. This includes unregistered vehicles.
  7. Students ticketed by the police department for moving violations during the school day may have their parking permits revoked.
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## TELEPHONES

Rules governing telephone calls will be as follows:

1. No student will be called from class, activity or study hall to answer the telephone except in cases of emergency.
  2. No student will be allowed out of class to make a telephone call unless in cases of emergency.
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# SPERRY SECONDARY SCHOOLS HANDBOOK

## PASSES

Students will not be allowed to leave a class unless absolutely necessary and they must have an “agenda” properly authorized by the teacher. No student may be taken from another teacher's class without written permission from the principal.

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## CLOSED CAMPUS

The entire school campus is closed. There will be **NO EXCEPTIONS**. Students may bring their lunch and eat it in the cafeteria or buy their lunch in the cafeteria.

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## LUNCHESES

Our child nutrition system will allow a family to send money to be credited to individual student accounts. Each student's lunch charge will be debited to his/her individual account.

1. Elementary students will make deposits through their teacher.
2. There will be **no charging** of lunches or of extra food items when the account has a zero balance.
3. If you forget your lunch money, you must get permission from the principal before you will be allowed to eat.
4. Any student bringing a lunch must eat in the cafeteria or designated area
5. All those eating in the cafeteria must observe rules of conduct. (No loud talking, no pushing, no hitting, no throwing, etc.)
6. Students may not take pop into the cafeteria.
7. Students may request extra fruit or vegetable after purchasing their lunch meal; however, all food you request must be eaten.
8. No food, drinks or any containers may be taken from the cafeteria.
9. Parents are welcome to eat lunch with their child. However, outside food may not be brought in.

**Applications for free or reduced lunches must be filled out “every” school year and within 30 days of the new school year. Failure to do so will result in your child having to pay full price. If you have any questions regarding this policy, please call our cafeteria at 288-7213 x131**

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## OBSERVATION OF MOMENT OF SILENCE

The Oklahoma Legislature has directed that the board of education of each school district shall ensure that the public schools within the district shall observe approximately one minute of silence each day. This policy is adopted to comply with that directive.

The principal of each school building within the school district is hereby directed to designate approximately one minute of instructional time each school day for the observation of a moment of silence. At the beginning of each semester, the principal or his or her designee will give teachers direction as to how the moment of silence is to be observed. The moment of silence shall be for the purpose of allowing each student, in the exercise of his or her individual choice, to reflect, meditate, pray, or engage in any other silent activity that does not interfere with, distract, or impede other students in the exercise of their individual choices. Teachers shall neither encourage students to use nor discourage students from using the moment of silence for any particular purpose, such as reflection, meditation, prayer, or other silent activity. All teachers shall be made aware that it is the student's decision as to how to utilize the moment of silence, provided that the student's choice does not interfere with, distract, or impede other students in the exercise of their individual choices.

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## STUDENT SEARCH AND SEIZURE

The superintendent or his/her designee is authorized to detain and search any student and any property in the student's possession while on school premises, at school activities, or in transit under authority of the school, for any item possession of which by the student is illegal or prohibited by school rules, or for property believed to have been stolen from another student, an employee, or the school. The search shall be conducted according to the following guidelines:

### Reasonableness

1. The decision to search must be based upon a reasonable suspicion that
  - A. A violation of the law or school rules has occurred or is occurring;

## SPERRY SECONDARY SCHOOLS HANDBOOK

- B. The student to be searched has committed the violation; and
  - C. Particular evidence of the violation will be discovered in the search.
2. In deciding whether a suspicion is reasonable, all the circumstances surrounding the case should be considered, including:
- A. The student's age, history, and record in school;
  - B. The prevalence and seriousness of the suspected violation;
  - C. The school officials' prior experience in detecting the problem or recognizing suspicious behavior;
  - D. The need to make a search without delay and further investigation;
  - E. The specificity and source of the information used as justification for the search; and
  - F. The particular teacher or school official's experience with the student.

### Scope

- 1. The scope or extent of the search shall be reasonably related to the kind of objects being searched for, and not excessively intrusive in light of the student's age and sex and the nature of the suspected violation.
- 2. A search commenced to discover a particular kind of item may be expanded or continued for additional items if circumstances warrant.

### Discovered Items

- 1. Illegal items or other possessions or substances reasonably determined to be a threat to the safety or security of others may be seized by school authorities. These items will immediately be turned over to law enforcement officials for disposition as they see fit.
- 2. Items which are used to disrupt or interfere with the educational process may be temporarily removed from student possession.

### Refusal to Submit to Search

A student who refuses to peaceably submit to a search based on reasonable suspicion or who refuses to turn over items discovered as a result of a search may be suspended for such refusals.

### Reports

The person conducting the search shall prepare a report to be maintained by the superintendent including the date, time, place, names of witnesses, purpose, basis, and result of the search.

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### **LOCKER SEARCH AND SEIZURE**

In order to maintain discipline and to ensure the proper functioning of the educational process, school administrators must have access at all times to all school property, including lockers, desks, etc. assigned to students. The administration will maintain a confidential file of all lockers and their combinations and will retain master keys to all lockers, cabinets, etc., as applicable. Thus, although students have privacy rights in their locker contents as against other students, they do not have privacy rights in their locker contents as against school administrators. No school property will be used to store objects or materials that violate school regulations or state and local ordinances. The school maintains the right to ensure that lockers and desks are properly cleaned and that they do not contain items which should not be kept on school property. Lockers will be opened periodically for cleaning purposes and to locate overdue library and class materials. In addition, school administrators may open and examine student lockers, desks and all school property assigned to students for general and specific inspections at any time.

"Sniffer" dogs may properly be used to discover prohibited items concealed in school property assigned to students.

Illegal items or other possessions or substances reasonably determined to be a threat to the safety or security of others will be seized by school authorities. These items will immediately be turned over to law enforcement officials for disposition as they see fit.

Items which are used to disrupt or interfere with the educational process will be temporarily removed from student possession.

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### **STUDENT HEALTH**

The Board of Education believes that the goals of educators should include training which helps our children to grow into productive and responsible adults.



## SPERRY SECONDARY SCHOOLS HANDBOOK

While the general health and physical maintenance of a child is the responsibility of the parent, the board believes that teachers and administrators should encourage students to become aware of the value of a healthy mind and body.

If a teacher or an administrator becomes aware of a health problem involving a student, the parents or legal guardian of the student shall be notified and a conference with the parents scheduled. If efforts to resolve the problem through consultation with the parents are not successful, the administrator shall consider referring the matter to the Department of Human Services.

Health education shall, whenever possible, be incorporated into the subject matter of all courses of instruction. There shall also be established definite time allocations for the teaching of health education.

Any child who is determined to be afflicted with a contagious disease, as currently defined by the Oklahoma Department of Health, or with head lice or other transmittable contamination shall be prohibited from attending school until a health officer has determined that the child is free of head lice/transmittable contamination or contagious disease or that the disease is no longer contagious. If, after examination by a school official, a student is found to have head lice, nits (eggs), or other transmittable parasites or contamination, the parents will be notified to come and get their child. After the student receives treatment at home (i.e., shampoo and nit removal for lice) the student will be readmitted to class after being cleared by designated school official. The student will be readmitted to class only if the hair is free of lice, nits, or other evidence of continued infestation/contamination.

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### MENINGOCOCCAL DISEASE INFORMATION

All students and their parents need to be aware of the following important points about meningococcal disease:

1. Public health authorities recommend that teenagers and college-bound students be immunized against a potentially fatal bacterial infection called meningococcal disease, also known as meningitis.
2. The Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recommends meningococcal

immunization for all adolescents 11 – 18 years of age.

3. Meningococcal disease is a rare but potentially fatal infection that can cause severe swelling of the brain and spinal cord (meningitis) or a serious blood infection (meningococemia). Meningococcal disease strikes up to 3,000 Americans each year; nearly 30 percent of these cases are among teenagers and college students.
4. Meningococcal conjugate vaccine is available for use among persons aged 11 – 55 years, which provides protection against four of the five types of bacteria that cause meningococcal disease. Many parents are unaware of the dangers the disease poses to their children and that a vaccine is available that may help to prevent up to 83% of cases among teens and college students.
5. Immunization is the most effective way to prevent this very serious disease. It is important for parents and students to learn more about the disease, the benefits of the vaccination and who is recommended for immunization. Visit the National Meningitis Association at [www.nmaus.org](http://www.nmaus.org) for more information.

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### ADMINISTRATION OF MEDICINE TO STUDENTS

The purpose of this policy is to identify when district personnel are authorized to administer medication to students, when students are authorized to self-medicate and how district personnel will maintain, administer, monitor and dispose of student medication.

#### Definitions

For purposes of this policy, these terms have the following definitions:

"Medicine" or "medications" includes prescription medications and over-the-counter medicines such as but not limited to aspirin, cough syrup, medicated ointments and any other item used to treat an illness, disease or malady.

"Parent" means a parent, a court appointed guardian or a person having legal custody.

#### Policy

Under Oklahoma law, a school nurse, an administrator or a designated school employee may administer prescription and nonprescription medications to students. Only designated employees who have successfully completed

## SPERRY SECONDARY SCHOOLS HANDBOOK

specific training in the administration of nonprescription and prescription medications may administer medication to students with legitimate health needs.

Except as provided in this policy and in the district's Student Diabetes Care and Management policy, students may not retain possession of or self-administer any medicine. Violation of this rule will be reported to the student's parent and may result in discipline, including out-of-school suspension.

As further set out below, the district retains the discretion to reject requests for the administration of medication and to discontinue the administration of medication.

The parent must deliver the student's medicine to the school nurse or school administrator in its original container with the parent's written authorization for administration of the medicine. The parent's authorization must identify the student, the medicine and include or refer to the label for instructions on administration of the medicine. The school nurse, an administrator or a designated employee will administer the medicine to the student pursuant to the parent's instructions and the directions for use on the label or in the physician's prescription. The parent must complete a new authorization form annually and for each change of medication. The district will maintain the authorization form as a part of the student's health record. Authorization forms will be available in the principal's office. A parent who chooses to do so may come to the school and personally dispense medication to the student.

The administration of each school will keep a record of the students to whom medicine is administered, the date of administration, the person who administered the medicine and the name or type of medicine administered.

Medications will be stored in a separate locked drawer or cabinet that is readily accessible only to the persons who will administer the medication. Medications requiring refrigeration will be refrigerated in a secure area.

Any person administering medicine to a student will participate in training by October 1 of each year conducted by a school nurse or other health care professional. The training will include:

- Review of state statutes and school rules and regulations (including this policy) regarding administration of medication by school personnel;

- Procedures for administration, documentation, handling and storage of medication; and
- Medication needs of specific students, desired effects, potential side effects, adverse reactions and other observations.

Only those persons who successfully complete the training are authorized to administer medication. Each school site will maintain a current list of those authorized to administer medication at that site.

Students who are able to self-administer specific medications, such as inhaled asthma medication or anaphylaxis medication, or use specialized equipment, such as an inhaler or Epinephrine injector, may do so provided such medication and specialized equipment are transported and maintained under the students' control in compliance with the following rules:

- A licensed physician or dentist must provide a written order that the student has a particular medical condition (asthma, anaphylaxis, etc.), is capable of and has been instructed in the proper method of self-administration of medication. It is the parent's responsibility to contact the physician and have the physician complete and return the required order.
- The parent must provide a written authorization for self-administration of medication.
- Parents who elect self-medication understand and agree that the district, its agents and employees shall incur no liability for any adverse reaction or injury the student suffers as a result of self-administration of medication and/or use of specialized equipment.
- The written authorization will terminate at the end of the school year and must be renewed annually.
- If the parent and physician authorize self-medication, the district is not responsible for safeguarding the students' medications or specialized equipment.
- Students who self-medicate are prohibited from sharing or playing with their medication or special equipment. If a student engages in these activities the parent will be contacted and a conference will be scheduled with the parent, student, nurse and other appropriate persons.
- Students will not be allowed to self-administer:
  - Narcotics;
  - Prescription pain killers;

## SPERRY SECONDARY SCHOOLS HANDBOOK

- Medication used to treat ADD/ADHD or other psychological or behavior disorders; and
- Other medication hereafter designated in writing by the district.
- Except as otherwise provided by an individual student's school health plan, students may self-administer non-diabetes and non-anaphylaxis-related injectables only in the school office in the presence of authorized school personnel. Diabetes-related injectables will be administered in accordance with the district's Management of Students with Diabetes policy.
- Students who self-medicate are encouraged to wear Medic Alert bracelets or necklaces.
- The parent will provide an emergency supply of a student's inhaled asthma medication or anaphylaxis medication to be administered by school personnel, as required by state law.

### Nonprescription medication.

School staff will only administer nonprescription medication with the parent's written authorization and according to label directions or written instructions from the student's physician. The medication must be in the original container that indicates:

- Student name (affixed to the container);
- Ingredients;
- Expiration date;
- Dosage and frequency;
- Administration route, i.e., oral, drops, etc.; and
- Other directions as appropriate.

School staff will only administer aspirin (acetylsalicylic acid) and products containing salicylic acid with written instructions from the student's physician. The parent must provide and maintain a supply of nonprescription medication for the student.

### Prescription medication.

School staff will only administer prescription medication with written authorization and instructions. Prescription medication must be in the original container that indicates:

- Student name;
- Name and strength of medication and expiration date;
- Dosage and directions for administration;
- Name of the licensed physician or dentist;
- Date, name, address and phone number of the pharmacy.

The parent must provide and maintain the supply of prescription medication for the student.

The parent must reclaim any remaining medication by the last official day of school closing or within seven days after the prescribing physician discontinues the medication. The school nurse or designated employee will destroy in a nonrecoverable fashion in the presence of a witness any medication not timely reclaimed. The person who destroys the medication will record the following information:

- Date of destruction;
- Time of destruction;
- Name and quantity of medication destroyed; and
- Manner of destruction of medication

Any and all controlled substances will be destroyed according to state law.

The school nurse or designated employee will advise the principal or designee if discontinuance of medication to a student is appropriate and assist in informing the parent. Legitimate reasons for discontinuing administration of medication include, but are not limited to the following:

- A legitimate lack of space or facility to adequately store specific medication;
- Lack of cooperation by the student, parent and/or prescribing doctor and the district;
- An unexpected and/or adverse medical reaction to the medication at school, i.e., mood change, allergic reaction, etc., considered to be deleterious to the health and well-being of the student;
- Any apparent change in the medication's appearance, odor, or other characteristics that raise reasonable doubts about the quality of the medication; and
- The medication expiration date has passed.

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## STUDENT DIABETES CARE AND MANAGEMENT

The purpose of this policy is to implement the requirements of the Diabetes Management in Schools Act ("Act"), OKLA. STAT. tit. 70 § 1210.196.

### Definitions

For purposes of this policy, these terms have the following definitions:

"Diabetes medical management plan" means the document a student's personal health care team

## SPERRY SECONDARY SCHOOLS HANDBOOK

develops that identifies the health services the student may need at school.

“Personal health care team” means the team responsible for managing a student’s diabetes and includes the principal or designee, the school nurse (if assigned to the school), the assistant, if any, the parent or guardian of the student, and to the extent practicable, the physician responsible for the student’s diabetes treatment.

“School nurse” means a certified school nurse, a registered nurse contracting with the district or a public health nurse.

“Volunteer diabetes care assistant” means a district employee who has volunteered to be a diabetes care assistant and successfully completed the training required by this policy and state law.

### Policy

Any district employee aware of a student who has diabetes-related needs while at school or while participating in school activities will promptly advise the principal or designee. The parent of any student who will have diabetes-related needs at school or in school activities should promptly advise the school principal or designee.

A personal health care team will develop a written Diabetes Medical Management Plan (“Plan”) for each student who will seek care for diabetes while at school or while participating in a school activity. The Plan will identify the health services the student may need at school. Each member of the student’s personal health care team, including the parent, will sign the Plan. The personal health care team will review the Plan at least annually. The school nurse at the school in which the student is enrolled, if any, will assist the student with the management of his or her diabetes care as provided in the Plan. If the school does not have an assigned school nurse, the principal will make a reasonable effort to find one or more district employees willing to serve as a volunteer diabetes care assistant (“Assistant”) to assist the student with diabetes care as provided in the student’s Plan. The principal will make a reasonable effort to ensure that a school nurse or Assistant is available at the school to assist the student when needed. The district will not restrict the assignment of a student with diabetes to a particular school based on the presence of a school nurse or assistant.

District personnel will request that the parent provide written authorization for the school nurse or assistant to have access to the student’s physician at all times. The district will maintain

the Plan and related documentation as student health records.

Before undertaking responsibilities as an assistant, a volunteer must first complete training provided by the school nurse or the State Department of Health in accordance with the Act. The training will include instruction in the following:

- Recognizing the symptoms of hypoglycemia and hyperglycemia;
- Understanding the proper action to take if the student’s blood glucose is outside the range indicated in the Plan;
- Understanding the details of the Plan;
- Performing finger sticks to check blood glucose levels, check urine ketone levels and record the results of those checks;
- Properly administering insulin and glucagon and recording the results of the administration;
- Recognizing complications that require the assistant to seek emergency assistance; and
- Understanding the recommended schedules and food intake for the student’s meals and snacks, the effect of physical activity on blood glucose and the proper action to be taken if the student’s schedule is disrupted.

To continue as an Assistant, the volunteer must annually demonstrate competency in the above training. The school nurse, principal or designee will maintain a copy of the training guidelines and the records associated with the training.

With parent permission, the district will provide each district employee responsible for supervising or transporting a student with diabetes a form with the following information:

- Student’s name;
- Telephone number of a contact person in case of an emergency involving the student; and
- Potential emergencies that may occur due to the diabetes and appropriate responses to such emergencies.

Any district employee provided the above information will be informed of applicable health privacy policies.

In accordance with his or her individual Plan and this policy, a student may attend to the management of his or her diabetes, which may include:

- Performing blood glucose level checks;
- Administering insulin through the student’s insulin delivery system;
- Treating hypoglycemia and hyperglycemia;

## SPERRY SECONDARY SCHOOLS HANDBOOK

- Unless changed in accordance with this policy, possessing on his or her person at any time, any supplies or specialized equipment necessary to monitor and care for his or her diabetes; and
- Otherwise attending to the management of his or her diabetes in the classroom, any area of the school or grounds, or at any school related activity.

The school administration will provide a private area where the student can attend to his or her diabetes-related needs.

Students who manage their diabetes and personally possess the necessary specialized equipment and supplies under this policy are prohibited from sharing or playing with their equipment or supplies. If a student engages in these activities, the parent will be contacted and a meeting of the personal health care team will be scheduled. The district is not responsible for safeguarding the specialized equipment or supplies of a student who personally possesses those items.

Students with diabetes are encouraged to wear Medic Alert bracelets or necklaces.

No district employee will be subject to any penalty or disciplinary action for refusing to serve as an assistant. No district employee will be subject to any disciplinary proceeding resulting from any action taken in compliance with this policy. Any employee acting in accordance with this policy and law will be immune from civil liability unless the employee's actions rise to the level of reckless or intentional conduct. A school nurse will not be held responsible or subject to disciplinary action for the actions of an assistant.

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### ATTENDANCE

1. Regular attendance is a contributing factor to success in school. Irregular attendance is the chief cause for failures and subsequent withdrawal from school. For Sperry Public School students this means 9 days per semester. Excessive absences may be dealt with as a disciplinary matter which may include suspension from school or no credit for the class due to absences.
2. Three tardies in one class will constitute an absence in that class.
3. Perfect attendance certificates will be awarded to students who have maintained a

perfect attendance by neither being absent nor tardy during the current school year.

4. Any exceptions to these rules must be approved by the Principal.

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### ABSENCE POLICY

The Board of Education believes that in order for students to realize their fullest potential from educational efforts, they should attend all classes to the extent possible. Realizing that some absences may be beyond a student's control, the Board has adopted a policy requiring students to be in attendance a minimum of ninety percent (90%) each semester to earn credit for any course in which the student is enrolled.

#### Absence

A student must be in attendance a minimum of ninety percent (90%) of the time during a semester in order to receive credit for that class. Students who, for any reason other than school-sponsored activities, miss more than nine (9) periods in one class during a semester will have "NC" recorded on their transcripts if they have earned a grade of "A," "B," "C," or "D" for the semester. Students receiving an "F" at the end of the semester will have an "F" recorded on their transcripts.

The intent of this policy is to clarify that all students need to participate in school at least ninety percent (90%) of the time.

#### Excused Absence

For an absence to be excused, a parent, guardian, or eligible student must notify the school office of the absence before 2:30 PM on the day of the absence. Except where suitable justification is provided, failure to do so shall be grounds for the absence to be recorded as unexcused.

Students may not miss more than nine (9) days in a semester. The following excused absences DO NOT COUNT against the semester 90% attendance requirement:

1. Illness, substantiated by a note from appropriate health care provider, provided to the principal's office within two (2) days following the student's return to school.
2. School activities (per state regulations and district policy).



## SPERRY SECONDARY SCHOOLS HANDBOOK

3. Suspensions of any duration or change of placement for disciplinary reasons.
4. Any absence of an emergency nature deemed unavoidable by the school principal (i.e., funeral). When such a condition exists, the student and/or parent/guardian must provide to the building principal appropriate documentation within two (2) days following the student's return to school.
5. Visits to college/university campuses as part of a student's post-high school planning.
6. At a parent's request, a student's absence from school on a recognized religious holiday.

All other absences will count against the student's ninety percent (90%) attendance requirement, whether excused or unexcused.

### Unexcused Absence

An unexcused absence is one which does not fall within one of the above categories. Work will be made up with a grade adjustment.

It is the responsibility of the parent/guardian to notify the school between 7:45 AM and 8:30 AM if the child is to be absent that day. For an absence to be classified as excused, the student's parent/guardian must notify the school in a timely manner of the reason for the student's absence. Failure of a parent/guardian to notify the school in a timely manner may result in an absence being classified as unexcused. An accumulation of unexcused absences may be considered truancy and will be treated according to board of education policy and the compulsory attendance laws of the State of Oklahoma.

All work missed during a period of absence may be made up, with the exception of absence due to truancy. For each day of absence, a student shall have two (2) school days to make up the work missed for the first two (2) days missed and one day for each day missed beginning with the third day, unless granted additional time by the teacher. During the period of make-up time allowed, the work missed shall not be calculated in the students' grade until the work is turned in or the makeup time has expired.

Any examination or assignment, announced during the student's presence in class or which is regularly scheduled (e.g. semester test), which is missed by

the student due to any type of absence, shall be made up on the day the student returns to class. For example, should the student be absent at the time a test is announced and if that test is not regularly scheduled, either of which would prevent the student from being aware of the scheduled test, then the test shall be administered one day following the student's return to class.

Any exceptions to the policy concerning administering the tests shall be limited to those exceptions made by the building principal.

In the event of a chronic or recurring illness, documentation by the student's doctor indicating the nature of the chronic or recurring condition will suffice for the doctor's statement required for each individual absence. Documentation of chronic or recurring illness will not extend beyond the end of the current school year.

Any student and/or parent of a student who exceeds the ninety percent (90%) attendance rule and feels that he or she has extenuating circumstances that explain the absences that exceed this number may request review by the district's attendance committee. The committee will consist of a building level administrator, two teachers and a counselor. This committee may, at the discretion of the superintendent be the same as the Internal Activities Review Committee ("IARC"). Consideration will be given as to the reason for the absences (such as extended illnesses of the student or immediate family members as documented by a physician, family emergencies or death of an immediate family member) as well as to the attempts by parents to minimize the absenteeism.

### School Activities

1. Students involved in school sponsored activities are limited to ten absences per school year per class period. Ten additional absences may be granted for state and national events as long as the student has earned the right to participate *and* is participating in the state or national event.
2. Students will be allowed to make up any work missed while participating but must make up the work within the period established by the assigned teacher. Reasonable time to make up work missed shall not be unreasonably withheld.
3. Absences for the following reasons will not be charged against the ten absence limit:
  - A. Activities held on campus, sanctioned by the superintendent;

## SPERRY SECONDARY SCHOOLS HANDBOOK

- B. Serving as a Page in the Legislature;
  - C. On campus visits by college representatives/vocational representatives;
  - D. College entrance exams;
  - E. Field trips in conjunction with a unit being taught in an academic class;
  - F. Students excused to make appearances before local civic groups;
  - G. Grade level field trips to area technology centers, colleges, and universities.
4. Students must assume responsibility for their absences. Student responsibilities include, but are not limited to, notifying instructors of an absence, a reasonable time prior to the absence, making arrangements with instructors to make up work, and working cooperatively with teachers and administrators when absences cannot or will not be approved even though a student's request is not otherwise unreasonable.
  5. Principals will keep or cause to be kept a record of those days or class periods missed by students due to school sponsored activities. These records will be open for inspection by the student, parent or guardian of the students, sponsors, coaches and teachers with a need to know this information.
  6. Absences that exceed the maximum permitted by this policy and which do not have the written permission of the IARC shall be counted as an unexcused absence in accordance with board policy.

### Sponsor/Teacher or Coach Responsibilities

1. Sponsors/teachers or coaches are required to prepare a list of activities that the student may attend during the school year and provide students with the list. The same list must be furnished to the principal at the beginning of the school year but no later than fifteen days following the first day of school for students. The material prepared by sponsors/teachers or coaches shall include the criteria for eligibility for the particular activity for which the sponsor/teacher or coach is responsible, the goals of the activity and the manner in which the goals meet school and community expectations.
2. Sponsors/teachers or coaches should assist students in selecting those activities that will benefit the student and/or the school.

3. Sponsors/teachers or coaches must check activity absences regularly in order to help students plan for future absences.
4. Sponsors/teachers or coaches must be fully familiar with this policy and capable of mentoring students to avoid unnecessary and unproductive absences from classes.
5. No sponsor/teacher or coach shall misrepresent the reason for a student's absence or sanction a student's absence from a class period that is not related to the school sponsored activity in which the student is involved.

***Any student that is absent from school must have the Principal's approval to be on campus that day or for any activity day or night on the date absent.***

### Internal Activity Review Committee (for extracurricular activities)

The board of education has established an IARC composed of the following positions: the principal or principal's designee, regular classroom teacher (in a core subject), athletic director, coach/sponsor, parent. The individuals who shall serve on this committee shall be appointed annually by the board following a recommendation by the superintendent. The superintendent may suggest additional individuals to serve on the committee but shall not have fewer than 5 individuals recommended to serve on the committee. The committee shall resolve questions regarding excused or unexcused absences related to extracurricular activities using procedures that the committee shall designate which allow for consideration of the district's policy, emphasis on the importance of students attending classes on a regular basis, and an opportunity for the student and student's representatives and school representatives to be fully heard regarding the treatment of and consequence of an absence. The committee shall also be responsible for resolving any dispute regarding whether a student made up his or her work within a reasonable period designated by the instructor or administrator.

Any party who objects to a decision of the IARC may appeal the decision to the board of education by filing an appeal within 5 business days of the IARC's written decision with the clerk of the board of education with a copy of the appeal to the superintendent of Schools.

In addition to the above responsibilities, the IARC shall review and recommend to the board policy

## SPERRY SECONDARY SCHOOLS HANDBOOK

changes or additions designed to ensure that the district's treatment of school attendance and opportunity for participation in extracurricular activities is consistent with applicable law, school board policies and rules and regulations adopted by the Oklahoma State Board of Education and athletics associations in which the district participates.

The board of education has final authority in deciding if a student's deviation from the ten day or class period rule shall be approved. The board can exercise this authority by conducting a hearing in which all sides shall be heard or can exercise its authority by voting to uphold a decision of the IARC or voting not to reconsider the IARC's decision or findings in a particular matter.

### Truancy

A student is considered truant when absent from school without the parents' knowledge or leaving school without permission of the principal or his/her designated representative. Students who are truant will be subject to disciplinary action and will be ineligible to participate in school activities for the day. Truant students will make up all missed work with a grade adjustment.

Truancy is a very serious offense. In-school intervention or out-of-school suspensions will be administered.

### Tardies

1. A student is tardy who is not in the classroom when the bell to begin the period sounds.
2. A student who is more than fifteen (15) minutes late is counted absent for the period.

### Excused Tardies:

Students who are tardy to class because they have been detained by school personnel must have a tardy slip or a pass signed by the Principal. No punishment will be administered.

### Unexcused Tardies:

Students who have an un-excused tardy will face disciplinary action.

- On the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> tardy (per grading period), the classroom teacher will document the incident.
- On the 3<sup>rd</sup> tardy (per grading period), the student will be given detention.
- On the 4<sup>th</sup> tardy (per grading period), the student will receive 2 days of detention.

- On the 5<sup>th</sup> tardy (per grading period), the student will be given a 2 day suspension.
- On the 6<sup>th</sup> tardy (per grading period), the student will be suspended for 4 days.
- On the 7<sup>th</sup> tardy (per grading period), the student will be suspended for the remainder of the semester.

Three tardies in one class will constitute an absence in that class.

Exceptions to the above must have the approval of the Principal.

Students with an excused absence will have approximately the same number of days to make up the work as days absent. Assignments due the date of the absence are due upon return to school. Receiving of assignments and makeup tests will be given at the teacher's discretion.

An admit to class is needed upon entering school after an un-cleared partial or full day's absence.

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### **WITHDRAWAL FROM SCHOOL**

The board of education realizes that a student may need to withdraw from school because of residence relocation or other valid reason. In such a case, the student must notify the principal who will assist the student with out-processing. All district-owned books, supplies, equipment, etc. must be returned to the teachers who distributed them. A clearance slip with the appropriate teachers' signatures must be returned to the principal's office. Any refunds due will be made at that time.

Students are reminded that transcripts and other records will be forwarded to the new school only after proper clearance has been accomplished.

On a quarterly basis, as scheduled by the State Department of Education, the superintendent will notify the Department of the name, address, race and age of any student dropping out of school during the preceding quarter. A dropout is any student who is under the age of 19 and has not graduated from high school and is not attending any public or private school or is not otherwise receiving an education pursuant to law for the full term the schools of the district in which the student resides are in session.

Whenever a student over 14 years of age and under 18 years of age withdraws from school, the attendance officer shall notify the Department of Public Safety (DPS) of the withdrawal through a documentation of enrollment status form. When

## SPERRY SECONDARY SCHOOLS HANDBOOK

the withdrawal from school is due to circumstances beyond the control of the student or is pursuant to lawful excuse, as confirmed in writing by a parent/guardian of the student, no notice shall be sent to DPS, or if sent, the notice will be disregarded by DPS. The board of education or appropriate designee shall be the sole judge of whether the withdrawal of a student is due to circumstances beyond the control of the student or is made pursuant to lawful excuse.

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### TESTING STUDENTS WITH REGARD TO THE USE OF ALCOHOL AND ILLEGAL CHEMICAL SUBSTANCES

The board of education, with the intent that all students have notice and knowledge of the ramifications concerning alcohol and illegal chemical substance use, possession, purchase, sale or distribution when the student is on school property, at a school sponsored event, in school vehicles, or going to or from a school sponsored event hereby adopts the following policy.

#### Statement of Purpose and Intent

1. The safety of students and employees of the district is of paramount concern to the board.
2. Students who are under the influence of alcohol or an illegal chemical substance when the student is on school property, at a school sponsored event, in school vehicles, or going to or from a school sponsored event pose serious safety risks to students, employees and the public.
3. The use of alcohol and illegal chemical substances by students has a direct and adverse effect on the safety, personal health, attendance, productivity and quality of education of all students.
4. The board recognizes that all students have certain personal rights guaranteed by the Constitutions of the United States of America and the State of Oklahoma. This policy will not infringe on those rights.
5. Due to the devastating impact that the use by students of alcohol and illegal chemical substances can have on the safety of students and employees and their adverse effect on a student's ability to perform as a student, the board will not tolerate students who use, possess, distribute, purchase, sell or are under

the influence (as defined in the policy) of alcohol or illegal chemical substances while on school property, at a school sponsored event, in school vehicles, or going to or from a school sponsored event.

6. This policy will apply to all students of the district.
7. Violations of this policy will subject the student to disciplinary action, including out-of-school suspension from school.

#### Definitions

1. "Illegal chemical substance" means any substance which an individual may not sell, possess, use, distribute or purchase under either Federal or Oklahoma law. "Illegal chemical substance" includes, but is not limited to, all scheduled drugs as defined by the Oklahoma Uniform Controlled Dangerous Substances Act, all prescription drugs obtained without authorization and all prescribed drugs and over the counter drugs being used for an abusive purpose. By way of example only, the drugs which may be tested for are: amphetamines, cannabinoids, cocaine, phencyclidine (PCP), hallucinogens, methaqualone, opiates, barbiturates, benzodiazepines, synthetic narcotics, designer drugs, or any metabolite of any of these substances.
2. "Alcohol" means ethyl alcohol or ethanol and includes "low point" beer.
3. "Under the influence" means any student of the district who has any alcohol or illegal chemical substance or the metabolites thereof present in the student's body in any amount which is considered to be "positive" for such alcohol or drug or drug metabolites using any scientifically substantiated alcohol or drug use screen test and alcohol or drug use confirm test.
4. "Positive" when referring to an alcohol or drug use test administered under this policy means a toxicological test result which is considered to demonstrate the presence of alcohol or an illegal chemical substance or the metabolites thereof using the cutoff standards or levels determined by the State Board of Health for drug or alcohol testing of students or in the absence of such State Board cutoff levels, the cutoff levels customarily established by the testing laboratory administering the alcohol or drug use test.

## SPERRY SECONDARY SCHOOLS HANDBOOK

5. "School property" means any property owned, leased or rented by the district, including but not limited to school buildings, parking lots and motor vehicles.
6. "Drug or alcohol use test" means a chemical test administered for the purpose of determining the presence or absence of alcohol or illegal chemical substances or their metabolites in a student's blood, bodily tissue, fluids, products, urine, breath or hair.
7. "Reasonable suspicion" means a belief that a student is using or has used alcohol or drugs in violation of this policy drawn from specific objective and articulable facts and reasonable inferences drawn from those facts in the light of experience, and may be based upon, among other things:
  - A. Observable phenomena, such as:
    - i. the physical symptoms or manifestations of being under the influence of alcohol or a drug while on school property, at a school sponsored event, in school vehicles, or going to or from a school sponsored event; or
    - ii. the direct observation of alcohol or drug use while on school property, at a school sponsored event, in school vehicles, or going to or from a school sponsored event.
  - B. A report of drug or alcohol use while on school property, at a school sponsored event, in school vehicles, or going to or from a school sponsored event, provided by reliable and credible sources;
  - C. Evidence that a student has tampered with an alcohol or drug test; or
  - D. Evidence that a student is involved in the use, possession, sale, solicitation or transfer of alcohol or drugs while on school property, at a school sponsored event, in school vehicles, or going to or from a school sponsored event.

### Procedures for Alcohol or Illegal Chemical Substance Testing

1. Any alcohol or drug use test administered under the terms of this policy will be administered by or at the direction of a professional laboratory licensed by the Oklahoma State Department of Health and using scientifically validated toxicological methods that comply with rules promulgated by the State Department of Health. The

professional laboratory shall be required to have detailed written specifications to assure chain of custody of the samples, proper labeling, proper laboratory control and scientific testing, with all samples to be taken under the supervision of appropriate laboratory employees at a school site or site designated by the laboratory. All aspects of the alcohol and drug use testing program, including the taking of samples, will be conducted so as to safeguard the personal and privacy rights of students to the maximum degree possible and shall be conducted under reasonable sanitary conditions. The test sample shall be obtained in a manner which minimizes its intrusiveness. In the case of urine samples, the samples must be collected in a restroom or other private facility behind a closed stall; a sample shall be collected in sufficient quantity for splitting into two (2) separate samples, pursuant to rules of the State Board of Health, to provide for any subsequent independent confirming analysis of the first sample; the test monitor shall not observe any student while the sample is being produced but the test monitor may be present outside the stall to listen for the normal sounds of urination in order to guard against tampered samples and to insure an accurate chain of custody; and the test monitor may verify the normal warmth and appearance of the sample. If at any time during the testing procedure the test monitor has reason to believe or suspect that a student is tampering with the sample, the test monitor may stop the procedure and inform the test coordinator. The test monitor shall be of the same gender as the student giving the sample. If a student is determined to have tampered with any specimen or otherwise engaged in any conduct which disrupts the testing process of any student, then the student will be deemed to have violated this policy and will be subject to disciplinary action, including out-of-school suspension from school. The test monitor shall give each student a form on which the student may, but shall not be required to, list any medications he has taken or any other legitimate reasons for having been in recent contact with alcohol or illegal chemical substances.

2. If the initial drug use test is positive for the presence of an illegal chemical substance or



## SPERRY SECONDARY SCHOOLS HANDBOOK

the metabolites thereof, the initial test result will be subject to confirmation by a second and different test of the same sample. The second test will use an equivalent scientifically accepted method of equal or greater accuracy as approved by rules of the State Board of Health, at the cutoff levels determined by board rules. A student will not be subject to disciplinary procedures unless the second test is positive for the presence of illegal chemical substances or the metabolites thereof.

3. If an initial alcohol use test is positive for the presence of alcohol, the initial test result will be subject to confirmation by a second test using any scientifically accepted method approved by rules of the State Board of Health, at the cutoff levels determined by board rules.
4. Upon written request, the student will be furnished with a free copy of all test results performed under this policy. All test records and results will be confidential and kept in files separate from the student's cumulative records. All tests required of a student by the district under this policy shall be at district expense.
5. Any student who is subject to disciplinary action as a result of being under the influence of alcohol or an illegal chemical substance while on school property, at a school sponsored event, in school vehicles or going to or from a school sponsored event will be given a reasonable opportunity, in confidence, to explain or rebut the alcohol or drug use test results. If the student asserts that the positive test results are caused by other than consumption of alcohol or an illegal chemical substance by the student, then the student will be given an opportunity to present evidence that the positive test result was produced by other than consumption of alcohol or an illegal chemical substance. The district will rely on the opinion of the district's laboratory which performed the tests in determining whether the positive test result was produced by other than consumption of alcohol or an illegal chemical substance.
6. The laboratory reports and results of alcohol and drug use testing will be maintained on a confidential basis except as otherwise required by law. The laboratory performing alcohol or drug use tests for the district will

not report on or disclose to the district any physical or mental condition affecting a student which may be discovered in the examination of a sample other than the presence of alcohol or illegal chemical substances or the metabolites thereof. The use of samples to test for any other substances will not be permitted.

### Student Alcohol and Drug Use Tests - When Required

1. Any student whose behavior while on school property, at a school sponsored event, in school vehicles, or going to or from a school sponsored event creates a reasonable individualized suspicion that the student is under the influence of alcohol or an illegal chemical substance may be required to take an alcohol and/or drug use test. Nothing in this policy shall require alcohol and/or drug use testing of any student nor prohibit the district from disciplining any student in the absence of an alcohol or drug use test of the student.
2. Any student who refuses to take an alcohol or drug use test when so required under the provisions of this policy will be deemed to have violated this policy and will be subject to disciplinary action including out-of-schools suspension from school to the same extent as if the student tested positive for the presence of alcohol or illegal chemical substances.

### Student Use, Sale, Possession, Distribution, Purchase or Being Under the Influence of Alcohol or Illegal Chemical Substance

Any student who possesses, uses, distributes, purchases, sells or is confirmed by alcohol or drug use tests to be under the influence (as defined by this policy) of alcohol or an illegal chemical substance while on school property, at a school sponsored event, in school vehicles, or going to or from a school sponsored event or as a result of alcohol or drug use tests conducted under this policy will be subject to disciplinary action, including out-of-school suspension from school.

### Persons Authorized to Order Alcohol or Drug Testing

The following persons have the authority to require alcohol or drug use testing of students under this policy:

1. The superintendent;

## SPERRY SECONDARY SCHOOLS HANDBOOK

2. Any employee designated for such purposes by the superintendent or the board.

### Out-of-School Suspension Due Process Procedures

Any student who is subject to an out-of-school suspension for the violation of this policy shall be afforded appropriate due process procedures allowed by the district's policy on student behavior.

### Circulation of Policy

This policy shall be given broad circulation to all students of the district which shall include prominent posting at various places in the district.

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## **EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES STUDENT ALCOHOL AND DRUG TESTING**

The board of education, in order to protect the health and safety of students participating in extracurricular activities and to educate and direct students participating in extracurricular activities away from drug and alcohol use and abuse, thereby setting an example for all other students of the district, adopts the following policy for testing of students participating in extracurricular activities for the use of illegal drugs, alcohol and performance enhancing drugs.

### Statement of Purpose and Intent

1. It is the desire of the board, administration and staff that every student in the district refrain from using or possessing alcohol and illegal or performance enhancing drugs. Notwithstanding this desire, the administration and board of education realize that their power to restrict the possession or use of alcohol and illegal or performance enhancing drugs is limited. Therefore, except as provided below, the sanctions of this policy relate solely to limiting the opportunity of any student determined to be in violation of this policy to participate in extracurricular activities. This policy is intended to supplement and complement all other policies, rules and regulations of the school district regarding possession or use of alcohol and illegal or performance enhancing drugs.
2. Participation in school-sponsored extracurricular activities at the school district is a privilege, not a right. Students who

participate in these activities are respected by the student body and are expected to conduct themselves as good examples of behavior, sportsmanship and training. Accordingly, students who participate in extracurricular activities carry a responsibility to themselves, their fellow students, their parents and their school to set the highest possible example of conduct, which includes avoiding the use or possession of alcohol and illegal or performance enhancing drugs.

3. The purpose of this policy is to prevent alcohol and illegal or performance enhancing drug use, to educate students who participate in extracurricular activities as to the serious physical, mental and emotional harm caused by alcohol and illegal or performance enhancing drug use, to alert students participating in extracurricular activities who have possible substance abuse problems to the potential harms of use, to prevent injury, illness and harm as a result of alcohol and illegal or performance enhancing drug use, and to strive within the school district for an environment free of alcohol and illegal or performance enhancing drug possession and use. This policy is not intended to be disciplinary or punitive in nature. The sanctions of this policy relate solely to limiting the opportunity of any student who participates in extracurricular activities and who is found to be in violation of the policy to participate in extracurricular activities. There will be no academic sanction solely for a violation of this policy. Notwithstanding the foregoing, a student may be disciplined, including suspended out of school, if a violation of this policy also results in a violation of the school district's student behavior policy.

### Definitions

- Extracurricular - means any school district sponsored team, club, organization or activity in which student participation is not required as a part of the school district curriculum and in which students represent the school district in competitions sanctioned by the Oklahoma Secondary Schools Activities Association.
- Student extracurricular activities participant - means any student

## SPERRY SECONDARY SCHOOLS HANDBOOK

participating in any competitive extracurricular activity.

- Student Athlete - means a 6<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grade member of any school district sponsored interscholastic sports team, including athletes and cheerleaders.
- Coach/Sponsor - means any person employed by the school district to coach athletic teams of the school district, to act as a sponsor or coach of a cheerleader team of the school district, or to serve as sponsor for any other extracurricular activity.
- Athletics and athletic activity - means participation by a student athlete on any athletic team or cheerleader team sponsored by the school district.
- In-season - means anytime during the day, night, weekends or holidays, including all time in and away from school during the entire school year for all student extracurricular activities participants.
- Alcohol - means ethyl alcohol or ethanol and any alcoholic beverage and includes "low-point beer" as defined by Oklahoma law.
- Illegal drugs - means any substance which an individual may not sell, possess, use, distribute or purchase under either federal or Oklahoma law. "Illegal drugs" includes, but is not limited to, all scheduled drugs as defined by the Oklahoma Uniform Controlled Dangerous Substance Act, all prescription drugs obtained without authorization and all prescribed and over-the-counter drugs being used for an abusive purpose, and paraphernalia to use such drugs.
- Performance enhancing drugs - include anabolic steroids and any other natural or synthetic substance used to increase muscle mass, strength, endurance, speed or other athletic ability. The term "performance enhancing drugs" does not include dietary or nutritional supplements such as vitamins, minerals and proteins which can be lawfully purchased in over-the-counter transactions.
- Drug or alcohol use test - means a chemical test administered for the purpose of determining the presence or absence of alcohol or illegal or performance enhancing chemical substances or their metabolites in a student's blood, bodily

tissue, fluids, products, urine, breath or hair.

- Random selection basis - means a mechanism for selecting student extracurricular activities participants for drug and/or alcohol use testing that:
  - Results in an equal probability that any student extracurricular activity participant from a group of student extracurricular activity participants subject to the selection mechanism will be selected, and
  - Does not give the school district discretion to waive the selection of any student extracurricular activity participant selected under the mechanism.
  - Positive - when referring to an alcohol or drug use test administered under this policy means a toxicological test result which is considered to demonstrate the presence of alcohol or an illegal or a performance enhancing drug or the metabolites thereof using the standards customarily established by the testing laboratory administering the drug or alcohol use test.
  - Reasonable suspicion - means a suspicion based on specific personal observations concerning the appearance, speech or behavior of a student extracurricular activity participants and reasonable inferences drawn from those observations in the light of experience. Information provided by a reliable source, if based on personal knowledge, shall constitute reasonable suspicion. In the context of performance enhancing drugs, reasonable suspicion specifically includes unusual increases in size, strength, weight or other athletic abilities.
  - Games/competitions - mean regular season, tournament and playoff games/competitions and do not include practice games and scrimmages.

### Participation and Procedures

1. Alcohol and illegal or performance enhancing drug possession or use is incompatible with participation in extracurricular activities on behalf of the school district. For the safety, health and well-being of the student extracurricular activity participants of the school district, the school district has adopted this policy for use by all participating students

## SPERRY SECONDARY SCHOOLS HANDBOOK

- at the 6<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grade level. Any student found to be in possession of, or having used alcohol or illegal or performance enhancing drugs, either by observation or drug or alcohol use test, will be considered to have violated this policy.
2. Each student extracurricular activity participant shall be provided with a copy of this policy and the “Student Extracurricular Activity Participant Alcohol and Illegal or Performance Enhancing Drugs Contract (the “Contract”) which shall be read, signed and dated by the student, parent or custodial guardian and a coach/sponsor before such student shall be eligible to practice or participate in any extracurricular activity. No student shall be allowed to practice or participate in any extracurricular activity unless the student has returned the properly signed Contract.
  3. The principal and sponsor, or, in the case of student athletes only, the athletic director and applicable coach, shall be responsible for determining whether a violation of this policy has occurred when an observation of possession or use of alcohol or illegal drug by a student extracurricular activity participant has been reported. If a violation of the policy is determined to have occurred by a student extracurricular activities participant other than a student athlete, the principal will contact the student, the sponsor, and the parent or custodial guardian of the student and schedule a conference. If a violation of the policy is determined to have occurred by a student athlete, the athletic director will contact the student, the sponsor or head coach, the applicable principal, and the parent or custodial guardian of the student and schedule a conference. At the conference, the violation of the policy will be described and the restrictions explained.
  4. The Contract for alcohol and illegal or performance enhancing drug and/or alcohol use testing shall be to provide a urine sample:
    - A. For student athletes, as part of the annual physical examination, and for all other student extracurricular activity participants, either
      - i. Prior to the start of the season for the extracurricular activity in which a student extracurricular activities participant competes, or
      - ii. If the extracurricular activity has no established season, within one week after the first day of classes at the beginning of the school year;
    - B. As chosen by the random selection basis; and
    - C. At any time a student extracurricular activities participant is requested by the principal or athletic director or by the sponsor or coach, based on reasonable suspicion, to be tested for alcohol and illegal or performance enhancing drugs.
  5. All student extracurricular activities participants shall be required to provide a urine sample for drug use testing for illegal drugs as part of the annual physical examination for student athletes and either prior to the start of the season for the extracurricular activity in which a student extracurricular activities participant competes, or, if the extracurricular activity has no established season, within one week after the first day of classes at the beginning of the school year. Student athletes who have physical examinations performed by their personal physicians must nonetheless sign the Contract and comply with all policy requirements.
  6. Drug and/or alcohol use testing for student extracurricular activities participants will also be chosen on a random selection basis monthly from a list of all in-season student participants. The school district will determine a monthly number of student names to be drawn at random to provide a urine sample for drug and/or alcohol use testing for alcohol and/or illegal or performance enhancing drugs.
  7. In addition to the drug and alcohol use tests required by paragraphs 4, 5 and 6, any student extracurricular activities participant may be required to submit to a drug and/or alcohol use test for alcohol or illegal or performance enhancing drugs or the metabolites thereof at any time upon reasonable suspicion.
  8. The school district will set a fee charge to be collected from each student when the Contract is signed and returned to the coach or sponsor.
  9. Any alcohol or drug use test required by the school district under the terms of this policy will be administered by or at the direction of a professional laboratory chosen by the school district using scientifically validated

## SPERRY SECONDARY SCHOOLS HANDBOOK

toxicological methods. The professional laboratory shall be required to have detailed written specifications to assure chain of custody of the specimens, proper laboratory control and scientific testing.

10. All aspects of the alcohol or drug use testing program, including the taking of specimens, will be conducted so as to safeguard the personal and privacy rights of the student extracurricular activities participants to the maximum degree possible. The test specimen shall be obtained in a manner designed to minimize intrusiveness of the procedure. In particular, the specimen must be collected in a restroom or other private facility behind a closed stall. The principal or athletic director shall designate a sponsor or coach or other adult person of the same sex as the student to accompany the student to a restroom or other private facility behind a closed stall. The monitor shall not observe the student while the specimen is being produced, but the monitor shall be present outside the stall to listen for the normal sounds of urination in order to guard against tampered specimens and to insure an accurate chain of custody. The monitor shall verify the normal warmth and appearance of the specimen. If at any time during the testing procedure the monitor has reason to believe or suspect that a student is tampering with the specimen, the monitor may stop the procedure and inform the principal or athletic director who will then determine if a new sample should be obtained. If a student is determined to have tampered with any specimen or otherwise engaged in any conduct that disrupts the testing process of any student, then the student will be deemed to have committed a second offense under this policy and the sanctions for a second offense will be imposed. The monitor shall give each student a form on which the student may list any medications he/she has taken or any other legitimate reasons for having been in contact with illegal drugs or performance enhancing drugs in the preceding thirty (30) days. The medication list may be submitted to the lab in a sealed and confidential envelope.
11. If an initial drug use test is positive, the initial test result will be subject to confirmation by a second and different test of the same specimen. The second test will use an

equivalent scientifically accepted method of equal or greater accuracy. A specimen shall not be reported positive unless the second test is positive for the presence of an illegal drug or performance enhancing drug or the metabolites thereof. If an initial alcohol use test is positive for the presence of alcohol, the initial test result will be subject to confirmation by a second test using any scientifically accepted method. The unused portion, if any, of a specimen that tested positive for alcohol or illegal or performance enhancing drugs shall be preserved by the laboratory for a period of six (6) months.

12. If the alcohol or drug use test for any student extracurricular activities participant has a positive result, the laboratory will contact the principal or the athletic director with the results. In the case of student extracurricular activities participants who are not athletes, the principal will contact the student, the sponsor, and the parent or custodial guardian of the student and schedule a conference. In the case of student athletes, the athletic director will contact the student, the sponsor or head coach, the applicable principal, and the parent or custodial guardian of the student and schedule a conference. At the conference, the principal or the athletic director will solicit any explanation for the positive result and ask for doctor prescriptions of any drugs that the student was taking that might have affected the outcome of the alcohol or drug use test. If the student and his/her parent or custodial guardian desire another test of the remaining portion, if any, of the specimen, the principal or athletic director will arrange for another test at the same laboratory or at another laboratory agreeable to the principal or athletic director. Any such re-test shall be at the expense of the student and his/her parent or custodial guardian.
13. If the student extracurricular activities participant asserts that the positive test results are caused by other than consumption of alcohol or an illegal or performance enhancing drug by the student, then the student will be given an opportunity to present evidence of such to the principal or to the athletic director. The school district will rely on the opinion of the original laboratory that performed the test in determining whether the positive test result was produced by other than

## SPERRY SECONDARY SCHOOLS HANDBOOK

- consumption of alcohol or an illegal or performance enhancing drug.
14. A student who has been determined by the principal or the athletic director to be in violation of this policy shall have the right to appeal the decision to the superintendent or his/her designee(s). Such appeal must be lodged within five (5) business days of notice of the initial report of the offense, during which time the student will remain ineligible to participate in any extracurricular activities. The superintendent or his/her designee(s) shall then determine whether the original finding was justified. There is no further appeal right from the superintendent's decision and his/her decision shall be conclusive in all respects. Any necessary interpretation or application of this policy shall be the sole and exclusive judgment and discretion of the superintendent which shall be final and nonappealable.
  15. Before a student extracurricular activities participant who has tested positive in an alcohol or drug use test may rejoin his/her extracurricular activity after a first or second offense, such student may be required to undergo one or more additional alcohol or drug use tests to determine whether the student is no longer using alcohol or illegal or performance enhancing drugs. The school district will rely on the opinion of the laboratory which performed or analyzed the additional alcohol or drug use test in determining whether a positive result in the additional alcohol or drug use test was produced by alcohol or illegal or performance enhancing drugs used by the student before the offense or by more recent use. In addition, a student extracurricular activities participant who has tested positive in an alcohol or drug use test may be required to submit to one or more additional alcohol or drug use tests for up to a year following the date of the positive result, notwithstanding that such student has been permitted to rejoin his/her extracurricular activity.
  16. All documents created pursuant to this policy with regard to any student will be kept in a confidential folder and will never be made a part of the student's cumulative folder nor be considered a "disciplinary" record.

Any student who is determined by observation or by alcohol or drug use tests to have violated this policy shall be subject to the loss of the privilege to participate in extracurricular activities and offered educational and support assistance to stop using.

### *For the First Offense*

Suspension from participation in all scheduled extracurricular activities (including all meetings, practices, performances and games/competitions) for 30 school days which may be reduced by 15 school days (five school days reduced for professional drug/alcohol evaluation/assessment and ten school days reduced for participating in and successfully completing at least four (4) hours of substance abuse education/counseling provided by the school district or an outside agency). A student extracurricular activities participant must miss a minimum of two (2) games/competitions. If the student is not competing in an extracurricular activity during any suspension period due to injury, academic ineligibility or the games or competitions for that sport or activity are finished or have not begun for that school year and, therefore, does not miss a minimum of two games/competitions during the suspension period, then the student will be required to miss the next two games/competitions after he or she returns from the injury, becomes eligible or the games or competitions resume in the following school year or begin later in the same school year. These restrictions and requirements shall begin immediately following the determination of an observed violation or the reporting of the results of a positive alcohol or drug use test. Such suspension will extend into a succeeding competition season if necessary to fulfill the suspension.

### *For the Second or Subsequent Offense (in the same school year)*

Complete suspension from participation in all extracurricular activities including all meetings, practices, performances and competition for eighteen (18) continuous and successive school weeks from the date of the determination of a violation or the reporting of the results of a positive alcohol or drug use test under this policy. Such suspension will extend into a succeeding school year if necessary to fulfill the suspension. Offenses shall not accumulate from school year to school year; the eighteen (18) week suspension from participation in all extracurricular activities shall

### Violation



## SPERRY SECONDARY SCHOOLS HANDBOOK

come into play only when two (2) or more offenses are committed in the same school year.

### *Self-Referral*

As an option to the consequences for a first offense only, a student may self-refer to the principal or athletic director or to a coach or sponsor before being notified of a policy violation or prior to being asked or required to submit to an alcohol or drug use test. A student who self-refers will be allowed to remain active in all extracurricular activities after the following conditions have been fulfilled: a conference has been held with the student, the principal or athletic director, the sponsor or coach, and the parent or custodial guardian of the student to discuss the policy violation; an alcohol or drug use test is provided by the student that is not positive, and a participation commitment by the student and parent for four (4) hours of substance abuse education/counseling provided by the school or an outside agency. Documentation of successful completion of this commitment must be provided to the principal or athletic director by the student or parent. A student who self-refers will, however, be considered to have committed his/her first offense under this policy. A self-referral may be used only once in a student's time in the school district.

### Refusal to Submit to Alcohol or Drug Use Test

If, after signing the Contract, a student extracurricular activities participant refuses to submit to an alcohol or drug use test authorized under this policy, such student shall not be eligible to participate in any extracurricular activities including all meetings, practice, performances and competition for eighteen (18) continuous and successive school weeks. Such suspension will extend into a succeeding school year if necessary to fulfill the suspension.

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### CONDUCT IN THE HALLS

1. Go directly from one class to the next.
2. Keep to the right in passing through the halls.
3. Do not run or loiter in the halls.
4. Avoid gathering in the halls, which blocks student traffic.
5. Students must carry a pass signed by a teacher when in the halls during class time.
6. No gum, candy, hats, loud noises or physical contact are allowed in school.

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### CONDUCT AT STUDENT PERFORMANCES

This policy defines expected behavior of participants at student performances.

This policy addresses performances both on and off campus for all student groups, including but not limited to the following: bands, cheerleaders, choruses, dance troupes, drill teams, theater companies, flag teams, drum majors, talent shows, mascots, and other ensembles. Membership or participation within these extracurricular activities is a privilege and students are expected to demonstrate appropriate and respectful behavior. The fact that an activity is not specifically listed is not a valid excuse for acting in a way that is not respectful of the district and consistent with its code of student conduct.

Suggestive, offensive, vulgar verbiage of musical lyrics and/or choreography is inappropriate. Because student performances are an integral part of the curriculum, performances (including music, theatre, and choreography) must be pre-approved by sponsors and administrative representatives before any practices and/or competitions begin. Lewd gestures, inappropriate comments, foul language, and suggestive or vulgar movements are among those behaviors which are not acceptable while practicing or performing as a member of a school group.

All behavior exhibited by students should reflect high standards. The sponsor has the responsibility to determine acceptable behavior under the direction of the school principal.

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### STUDENT BEHAVIOR

#### Introduction

The school's primary goal is to educate, not discipline. However, when the behavior of an individual student comes in conflict with the rights of others, corrective actions are necessary for the benefit of the individual and of the school.

The goal of the disciplinary policy is to correct the misconduct of the individual and to promote adherence by that student and by other students to the policies and regulations of our school district. Sperry Public Schools, in order to provide quality education for all students, will not tolerate disruptive acts that would interfere with the

## SPERRY SECONDARY SCHOOLS HANDBOOK

tranquility of the school, the safety of the students or the damaging of school property. Students, while enrolled in the Sperry Public Schools, shall be under supervision of and accountable to school personnel. The supervision shall include going to and from school and while attending any school sponsored activity or going to and from such activity.

### Discipline Code

The following behaviors at school, while on school vehicles or going to or from or attending school events will result in disciplinary action, which may include in-school placement options or out-of-school suspension:

1. Arson
2. Altering or attempting to alter another individual's food or beverage
3. Assault (whether physical or verbal) and/or battery
4. Attempting to incite or produce imminent violence directed against another person because of his or her race, color, sex, national origin, religion, disability, veteran status, sexual orientation, age, or genetic information by making or transmitting or causing or allowing to be transmitted, any telephonic, computerized or electronic message
5. Attempting to incite or produce imminent violence directed against another person because of his or her race, color, sex, national origin, religion, disability, veteran status, sexual orientation, age, or genetic information by broadcasting, publishing or distributing or causing or allowing to be broadcast, published or distributed, any message or material
6. Cheating
7. Conduct that threatens or jeopardizes the safety of others
8. Cutting class or sleeping, eating or refusing to work in class
9. Disruption of the educational process or operation of the school
10. Extortion
11. Failure to attend assigned detention, alternative school or other disciplinary assignment without approval
12. Failure to comply with state immunization records
13. False reports or false calls
14. Fighting
15. Forgery, fraud, or embezzlement
16. Gambling
17. Gang related activity or action
18. Harassment, intimidation, and bullying, including gestures, written or verbal expression, electronic communication or physical acts
19. Hazing (whether involving initiations or not) in connection with any school activity, regardless of location
20. Immorality
21. Inappropriate attire, including violation of dress code
22. Inappropriate behavior or gestures
23. Indecent exposure
24. Intimidation or harassment because of race, color, sex, national origin, religion, disability, veteran status, sexual orientation, age, or genetic information, including but not limited to: (a) assault and battery; (b) damage, destruction, vandalism or defacing any real or personal property; or threatening, by word or act, the acts identified in (a) or (b)
25. Obscene language
26. Physical or verbal abuse
27. Plagiarism
28. Possession or distribution of a caustic substance
29. Possessing, distributing, or viewing obscene materials, including electronic possession, distribution or viewing (sexting)
30. Possession, without prior authorization, of a wireless telecommunication device
31. Possession, threat or use of a dangerous weapon and related instrumentalities (i.e., bullets, shells, gun powder, pellets, etc.)
32. Students who are members of JROTC and are participating in an authorized school program may, with prior approval from the principal, bring an inoperable weapon to school for the sole and exclusive purpose of participating in the program. Students may only possess the inoperable weapon in a manner consistent with the authorization to participate in the program.
33. Possession, use, manufacture, distribution, sale, purchase, conspiracy to sell, distribute or possess or being in the chain of sale or distribution, or being under the influence of (a) alcoholic beverages, low-point beer (as defined by Oklahoma law, i.e., 3.2 beer), (b) any mind altering substance, except for medications taken for legitimate medical purposes pursuant to district policy, including but not limited to prescription

## SPERRY SECONDARY SCHOOLS HANDBOOK

medications for which the individual does not have a prescription, or medications used outside their intended therapeutic purpose, (c) paint, glue, aerosol sprays, salts, incense and other substances which may be used as an intoxicating substance, or (d) any substance believed or represented to be a prohibited substance, regardless of its actual content.

34. Possession of illegal and/or drug related paraphernalia
35. Possession of prescription and/or non-prescription medicine while at school and school related functions without prior district approval
36. Profanity
37. Purchasing, selling and/or attempting to purchase or sell prescription and non-prescription medicine while at school and school related functions
38. Sexual or other harassment of individuals including, but not limited to, students, school employees, volunteers
39. Theft
40. Threatening behavior, including but not limited to gestures, written, verbal, or physical acts, or electronic communications
41. Truancy
42. Use, possession, distribution or selling tobacco or tobacco related products in any form, including but not limited to cigarettes, cigars, loose tobacco, rolling papers, chewing tobacco, snuff, matches, lighters, e-cigarettes, personal vaporizers, electronic nicotine delivery systems, and any cartridge, container or product designed to be used in conjunction with these delivery systems, regardless of the nicotine content of the product.
43. Use or possession of missing or stolen property if property is reasonably suspected to have been taken from a student, a school employee, or the school
44. Using racial, religious, ethnic, sexual, gender or disability-related epithets
45. Vandalism
46. Violation of board of education policies, rules or regulations or violation of school rules and regulations including, but not limited to, disrespect, lingering in restrooms, running in halls, bringing unauthorized items to school, inappropriate or unauthorized use of cellular phones or other electronic media,

name calling, destroying or defacing school property

47. Vulgarity
48. Willful damage to school property
49. Willful disobedience of a directive of any school official

The foregoing list of inappropriate behaviors is descriptive and by way of example only and is not to be considered an exclusive or limiting list of inappropriate behaviors.

In addition, conduct occurring outside of the normal school day or off school property that has a direct and immediate negative effect on the discipline or educational process or effectiveness of the school, will also result in disciplinary action, which may include in-school placement options or out-of-school suspension. This includes, but is not limited to, electronic communication, whether or not such communication originated at school or with school equipment, if the communication is specifically directed at students or school personnel and concerns harassment, intimidation or bullying at school.

School Safety and Bullying Prevention Act (OKLA. STAT. tit. 70, § 24-100.2)

The Oklahoma Legislature established the *School Safety and Bullying Prevention Act* with the express intent of prohibiting bullying in all schools. In addition to the prohibition listed in the student discipline code, above, the board has adopted a separate policy prohibiting bullying and outlining the district's plan to address it.

### Sample Disciplinary Options

#### • *Instructor or Administrator Intervention*

May include, but is not limited to, warning conference with student, parent conference, referral to counselor, behavioral contract, restriction of privileges, requirement of corrective action by student, changing student's seat or class assignment, involvement of local authorities or agencies, or other appropriate action as required or indicated by the circumstances.

#### • *Detention or In-School Intervention*

Detention is a correctional measure used when it is deemed appropriate. Students are to report to the appropriate teacher/principal at the specified time with class work to be studied. Detention may be assigned on a week-day or on a Saturday, as deemed appropriate.

#### • *Alternative In-School Placement*

Alternative in-school placement is an optional correctional measure that may be used by the

## SPERRY SECONDARY SCHOOLS HANDBOOK

school when deemed appropriate. It involves assignment to a school site, designated by the school, for a prescribed course of education as determined by school representatives.

- *Out of School Student Suspension*

Students may be suspended out of school pursuant to the district's policy regarding student suspension.

### Student Privileges While Under Suspension

Participation in the extracurricular activities of the school is a privilege and not a right. Accordingly, when a student's behavior results in a determination by the principal to impose disciplinary or other correctional measures against a student, the student will not be permitted to participate in any extracurricular activities offered by the school during the term of the discipline unless, in the sole judgment of the principal, such participation is appropriate given the nature of the offense committed by the student.

"Extracurricular activities" include, but are not limited to, all school sponsored teams, clubs, organizations, ceremonies, student government, band, athletics and all other school sponsored activities and organizations.

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## STUDENT BULLYING

### Statement of Legislative Mandate and Purpose

This policy is a result of the legislative mandate and public policy embodied in the *School Safety and Bullying Prevention Act*, 70 OKLA. STAT. § 24-100.2 et seq. ("Act"). The district intends to comply with the mandates of the Act and expects students to refrain from bullying. Bullying is expressly forbidden and students who bully are subject to disciplinary consequences as outlined in the district's policy on student behavior. Bullies may also be provided with assistance to end their unacceptable behavior, and targets of bullies may be provided with assistance to overcome the negative effects of bullying.

### Definition of Terms

#### A. Statutory definition of terms:

"Bully" means any pattern of harassment, intimidation, threatening behavior, physical acts, verbal or electronic communication directed toward a student or group of students that results in or is reasonably perceived as being done with the intent to cause negative

educational or physical results for the targeted individual or group and is communicated in such a way as to disrupt or interfere with the school's educational mission or the education of any student.

"Threatening behavior" means any pattern of behavior or isolated action, whether or not it is directed at another person, that a reasonable person would believe indicates potential for future harm to students, school personnel, or school property.

"Electronic communication" means the communication of any written, verbal, pictorial information or video content by means of an electronic device, including, but not limited to, a telephone, a mobile or cellular telephone or other wireless telecommunication device, or a computer.

Note: Bullying by electronic communication is prohibited whether or not such communication originated at school, or with school equipment, if the communication is specifically directed at students or school personnel and concerns bullying at school.

"At school" means on school grounds, in school vehicles, at school-sponsored activities, or at school-sanctioned events.

#### B. The "Reasonable Person" Standard

In determining what a "reasonable person" should recognize as bullying, staff will consider the point of view of the intended target, including any characteristics unique to the intended target. Staff may also consider the discipline history and physical characteristics of the alleged bully.

#### C. Types of Bullying

"Physical Bullying" includes harm or threatened harm to another's body or property, including but not limited to threats, tripping, hitting, pushing, pinching, pulling hair, kicking, biting, starting fights, daring others to fight, stealing or destroying property, extortion, assaults with a weapon, other violent acts, and homicide.

"Emotional Bullying" includes the intentional infliction of harm to another's self-esteem, including but not limited to insulting or profane remarks or gestures, or harassing and frightening statements.

"Social Bullying" includes harm to another's group acceptance, including but not limited to gossiping; spreading negative rumors to cause a targeted person to be socially excluded,

## SPERRY SECONDARY SCHOOLS HANDBOOK

ridiculed, or otherwise lose status; acts designed to publicly embarrass a targeted person, damage the target's current relationships, or deprive the target of self-confidence or the respect of peers.

"Sexual Bullying" includes harm of a sexual nature, including but not limited to making unwelcome sexual comments or gestures to or about the targeted person; creating or distributing vulgar, profane or lewd words or images about the target; committing a sexual act at school, including touching private parts of the target's body; engaging in off-campus dating violence that adversely affects the target's education opportunities; making threatening sexual statements directed at or about the target; or gossiping about the target's sexuality or sex life. Such conduct may also constitute sexual harassment which is prohibited by the district.

### Understanding and Preventing Bullying

#### Part 1: Student and Staff Education and Training

A full copy of this policy will be posted on the district's website and included in all district handbooks. Parents, guardians, community members, and volunteers will be notified of the availability of this policy through the district's annual written notice of the availability of the district's anti-bullying policy. Written notice of the policy will also be posted at various places in all district school sites.

Students and staff will be periodically reminded throughout the year of the availability of this policy, the district's commitment to preventing bullying, and help available for those affected by bullying. Anti-bullying programs will be incorporated into the district's other violence prevention efforts.

All staff will receive annual training regarding preventing, identifying, reporting, and managing bullying. The district's bullying coordinator and individuals designated as school site investigators will receive additional training regarding appropriate consequences and remedial action for bullies, helping targets of bullies, and the district's strategy for counseling and referral for those affected by bullying.

Students will receive annual education regarding behavioral expectations, understanding bullying and its negative effects, disciplinary consequences for infractions, reporting methods, and consequences for those who knowingly

make false reports. Parents and guardians may participate in a parent education component.

#### Part 2: Safe School Committees

Each Safe School Committee has the responsibility of studying and making recommendations regarding unsafe conditions, strategies for students to avoid harm at school, student victimization, crime prevention, school violence, and other issues which interfere with and adversely affect school safety.

With respect to student bullying, each Committee shall assist the board in promoting a positive school climate. The Committee will study the district's policy and currently accepted bullying prevention programs (available on the state department website) to make recommendations regarding bullying. These recommendations must be submitted to the principal and cover: (i) needed staff development, including how to recognize and avoid bullying; (ii) increasing student and community involvement in addressing bullying, (iii) improving individual student-staff communication, (iv) implementing problem solving teams which include counselors and/or school psychologists, and (v) utilizing behavioral health resources.

#### Student Reporting

Students are encouraged to inform school personnel if they are the target of or a witness to bullying. To make a report, students should notify a teacher, counselor, or principal. The employee will give the student an official report form, and will help the student complete the form, if needed. Students may make an anonymous report of bullying, and such report will be investigated as thoroughly as possible. However, it is often difficult to fully investigate claims which are made anonymously and disciplinary action cannot be taken against a bully solely on the basis of an anonymous report.

#### Staff Reporting

Staff members will encourage students to report bullying. All employees are required to report acts of bullying to the school principal on an official report form. Any staff member who witnesses, hears about, or suspects bullying is required to submit a report.

#### Bullying Investigators

## SPERRY SECONDARY SCHOOLS HANDBOOK

Each school site will have a designated individual and an alternate to investigate bullying reports. These individuals will be identified in the site's student and staff handbooks, on the district's website, and in the bullying prevention education provided annually to students and staff. The district's anti-bullying program is coordinated at the district level by its bullying coordinator, Brent Core.

### Investigating Bullying Reports

For any alleged incidents of bullying reported to school officials, the designated school official will investigate the alleged incident(s) and determine (i) whether bullying occurred, (ii) the severity of the incident(s), and (iii) the potential for future violence.

In conducting an investigation, the designated official shall interview relevant students and staff and review any documentation of the alleged incident(s). School officials may also work with outside professionals, such as local law enforcement, as deemed appropriate by the investigating official. In the event the investigator believes a criminal act may have been committed or there is a likelihood of violence, the investigator will immediately call local law enforcement and the superintendent.

At the conclusion of the investigation, the designated employee will document the steps taken to review the matter, the conclusions reached and any additional action taken, if applicable. Further, the investigator will notify the district's bullying coordinator that an investigation has occurred and the results of the investigation. In the event the investigation reveals that bullying occurred, the district's bullying coordinator will refer the student who committed the act of bullying to a delinquency prevention and diversion program through the Office of Juvenile Affairs.

Upon completion of an investigation, the school may recommend that available community mental health care or substance abuse options be provided to a student, if appropriate. The school may provide a student with information about the types of support services available to the student bully, target, and any other students affected by the prohibited behavior. These resources will be provided to any individual who requests such assistance or will be provided if a school official believes the resource might be of assistance to the student/family. The district is not responsible for paying for these services. No school employee is

expected to evaluate the appropriateness or the quality of the resource provided, nor is any employee required to provide an exhaustive list of resources available. All school employees will act in good faith.

The school may request the disclosure of information concerning students who have received substance abuse or mental health care (pursuant to the previous paragraph) if that information indicates an explicit threat to the safety of students or school personnel, provided the disclosure of the information does not violate the requirements and provisions of the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974, the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996, OKLA. STAT. tit. 12 § 1376, OKLA. STAT. tit. 59 §1376 of the Oklahoma Statutes, or any other state or federal laws regarding the disclosure of confidential information. The school may request the disclosure of information when it is believed that the student may have posed a danger to him/herself and having such information will allow school officials to determine if it is safe for the student to return to the regular classroom or if alternative education arrangements are needed.

### Parental Notification

The assigned investigator will notify the parents of a target within one (1) school day that a bullying report has been received. Within one (1) school day of the conclusion of the investigation, the investigator will provide the parents of a target with the results of the investigation and any community resources deemed appropriate to the situation.

If the report of bullying is substantiated, within one (1) school day of the conclusion of the investigation, the investigator will contact the parents of the bully to discuss disciplinary action and any community resources deemed appropriate to the situation.

The timelines in this parental notification section may be reasonably extended if individual circumstances warrant such an extension.

### Parental Responsibilities

All parents/guardians will be informed in writing of the district's program to stop bullying and will be given a copy of this policy upon request. An administrative response to a reported act of bullying may involve certain actions to be taken by parents. Parents will be informed of the program and the means for students to report bullying acts toward them or other students. They will also be



## SPERRY SECONDARY SCHOOLS HANDBOOK

told that to help prevent bullying at school they should encourage their children to:

- Report bullying when it occurs;
- Take advantage of opportunities to talk to their children about bullying;
- Inform the school immediately if they think their child is being bullied or is bullying other students;
- Watch for symptoms that their child may be a target of bullying and report those symptoms; and
- Cooperate fully with school personnel in identifying and resolving incidents.

### Student Transfers

Students who are victims of bullying, and who report the incident(s) to school administrators, may choose to transfer to another school district. Any application for transfer must be made in accordance with the receiving school district's transfer policy.

### Monitoring and Compliance

In order to assist the State Department of Education with compliance efforts pursuant to the *School Safety and Bullying Prevention Act*, 70 OKLA. STAT. § 24-100.2 et seq., the district will identify a Bullying Coordinator who will serve as the district contact responsible for providing information to the State Board of Education. The Bullying Coordinator shall maintain updated contact information on file with the State Department of Education and the school district will notify the State Department of Education within fifteen (15) days of the appointment of a new Bullying Coordinator.

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### **HAZING**

Hazing constitutes unethical and unacceptable conduct that will not be tolerated in Sperry Public Schools. To that end the district adopts the following policy prohibiting hazing.

"Hazing" means any activity which recklessly or intentionally endangers the physical or mental health or safety of a student, required as a condition of membership in an organization, regardless of willing participation, including but not limited to physical brutality such as whipping, beating, branding, forced calisthenics, exposure to the elements, forced consumption of food, alcohol, drugs, or other substances, and activities which

would induce extreme mental stress such as prolonged sleep deprivation, prolonged isolation, and conduct which could cause extreme embarrassment or humiliation.

Endangering the physical health shall include, but not be limited to, any brutality of a physical nature, such as whipping, beating, branding, forced calisthenics, exposure to the elements, forced consumption of any food, alcoholic beverage, low-point beer, drug, controlled dangerous substance, or other substance, or any other forced physical activity which could adversely affect the physical health or safety of the individual.

Endangering the mental health shall include, but not be limited to, any activity except those authorized by law, which would subject the individual to extreme mental stress, such as prolonged sleep deprivation, forced prolonged exclusion from social contact, forced conduct which could adversely affect the mental health or dignity of the individual.

No organization having student members which is sponsored by the district or which is permitted to hold meetings or other events on district property (a "Student Organization") and no student member of a Student Organization shall engage or participate in or directly or indirectly condition membership on participation in or submission to a hazing activity.

Students violating these prohibitions shall not be permitted to participate in any extra-curricular activity sponsored by the district for a minimum of nine (9) school months, shall be subject to disciplinary measures which may include suspension, and shall, when appropriate, be referred to local law enforcement authorities for prosecution.

Student Organizations which violate these prohibitions shall forfeit all rights, privileges, and recognition from the district for a minimum of one year, and shall be referred to local law enforcement authorities for prosecution.

Hazing will be dealt with as outlined in the Code of Student Conduct. School employees who are linked to hazing shall be subject to discipline - including dismissal or non-renewal.

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### **DRESS CODE**

All students must dress decently and neatly.

1. Hair must be neat and clean, and of a natural color.

## SPERRY SECONDARY SCHOOLS HANDBOOK

2. Distracting hairstyles will not be permitted.
3. All attire shall be of decent length, not to be any shorter than a maximum of six inches (length of a dollar bill) above the knee when measured in a standing position. Shorts and skirts, which are of appropriate length and hemmed, may be worn. Form fitting or stretch material attire, including leggings, are not to be worn as a primary outer garment. Apparel worn under an outer garment will not affect the appropriateness of its length. Males may not wear tank tops or sleeveless shirts. See-through clothing shall not be permitted. Midriffs are not to be exposed at any time. All students will wear gender appropriate clothing.
4. No jeans or pants will be allowed that have holes or rips above the knee unless a garment or material is worn under them.
5. No visible safety pins, wallet chains, or external chains, oversized necklaces or oversized earrings will be allowed.
6. No clothing/apparel/jewelry, etc. which is distracting, highly conspicuous or which may be associated with gangs or gang activities may be worn. Such items include, but are not limited to: arm/leg bands, hats, facial jewelry (including tongue rings of any kind), hair color or distracting facial makeup. Males may only wear a single stud ear rings in each ear (spacers and sizers will not be allowed). Garments may not be worn in a manner which would be considered "baggy or sagging."
7. Appropriate shoes must be worn at all times. No wheeled shoes will be allowed.
8. Sleep wear, including house shoes, will not be allowed except on specified spirit days.
9. Mustaches and beards must be kept neatly trimmed.
10. All girls tops must have straps at least 2¼" wide.
11. Clothing with writing or pictures which are suggestive or symbolic of drugs, alcohol, sex or anything illegal or immoral are not to be worn.
12. No clothing will be permitted which, in the discretion of the administration, attracts undue attention or disrupts the educational process and setting.
13. Elementary students must wear shoes with backs.
14. Exceptions to the dress code shall be permitted by the administration, with prior approval, to allow wearing of activity, sports, or

organizational attire on the day of the activity or event.

*Any exceptions to these rules must be approved by the principal.*

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### STUDENT POSSESSION OF DANGEROUS WEAPONS

In order to provide a safe environment for the students and staff of the district, the board of education adopts this policy prohibiting the possession and/or use of dangerous weapons, replicas or facsimiles of dangerous weapons and items or instrumentalities which are used to threaten harm or are used to harm any person.

Dangerous weapons, including but not limited to firearms, are a threat to the safety of the students and staff of the district. In addition, possession of dangerous weapons, or replicas or facsimiles of dangerous weapons, disrupts the educational process and interferes with the normal operation of the district.

For the foregoing reasons and except as specifically provided in paragraph 10 below, possession by any student of a dangerous weapon, as that term is defined in this policy, or a replica or facsimile of a dangerous weapon, while on school property, at a school-sponsored activity, or on a school bus or vehicle, is prohibited. Further, use of any item or instrumentality by a student to threaten harm to any person or which is used to harm any person, while on school property, at a school-sponsored activity, or on a school bus or vehicle, is prohibited.

For purposes of this policy, "possession of a dangerous weapon" includes, **BUT IS NOT LIMITED TO**, any person having a dangerous weapon: (1) on his or her person; (2) in his or her locker; (3) in his or her vehicle; (4) held by another person for his or her benefit; or (5) at any place on school property, a school bus or vehicle, or at a school activity.

A dangerous weapon includes, **BUT IS NOT LIMITED TO**, a pistol, revolver, rifle, shotgun, air gun or spring gun, B-B gun, stun gun, hand grenades, fireworks, slingshot, bludgeon, blackjack, brass knuckles or artificial knuckles of any kind, nun-chucks, dagger, bowie knife, dirk knife, butterfly knife, any knife, regardless of the length or sharpness of the blade, any knife the blade of which can be opened by a flick of a button or

## SPERRY SECONDARY SCHOOLS HANDBOOK

pressure on the handle, any pocketknife, regardless of the length or sharpness of the blade, any pen knife, "credit card" knife, razor, dart, ice pick, explosive smoke bomb, incendiary device, sword cane, hand chains, firearm shells or bullets, garrottes, choking devices, mace, pepper spray, and any item whose principal purpose is for use as a weapon, whether offensive or defensive, and any replica or facsimiles of any of the foregoing items, or any item or instrumentality which is used to threaten harm or is used to harm any person or any chemical, material or substance which can cause an irritation to or reacts with human tissue, or any chemical, material or substance used, given, applied to or administered to another person without that person's consent.

**THE FOREGOING LIST OF "DANGEROUS WEAPONS" IS DESCRIPTIVE AND BY WAY OF EXAMPLE ONLY AND IS NOT TO BE CONSIDERED AN EXCLUSIVE OR LIMITING LIST OF DANGEROUS WEAPONS. IT WILL NOT BE A DEFENSE TO ANY DISCIPLINARY ACTION UNDER THIS POLICY THAT THE STUDENT POSSESSING THE DANGEROUS WEAPON DID NOT KNOW THAT IT IS A DANGEROUS WEAPON, BUT SUCH CLAIM OF A LACK OF KNOWLEDGE MAY BE CONSIDERED IN MITIGATION OF ANY DISCIPLINARY PENALTY.**

Any student in possession of a dangerous weapon, or replica or facsimile of a dangerous weapon, in violation of this policy or who uses any item or instrumentality to threaten harm to any person or is used to harm any person may be placed under emergency suspension from school, pending an investigation of the incident by the appropriate school or legal authorities. Students who violate this policy may be suspended from school, barred from school property and all school activities for any period of time up to the maximum period authorized by law. Additionally, appropriate school staff members may seek to file criminal charges against the student.

If a teacher or other school employee has a reasonable suspicion to believe that a student is in possession of a dangerous weapon, or a replica or facsimile of a dangerous weapon, the teacher or employee shall immediately investigate the matter and shall confiscate any such weapon found if this can be accomplished without placing any students or staff in jeopardy, and shall immediately notify the superintendent or the superintendent's

designee. If the teacher or employee does not believe that the weapon can be confiscated safely, the teacher or employee shall immediately notify the superintendent or the superintendent's designee of the situation.

If the superintendent or his/her designee learns that a student is believed to be in possession of a dangerous weapon or replica or facsimile thereof, the superintendent or designee shall observe the following procedure:

1. Immediately investigate the matter and contact the police or campus security, if appropriate.
2. If not already confiscated by an employee of the district and if it can be accomplished without risk of injury, the superintendent or designee should take possession of the dangerous weapon or replica or facsimile.
3. Notify the superintendent or designee.
4. Notify the student's parents.
5. Cooperate fully with the police.
6. Transfer confiscated weapon to the police department, if feasible.

A student who has been suspended from another school district because of the possession of a dangerous weapon, or replica or facsimile of a dangerous weapon, shall not be accepted as a transfer student into the district.

An exception to this policy may be granted for students participating in an authorized curricular or extracurricular activity or team involving the use or demonstration of a dangerous weapon, or replica or facsimile of a dangerous weapon. For this exception, prior written approval by the superintendent is required.

A student's inadvertent or unintentional possession of a dangerous weapon or replica or facsimile thereof on school property, a school bus or vehicle, or at a school activity is no defense or excuse to compliance to this policy, but may be considered in determining the length or severity of any punishment for violation of this policy.

Notwithstanding any of the foregoing provisions, rights of due process for all students and rights of disabled students must be observed in accordance with applicable law and school board policies.

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### STUDENTS, DRUGS AND ALCOHOL

1. Use of illicit drugs and unlawful possession and use of alcohol is wrong and harmful.

## SPERRY SECONDARY SCHOOLS HANDBOOK

2. Students are prohibited from using, being under the influence of, possessing, furnishing, distributing, selling, conspiring to sell or possess or being in the chain of sale or distribution of alcoholic beverages, non-intoxicating alcoholic beverages (as defined by Oklahoma law, i.e., 3.2 beer), illegal or illicit drugs, other mood-altering substances, or replicas and facsimiles of the foregoing at school while on school vehicles, or at any school-sponsored event,
3. "Illicit drugs" includes steroids and prescription and over-the-counter medications being used for an abusive purpose, i.e., when they are not used in compliance with the prescription or directions for use and are not being used to treat a current health condition of the student.
4. "Mood-altering substances" include, but are not limited to, paint, glue, aerosol sprays, salts, incense, and other substances which may be used as an intoxicating substance.
5. Violation of this rule will result in imposition of disciplinary measures, which may include suspension for the remainder of the current semester and the following semester.
6. Student violation of this rule which also constitutes illegal conduct will be reported to law enforcement authorities.

### Necessary Medications

1. Students may not retain possession of and self-administer any medication at school for any reason.
2. Students who have a legitimate health need for over-the-counter or prescription medication at school shall deliver such medications to the school nurse or principal with a parental authorization, in compliance with Oklahoma law and school policy and procedures regarding administering medicine to students.
3. Violations of this rule will be reported to the student's parents by the principal, and may result in discipline which can include suspension.

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### **STUDENT SUSPENSION (Out-of-school)**

This policy applies only to out-of-school suspensions and, unless otherwise noted, all references to "suspension" in this policy mean out-of-school suspension. References to "parent" in

this policy means a student's parent(s) or legal guardian(s). References to "principal" means the school principal or staff member to whom the principal has delegated the responsibility for student discipline.

Behavior or Conduct that May Result in Suspension:

Students may be suspended for:

1. violation of a school regulation;
2. possession of an intoxicating beverage, low-point beer, as defined by OKLA. STAT. tit. 37, § 163.2, or missing or stolen property if the property is reasonably suspected to have been taken from a student, a school employee, or the school during school activities;
3. possession of a dangerous weapon or a controlled dangerous substance while on or within two thousand (2,000) feet of public school property, or at a school event, as defined in the Uniform Controlled Dangerous Substances Act. Possession of a firearm shall result in suspension as provided in the district's policy related to firearms;

Students who are suspended under categories 1 or 2 will be provided with an education plan as outlined below. No education plan will be required for students who are suspended under category 3.

### Violent Acts Toward School Personnel

Any student in grades 6 through 12 found to have assaulted, attempted to cause physical bodily injury, or acted in a manner that could reasonably cause bodily injury to a school employee or person volunteering for the school shall be suspended for the remainder of the current semester and the next consecutive semester. For good cause and considering the totality of the circumstances, the district's superintendent or designee may modify the term of the suspension. Final action as to any such suspension, including its term, remains with the board of education or designated hearing officer, pursuant to a timely appeal.

Students suspended for a violent offense directed toward a classroom teacher shall not be allowed to return to the teacher's classroom without the teacher's prior approval. Whether an offense is considered a violent offense, requiring an affected teacher's approval as a condition of return to a particular classroom, shall be based on applicable provisions of the Oklahoma school law regarding student suspension and applicable Oklahoma criminal law distinguishing between violent and nonviolent offenses.

## SPERRY SECONDARY SCHOOLS HANDBOOK

### District's Obligations Prior to Suspension

Before the district recommends suspension, other disciplinary options will be considered, including but not limited to: placement in an alternative school setting, reassignment to another classroom, and detention. The district will provide additional procedural safeguards as required by law for students identified as having disabilities under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act or Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act/Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act.

### Pre-Suspension Conference

When a student engages in behavior or conduct that may result in suspension the principal shall conduct an informal conference with the student.

At the conference the principal shall read the policy, rule or regulation that the student is charged with having violated and shall discuss the student's conduct. The student shall be asked whether he/she understands the policy, rule or regulation and be given a full opportunity to explain and discuss his/her conduct.

If the principal concludes that suspension is appropriate, the student shall be advised that he/she is being suspended and the length of the suspension. The principal shall immediately notify the parent by phone and in writing that the student is being suspended and that other disciplinary options were considered and rejected. The written notice will state which alternative disciplinary options were considered and why they were rejected. Elementary and middle school students shall not be dismissed before the end of the school day without advance notice to the parent.

A student may be suspended without a pre-suspension conference only in situations when the principal reasonably believes that the student's continued presence in the building will constitute an immediate danger to the health or safety of students, school employees, school property, or would be a substantial disruption of the educational process. In such cases, a conference with the student and parent will be scheduled as soon as possible after the student has been removed from the building.

### Conferences with Parents

The principal will seek to hold a conference with the parent as soon as possible after the suspension has been imposed. The parent should be advised of his/her right to a conference with the principal at

the time he/she is verbally notified that a suspension has been imposed. The conference will be held during the regular school hours, Monday through Friday, with consideration given whenever possible to the hours of working parents.

At the conference, the principal will read the policy, rule or regulation the student is charged with having violated and will briefly outline the student's conduct. The principal will also explain the reason for rejecting other disciplinary options. The parent should be asked by the principal if he/she understands the rule and the charges against the student.

At the conclusion of the conference, the principal shall state whether he/she will terminate or modify the suspension. In all cases, the parent will be advised of the right to have the suspension reviewed by the superintendent, board of education, a hearing officer appointed by the board, or the suspension committee as provided by this policy. If the parent is in agreement with the principal's decision, he/she will be requested to sign a waiver of review.

### Individualized Plans

Suspensions in excess of five (5) days shall include an Individualized Plan ("Plan") that shall describe either a home-based school work assignment setting or other appropriate work assignment setting. The Plan shall be prepared by the principal with the assistance of other school employees.

The Plan shall provide for the core units in which the student is enrolled. Core units shall consist of the minimum English, Mathematics, Science, Social Studies and Art units required by the Oklahoma State Department of Education for grade completion in grades kindergarten through eight and for high school graduation in grades nine through twelve.

A copy of the Plan shall be provided to the student and parent. The parent shall be responsible for providing a supervised, structured environment monitoring the student's educational progress until the student is readmitted into school. The Plan shall set out the procedure for education and shall also address academic credit for work satisfactorily completed.

### Records

The principal will keep written records of each suspension conference. The records will contain the date of the conference, names of participants, time and duration of the conference, and the basis

## SPERRY SECONDARY SCHOOLS HANDBOOK

for rejecting alternative disciplinary options. The principal shall also maintain records related to the Plan and the student and/or parent's compliance with the Plan.

### Suspension Terms

All suspensions will have a definite start and end date. The term of a suspension may be reduced if a student performs a specified remedial act if those conditions are agreed to at the time of the suspension. Suspension lengths will be as consistent as possible between students considering the nature of the conduct and the previous disciplinary history of the student.

Long-term suspensions are those suspensions in excess of ten (10) school days. Suspensions will not extend beyond the current school semester and succeeding semester, except in the case of possession of a firearm, in which case a suspension shall be for a period of not less than one (1) calendar year. Suspensions involving firearms are governed by the school district's Gun-Free Schools Student Suspension policy.

Short-term suspensions are those suspensions of ten (10) or fewer school days.

### Right of Appeal: Short-Term Out-of-School Suspensions of Ten (10) or Fewer School Days

A student suspended for a period of ten (10) or fewer school days, following an informal pre-suspension conference with the principal or designee, may appeal the suspension to a suspension review committee composed of administrators and/or teachers. The student and parent shall be informed by the principal of this right, the time requirements for submitting an appeal, and the method of submitting an appeal.

### Method of Appeal of Short-Term Suspension

Short-term suspensions may be appealed to a suspension review committee. An appeal to the suspension review committee must be requested in writing to and received by the school principal, superintendent or designee within two (2) business days after the principal's or designee's suspension decision is received by the student or parent and must specify what part of the out-of-school suspension decision is being appealed. The parent/student may appeal one or both of the following:

- A. The finding of guilt of the charge(s) by the principal or designee for which the student was suspended; and/or

- B. The reasonableness and length of the suspension.

The suspension decision will become final and non-appealable if a request for appeal to the suspension review committee is not timely submitted.

Upon receipt of the request for an appeal, the superintendent or designee shall confirm the suspension falls within the category of suspensions to which an appeal to the committee is authorized. If the superintendent or designee determines the period of suspension is greater than ten (10) school days, or if for any reason, the short-term suspension is extended beyond ten (10) school days prior to the committee hearing, the procedures applicable to long-term suspensions must be followed and the student must be given the opportunity to appeal any adverse decision as provided by this policy for long-term suspensions.

### Procedures for Short-Term Suspension Appeal

1. The superintendent or designee shall appoint a suspension review committee to hear the appeal. The suspension review committee shall consist of not less than three (3) district employees, who shall be a minimum of two teachers assigned to another school site and an administrator not assigned to the suspended student's school, who will designate a chairperson. No administrator or teacher who witnessed the misconduct or any teacher teaching the student during the current semester shall serve on the suspension review committee.
2. The superintendent or designee shall schedule the suspension review committee hearing as soon as possible during regular school hours, Monday through Friday. Reasonable consideration shall be given to accommodate work schedules of the parent or guardian within that time period, if possible. The district shall have the option to schedule the suspension review committee meeting within five (5) calendar days of receiving the parent/student's written appeal request. The student and parent will be notified in writing or by phone of the date, time and place of the hearing. The principal or designee who issued the out-of-school suspension decision shall attend the suspension review committee hearing.
3. The suspension review committee will conduct a full investigation of the issues



## SPERRY SECONDARY SCHOOLS HANDBOOK

appealed. The principal or designee will outline the student's misconduct; read, refer to, or distribute the policy, rule or regulation which the student's misconduct violated; and make any statements or submit documentary evidence which support the suspension decision. The student or parent will explain the student's position and/or make statements or submit documentary evidence relating to the appealed issues.

4. For evidence supplied by student witnesses, the suspension review committee shall have the authority to restrict the identity of the student witnesses. In this case, the principal or designee will inform the suspension review committee of the information received by students and explain why the principal or designee believes the information received is valid and supports the suspension decision.
5. The suspension review committee meeting is closed to the public.
6. Either party choosing to have legal counsel at the hearing shall give the other party twenty-four (24) hours advance notice of that decision. The failure to give such notice will preclude the party's right to have counsel attend the hearing.
7. At the conclusion of the presentation of the evidence, the suspension review committee shall retire to render a decision by a majority vote as to the guilt or innocence of the student, if that issue was appealed. The suspension review committee shall also determine the reasonableness and length of the out-of-school suspension, if that issue was appealed. The suspension review committee's decision shall be in writing and mailed or delivered to the parent, the principal, and the superintendent or designee. The suspension review committee's written decision shall be mailed to the parent by certified mail, return receipt requested.
8. The suspension review committee's final decision shall be to uphold, modify, or revoke the suspension decision of the principal or designee.
9. The decision of the suspension review committee shall be final and nonappealable.

### Right of Appeal: Long-Term Out-of-School Suspensions for More than Ten (10) School Days

A parent or the student may appeal the suspension decision for out-of-school suspensions in excess of

ten (10) school days first to a district review committee and then to the board of education.

### Method of Appeal of Long-Term Suspension

An appeal must be presented in writing to and received by the school principal, superintendent or designee within two (2) business days after the decision of suspension is received by the parent or student and must specify which part of the suspension decision is being appealed. The parent/student may appeal one or both of the following:

- A. The finding of guilt of the charge(s) by the principal or designee for which the student was suspended; and/or
- B. The reasonableness and length of the suspension.

If no appeal request is received within two (2) business days, the suspension decision will be final and non-appealable.

### Procedures for Long-Term Suspension Appeal

1. The superintendent or designee will schedule a district review committee to hear the appeal and appoint one to three administrator(s), one to three teachers, and the superintendent or designee. No member of the district review committee shall have been associated with the case in any manner prior to the appeal hearing. The superintendent or designee may serve as the chairperson for all appeals to the district review committee.
2. The chair of the district review committee shall notify in writing the student, parents, and school principal of the date, time, and place of the appeal hearing.
3. The suspension review committee meeting is closed to the public.
4. Either party choosing to have legal counsel at the hearing shall give the other party twenty-four (24) hours advance notice of that decision. The failure to give such notice will preclude the party's right to have counsel attend the hearing.
5. The district review committee meeting will be held during the regular school hours, Monday through Friday, with reasonable consideration given to accommodate the hours of working parents within this time period, if possible. The district shall have the option to schedule the district review committee meeting within five (5) calendar days of receiving the parent/student's written appeal request.

## SPERRY SECONDARY SCHOOLS HANDBOOK

6. At the meeting, the principal or designee will inform the parent of the policy, rule or regulation the student was found to have violated, outline the student's misconduct, and present any evidence or documents which support the suspension decision. The student and parent will be permitted to explain and present any evidence or documents in support of the specified reasons for the appeal listed in the written notice of appeal requesting the appeal.
7. For evidence supplied by student witnesses, the district review committee shall have the authority to restrict the identity of the student witnesses. In this case, the principal or designee will inform the district review committee of the information received by students and explain why the principal or designee believes the information received is valid and supports the suspension decision.
8. At the conclusion of the hearing the chairperson and district review committee will retire to render a decision by a majority vote as to the specified reasons for which an appeal was requested, including the guilt or innocence of the student if that issue was appealed and determine the reasonableness and length of the suspension imposed if that issue was appealed. The hearing chair shall mail or deliver a copy of the committee's decision to the parent/student and site principal. The district review committee's written decision shall be mailed to the parent by certified mail, return receipt requested. The parent shall be advised of the right to have the suspension reviewed by the board of education as provided by this policy.
9. The district review committee's final decision shall be to uphold, modify, or revoke the suspension decision of the principal or designee.

### Method of Appeal of Long-Term Suspension to the Board of Education

An appeal of the decision of the district review committee to the board of education must be submitted in writing to and received by the superintendent or designee within two (2) business days after the decision of the district review committee is received by the parent or student and must specify the portion of the district review committee's decision which is being appealed. The

parent/student may appeal one or both of the following:

- A. The finding of guilt of the charge(s) by the principal or designee for which the student was suspended; and/or
- B. The reasonableness and length of the suspension.

If no appeal is received within two (2) business days, the decision of the district review committee will be final and non-appealable.

### Procedures for Long-Term Suspension Appeal to the Board of Education

#### *Hearing the Appeal:*

1. The board will hear the appeal as soon as possible, or it may appoint a hearing officer to hear the appeal. The board's decision, or the hearing officer's decision, is final and non-appealable.
2. The parent and student will be notified in writing of the date, time and place of the hearing.
3. The parent and student will have the right to an "open" or "closed" hearing, at their option.
4. Reasonable efforts will be made to accommodate the work schedule of parents.

### Student Out-of-School Suspension

#### Appeal Hearing Procedure Before the Board of Education

The board president or the appointed hearing officer should:

1. Announce that the next agenda item is an out-of-school suspension review hearing for the student. In order to protect the confidentiality and privacy of the student, the student's initials should be used and not the student's name.
2. Ask whether the parents/child wish the hearing to be open to the public or in executive session. The offer of an open hearing and their response is to be made a part of the minutes of the meeting. If parents/child request a closed hearing, a motion to go into executive session per their request should be made and voted on.
3. The board president or hearing officer should advise the parents/child:
  - A. That they are entitled to legal counsel, if they desire it.
  - B. That the administration will present its witnesses first and that after each witness

## SPERRY SECONDARY SCHOOLS HANDBOOK

- the parents or their legal counsel will be given an opportunity to cross-examine.
- C. That the parents/child will be given an opportunity to call any relevant witnesses and present any relevant evidence they may wish, subject to cross-examination by legal counsel for the administration.
- D. That the board or its hearing officer will consider the evidence and documents and reach a decision which will be recorded by vote in open session.
- E. That the parents/child may ask any questions about the procedure.
4. Following presentation of 1 and 2 above, all administration witnesses and documents should be presented subject to cross-examination.
  5. Parents/child may call any witnesses and present any documents subject to cross-examination.
  6. After each witness is presented school board members or the hearing officer may ask the witness any questions.
  7. Parents'/child's closing statement.
  8. Administration's closing statement.
  9. Deliberate in private. (If the hearing is not in executive session, the board or its hearing officer may deliberate in executive session only with permission of the parents or student.)
  10. Return to open session and vote. After adopting a motion making certain findings of fact the board must make a motion to: (1) affirm the out-of-school suspension; (2) modify the out-of-school suspension (increase or decrease severity of the out-of-school suspension); or (3) revoke the out-of-school suspension. If the hearing is before a hearing officer, no motions will be required as a part of the hearing process; otherwise, the hearing officer will have the same obligations as the board with respect to rendering a decision.

### Attendance at School Pending Appeal Hearing

Pending the appeal hearing of an out-of-school suspension to the board or hearing officer, the student will have the right to attend school under such "in-house" restrictions as the principal deems proper, except that at the discretion of the principal, the student may be prohibited from attending school pending any appeal hearing if in the judgment of the principal:

1. the conduct for which the student was suspended out of school reasonably indicates that continued attendance by the student pending any appeal hearing would be dangerous to other students, staff members or school property; or
2. the conduct for which the student was suspended out of school reasonably indicates that the continued presence of the student at the school pending any appeal hearing would substantially interfere with the educational process at the school.

### Student Privileges While Under Suspension

Participation in school extracurricular activities is a privilege and not a right. Accordingly, students who are suspended are immediately ineligible to participate in extracurricular activities, notwithstanding the filing of an appeal. "Extracurricular activities" include, but are not limited to, all school sponsored teams, clubs, organizations, ceremonies, student government, band, athletics and all other school sponsored activities and organizations.

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## GUN-FREE SCHOOLS STUDENT SUSPENSION

Any student who is determined to have:

- Brought a weapon to a school under the jurisdiction of the district; or
- Possessed a weapon within two thousand (2,000) feet of public school property; or
- Possessed a weapon at a school event

shall be suspended out of school for a period of not less than one calendar year. This policy does not apply to students who are members of the JROTC and who possess or bring an inoperable weapon to school for participation in a school program, provided the student obtained prior permission from the principal, the weapon remains inoperable while at school and the weapon is used consistent with the permission granted.

Any out-of-school suspension imposed under this policy may be modified for any student on a case-by-case basis by the chief administrative officer of the district.

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

## SPERRY SECONDARY SCHOOLS HANDBOOK

1. The term "weapon" means a firearm as such term is defined in Section 921 of Title 18 of the United States Code.
2. The term "chief administrative officer" means the superintendent or the board of education.
3. The term "determined to have brought a weapon to a school under the jurisdiction of the district" means any student being in possession or control of a weapon on property owned, leased or rented by the district, including, but not limited to, school buildings, parking lots and motor vehicles and any student who is in possession or control of a weapon at any district sponsored function regardless of whether such function is conducted on district property.

Enforcement of this policy shall be consistent with state and federal laws dealing with discipline of students with disabilities.

Students who violate this policy will be referred to the appropriate criminal justice or juvenile delinquency system. Any firearm seized from a student by any school employee shall immediately be delivered to a law enforcement authority for disposition pursuant to applicable law.

Any out-of-school suspension initiated pursuant to this policy shall be subject to procedural safeguards set forth in the district's policy for the out-of-school suspension of students.

Consistent with Oklahoma law, for an out-of-school suspension under this policy, no education plan shall be implemented during the term of the suspension.

This policy does not apply to student suspensions for non-weapon violations.

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### STUDENT INSURANCE

Sperry Public Schools does not provide insurance for students. Student insurance may be purchased at the beginning of the school year through third party companies. Individual insurance is considered the responsibility of the parents.

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### DISTRICT WIDE PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT (Parents' Bill of Rights)

The board supports parents' efforts to be involved in the district's education programs. This policy outlines the district's efforts to educate parents and

support parent involvement in response to the 2014 Parents' Bill of Rights.

Parents have the right be involved in their minor child's education, including directing that education. Parents are encouraged to exercise their rights in conjunction with district guidance so as not to inadvertently impede their minor child's compliance with federal and state mandated requirements – including requirements related to graduation. Parents also have the right to review school records related to their minor child.

Parents generally have the right to consent prior to an audio or video recording being made of their minor child. This right does not preempt the district's right to make recordings (without specific parental approval) related to:

- Safety, general order and discipline,
- Academic or extracurricular activities,
- Classroom instruction,
- Security/surveillance of the buildings or grounds,
- Photo ID cards.

Parents have the right to receive prompt notice if their minor child is believed to be the victim of a crime perpetrated by someone other than the parent, unless law enforcement or DHS officials have determined that parental notification would impede the related investigation. These notice provisions do not apply to matters which involve routine misconduct typically addressed through student discipline procedures. School personnel will not attempt to encourage or coerce a child to withhold information from parents.

1. The district will promote parent participation at the site level with the goal of improving parent and teacher cooperation in areas such as homework, attendance and discipline. This will be accomplished through activities such as:
  - Parent teacher conferences
  - Back to school / meet the teacher nights
  - District sponsored webpages with class information available to parents
  - School newsletters
2. The district will inform parents about their children's course of study by disseminating this information:
  - During annual enrollment
  - In student handbooks
  - On the district's webpage
  - During conferences with the student's school counselor

## SPERRY SECONDARY SCHOOLS HANDBOOK

3. Parents may review learning materials affecting their minor children's course of study, including supplemental materials, by making a request through the building principal.
4. Parents who object to a learning material or activity may withdraw their minor child from the class or program in which the material is used. In order to withdraw a student, the parent must submit a written request, signed and dated by a parent, to the building principal. Parents who choose to withdraw their minor child from a required class are responsible for making alternate arrangements for the child to earn credit for the class.
5. The district offers sex education in 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> grades. Parents who object to their minor child participating in the district's sex education program must submit a written notice, signed and dated by a parent, to the principal in order for their child to be excused from participation. Students who are not participating in the district's sex education program will be permitted to study in the school library or office during sex education instruction.
6. If a teacher is going to provide instruction or presentations regarding sexuality in a course apart from formal sex education, the teacher will send written notice home to parents in advance of the presentation. Parents who object to their minor child's participation in such instruction may send a written request to the building principal to have the student excused from the presentation. Any such student will be permitted to study in the school library or office during the presentation.
7. Parents may learn about the nature and purpose of clubs and activities which are part of the school curriculum by reviewing student handbooks and the district's website. The district's extracurricular clubs and activities are also published in student handbooks, the district's policy manual, and are available on the district's website.
8. Parents have numerous rights and decision making responsibilities concerning their minor children. To assist parents in meeting these responsibilities and to fulfill its obligations under the 2014 Parent Bill of

Rights, the district has compiled the following information for parents:

- A. The district provides sex education to students in 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> grades. Parents may opt their student out of the district's sponsored sex education program by following the procedures established in item 4 above.
- B. Parents who are not residents of the district may enroll their minor children in the district's schools in accordance with the district's open transfer policy. A copy of that policy is available in the superintendent's office.
- C. The district utilizes a number of resources to educate students. Parents who object to an assignment based on sex, morality or religion may opt their minor child out of the assignment by following the procedures established in item 3 above.
- D. Students are generally required to receive a predetermined set of immunizations prior to enrolling in school and to receive additional boosters throughout enrollment in the district. This requirement may be waived if the parent submits a note from the minor child's physician stating that the child should be excused from the immunization for health reasons or if the parent submits a note objecting to the immunization of the child.
- E. Students are required to meet certain obligations in order to be promoted to a subsequent grade, particularly with regard to learning to read. Parents can learn about these requirements – including efforts the district will take in order to help students become successful readers – by reviewing the district's policies on Reading Sufficiency Act testing, and student promotion. Copies of these policies are available in the superintendent's office.
- F. Students are required to meet certain obligations in order to graduate from high school. Parents can learn about these requirements each year during course enrollment. This information is also available in student handbooks and on the Oklahoma State Department of Education's website ([www.ok.gov/sde/](http://www.ok.gov/sde/)).
- G. The district provides AIDS education for students in 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> grades. Parents may opt their minor student out of this

## SPERRY SECONDARY SCHOOLS HANDBOOK

- education by submitting a written request, signed and dated by a parent, to the building principal. Students who are not participating in the district's AIDS education program will be permitted to study in the school library or office during the scheduled instruction.
- H. Parents have the right to review student test results related to their minor student. Parents may review the results of classroom exams by contacting their child's teacher. Parents may review the results of state-wide testing by contacting their child's building principal.
  - I. Qualifying students have the right to participate in the district's gifted and talented program in accordance with the district's policy regarding the program. A copy of the policy is available through the superintendent's office.
  - J. Parents have the right to review teachers' manuals, films, tapes or other supplementary instructional material if the materials are being used in connection with a research or experimentation program or project. In order to review these materials, the parent should contact the building principal.
  - K. Parents have the right to receive a school report card. Information regarding these report cards will be provided through school publications, but a copy of the actual report card is available in the superintendent's office.
  - L. Students are required to attend school regularly, and the district is required to notify parents of any student absence unless the parent has already contacted the school to report the absence. The district will send a written notice to parents if their minor student appears to be in danger of exceeding the maximum allowable number of absences and will notify the district attorney and the parent if a child may be considered truant. Parents may contact the child's principal for additional information regarding student absences.
  - M. Parents have the right to review the district's courses of study and textbooks. Arrangements for this review can be made through the building principal.
  - N. Students may be excused from school for religious purposes provided the parent contacts the building principal to request such an absence.
  - O. Parents have the right to review all district policies, including parental involvement policies. Copies of these policies are available through the superintendent's office.
  - P. Parents have the right to participate in parent-teacher organizations. Information regarding these groups will be made available during activities such as enrollment, schedule pickups and back to school night. Parents who wish to have additional information regarding these groups can obtain more detail through the principal's office.
  - Q. Parents may opt out of selected district level data collection related to state longitudinal student data system reporting. Parents may not opt out of necessary and essential record collecting. Parents may file an opt out request through the superintendent's office.
- Parents requesting information outlined in this policy should submit written requests for information through the building principal or superintendent's office, as noted in the respective section. Appropriate school personnel will either make the information available or provide a written explanation of why the information is being withheld within ten (10) days of the request. Any parent whose request is denied or who does not receive a response within fifteen (15) days may submit a written request for the information to the board of education. The board will include an item on its next public meeting agenda (or the following meeting, if time does not permit inclusion of the item on the agenda) to allow the board to formally consider the parent's request.

OKLA. STAT. tit. 25 § 2001

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### PROTECTION OF PUPIL RIGHTS AMENDMENT

For purposes of this policy, the following definitions apply:

"Instructional material" means instructional content that is provided to a student, regardless of its format, including printed or representational materials, audio-visual materials, and materials in electronic or digital formats (such as materials

## SPERRY SECONDARY SCHOOLS HANDBOOK

accessible through the Internet). The term does not include academic tests or academic assessments.

“Invasive physical examination” means any medical examination that involves the exposure of private body parts, or any act during such examination that includes incision, insertion, or injection into the body, but does not include a hearing, vision, or scoliosis screening.

“Parent” includes a legal guardian or other person standing in loco parentis (such as a grandparent or stepparent with whom the child lives, or a person who is legally responsible for the welfare of the child). All rights provided to parents under this policy transfer to the student when the student turns 18 years old or is an emancipated minor at any age. “Personal information” means individually identifiable information including (i) a student or parent’s first and last name; (ii) a home or other physical address (including street name and the name of the city or town); (iii) a telephone number; or (iv) a Social Security identification number.

“Survey” includes an evaluation.

### Inspection of Instructional Materials

All instructional materials, including teacher’s manuals, films, tapes, or other supplementary instructional material that will be used in connection with any survey, analysis, or evaluation as part of any applicable program shall be available for inspection by the parents of students in the district. However, teacher lesson plans and tests are confidential records under the Oklahoma Open Records Act. After request by a parent, review of instructional materials shall be at a time mutually convenient to the teacher involved and the parent. Any complaint by a parent regarding the parent’s inability to inspect any instructional material shall initially be addressed to the principal of the school where the parent’s child attends. If the parent is dissatisfied with the principal’s decision, then the parent may request review by the superintendent, or his or her designee, who shall have final authority over the matter.

Establishing a curriculum and determining to include or remove particular materials within the curriculum are the legal responsibilities of the board of education subject to statutory and state board of education guidelines. Nothing in this policy is intended to grant or require prior parental approval or control of materials or parental control, approval or review of teaching techniques or methods.

### Surveys

No student shall be required to submit to a survey, analysis, written examination or evaluation that reveals information concerning the following without the parent’s prior consent:

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

Parents may inspect, upon request, a survey created by a third party before the survey is administered or distributed to students. Review of such surveys shall be at a time mutually convenient to the principal involved and the parent. Any complaint by a parent regarding the parent’s inability to inspect any such survey shall be addressed to the superintendent, or his or her designee, who shall have final authority over the matter.

The district will take appropriate steps in compliance with the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act to protect student privacy in the event of the administration or distribution of a student survey containing one or more of the items mentioned above.

### Psychiatric or Psychological Examinations

Without the prior written consent of the parent or guardian, no student who is an unemancipated minor shall be required, as part of any applicable program, to submit to psychiatric or psychological examination, testing or treatment.

### Notification and Opt-Out

The district will directly notify parents, at least annually at the beginning of the school year, of the specific or approximate dates during the school



## SPERRY SECONDARY SCHOOLS HANDBOOK

year when the following activities are scheduled or expected to be scheduled:

1. Activities involving the collection, disclosure or use of personal information collected from students for the purpose of marketing or selling that information or providing that information to others for that purpose. These activities do not include information for the exclusive purpose of developing, evaluating or providing educational products or services for or to students or educational institutions, such as:
  - A. College or other postsecondary education recruitment, military recruitment;
  - B. Book clubs, magazines, and programs providing access to low-cost literary products;
  - C. Curriculum and instructional materials used by elementary and secondary schools;
  - D. Tests and assessments used by elementary schools and secondary schools to provide cognitive, evaluative, diagnostic clinical, aptitude, or achievement information about students and the subsequent analysis and public release of the aggregate data from such tests and assessments;
  - E. The sale by students of products or services to raise funds for school-related or education-related activities; and
  - F. Student recognition programs.
2. The administration of any survey containing one or more items described above in the Surveys section of this policy; and
3. Any non-emergency, invasive physical examination or screening that is (i) required as a condition of attendance; (ii) administered by and scheduled by the school in advance; and (iii) not necessary to protect the immediate health and safety of the student or other students. This provision does not apply to any physical examination or screening that is permitted or required by state law, including physical examinations or screening that is permitted without parental notification.

### Inspection of Data Collection Instruments

The district will take appropriate steps in compliance with the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act to protect student privacy in the event of such collection, disclosure or use of personal information collected from students for the purpose of marketing or selling that information or providing that information to others

for that purpose. Parents and eligible students may inspect, upon request, any instrument used in the collection of such information before the instrument is administered or distributed to students. Review of such instruments shall be at a time mutually convenient to the principal involved and the parent. Any complaint by a parent regarding the parent's inability to inspect any such survey shall be addressed to the superintendent, or his or her designee, who shall have final authority over the matter.

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### **STUDENT RECORDS**

This policy and the procedures included within it are intended to satisfy the requirements of the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) and Oklahoma law. The board of education authorizes the superintendent to inform parents, students and the public of the policy and to take appropriate action to implement the policy and procedures.

#### Definitions

For purposes of this policy, the following definitions apply:

1. Student - Any individual who attends or has attended a program of instruction sponsored by the board of education of the district and for whom it maintains education records.
2. Eligible student - A student who has reached age 18 or is attending a postsecondary school.
3. Parent - A parent of a student, including a natural parent, a guardian or an individual acting as a parent in the absence of a parent or guardian. The district will assume that either parent has a right of access to records regardless of custody orders unless the district has been provided with evidence that the right of access has been revoked. Documents such as a court order or other legally binding document relating to such matters as divorce, separation or custody that specifically revoke the right to inspect and review records must be provided to the district to prevent parent access to student records.
4. Education records - Any record (in handwriting, print, computer media, video or audio tape, film, microfilm, microfiche or other method of recording information) directly related to a student and maintained by

## SPERRY SECONDARY SCHOOLS HANDBOOK

- the district or a party acting for the district, except:
- A. Records that are kept in the sole possession of the maker, are used only as a personal memory aid, and are not accessible or revealed to any other person except a temporary substitute for the maker of the record.
  - B. Records of a law enforcement unit of the district, but only if education records maintained by the district are not disclosed to the unit, and the law enforcement records are maintained separately from education records; maintained solely for law enforcement purposes; and disclosed only to law enforcement officials of the same jurisdiction.
  - C. An employment record made and maintained in the normal course of business that is not available for use for any other purpose and that relates exclusively to a student in his or her capacity as a district employee. (This provision does not include employment activities for which a student receives a grade or credit in a course.)
  - D. Records on an eligible student that are:
    - i. Made or maintained by a physician, psychiatrist, psychologist or other recognized professional or paraprofessional acting in a professional capacity or assisting in a paraprofessional capacity;
    - ii. Made, maintained or used only in connection with treatment of the student (treatment does not include remedial educational activities or activities that are part of the program of school instruction); and
    - iii. Disclosed only to individuals providing the treatment.
  - E. Alumni records that relate to the student after he or she no longer attends classes provided by the district that are not directly related to the individual as a student.
  - F. Grades on peer-graded papers before they are collected and recorded by a teacher.
5. Personally identifiable information – The term includes, but is not limited to any information that, alone or in combination, is linked or linkable to a specific student that would allow a reasonable person in the school community who does not have personal knowledge of the relevant circumstances to identify the student with reasonable certainty. The term also includes information requested by a person who the district reasonably believes knows the identity of the student to whom the education records relates. Personally identifiable information includes the student's name; the student's parents' or other family member's name; the student's or family's address; a personal identifier such as the student's social security number, student number or biometric record; and other indirect identifiers such as the student's date of birth, place of birth and mother's maiden name.
6. Dates of attendance -
- A. The period of time during which a student attends or attended an educational agency or institution. Examples of dates of attendance include an academic year, a spring semester or a first quarter.
  - B. The term does not include specific daily records of a student's attendance at an educational agency or institution.
7. Directory information - Information contained in an education record of a student that would not generally be considered harmful or an invasion of privacy if disclosed. Student identification numbers, if displayed on school ID badges, are also considered directory information *unless* the use of a password or PIN is required to authenticate the use of the ID number.
8. Authorized representative – An individual directly employed by a local or state educational agency, an entity designated by the local or state educational agency, or an individual employed by such entity engaging in audits, evaluations or any other compliance or enforcement activity.
9. Early childhood education program – Head Start or Early Head Start programs, state licensed or regulated childcare programs, and other similarly situated programs.
10. Education program – Elementary, secondary, postsecondary, career and technical institutes and schools or any program that is principally engaged in the provision of education.

### Annual Notice

The district will notify parents and eligible students annually of their rights under FERPA by means of a district newsletter, newspaper notice, school handbook, or individual notice. The notice will

## SPERRY SECONDARY SCHOOLS HANDBOOK

inform parents and eligible students that they have the right to:

1. Inspect and review the student's education records. The notice will also identify the procedure for exercising this right.
2. Seek amendment of the student's education records that the parent or eligible student believes to be inaccurate, misleading or otherwise in violation of the student's privacy rights. The notice will also identify the procedure for requesting amendment.
3. Consent to disclosures of personally identifiable information contained in the student's education records, except to the extent that FERPA and its implementing regulations authorize disclosure without consent. The district will also include in the notice its policy for disclosing education records to schools in which the student subsequently seeks or intends to enroll, its criteria for determining who constitutes a school official and what constitutes a legitimate educational interest.
4. File a complaint with the U.S. Department of Education concerning the district's alleged failure to comply with FERPA.

The district will arrange to provide translations of its annual notice to non-English speaking parents in their native language and to effectively notify parents or eligible students who are disabled.

All rights and protections given parents under FERPA and this policy transfer to the student when he or she reaches age 18 or enrolls in a postsecondary school. The student then becomes an "eligible student."

### The Right to Inspect and Review the Student's Education Records

Parents of students and eligible students may inspect and review the student's education records upon request. In some circumstances, it may be mutually more convenient for the record custodian to provide copies of records. The parent or eligible student may also provide consent to have a representative inspect and review the records. Access will be provided during school hours and within no more than 45 days of the request.

Access to a child's confidential records will be provided upon request before any IEP meeting or hearing relating to the identification, evaluation or educational placement of a child or the provision of a free and appropriate education to the child and in all cases within no more than 45 days of a request.

The district will not withhold a parent's or eligible student's right to inspect and review student records because of debts owed the district.

The right to inspect education records also includes the right to an explanation and interpretation of the records by school officials.

Parents or eligible students should submit to the student's school principal a written request that identifies as precisely as possible the records he or she wishes to inspect. Since a student's records may be maintained in several locations, the school principals should offer to collect copies of records or the records themselves from locations other than a student's school, so they may be inspected at one site. However, if parents and eligible students wish to inspect records where they are maintained, school principals will make every effort to accommodate their wishes. The principal (or other custodian) will make the needed arrangements as promptly as possible and notify the parent or eligible student of the time and place where the records may be inspected.

When a record contains information about students other than a parent's child or the eligible student, the parent or eligible student may not inspect and review the records of the other students.

The district is not required to give an eligible student access to treatment records (as defined by the term "education records" in the Definitions section of this policy), but the student may have those records reviewed by a physician or other appropriate professional of the student's choice.

### Copies of Records

The district will provide the parent with a copy of the student's education records under the following circumstances:

1. If mutually agreed by both the parent or eligible student and the district.
2. If failure to provide copies would effectively prevent the parent or eligible student from exercising the right to inspect and review the records. This may arise when a valid reason, such as working hours, the distance between record location sites or health, prevents a parent or eligible student from personally inspecting and reviewing a student's education record.
3. At the request of the parent or eligible student when the district has provided the records to third parties by the prior consent of the parent or eligible student.

## SPERRY SECONDARY SCHOOLS HANDBOOK

4. At the request of the parent or eligible student when the district has forwarded the records to another school where the student seeks or intends to enroll.

The district will charge a fee for copies of education records. When a fee represents an unusual hardship, the record custodian may waive it in part or entirely. However, the district reserves the right to make a charge for copies such as transcripts it forwards to potential employers or to colleges and universities for employment or admissions purposes.

The district's fee for copies provided under FERPA will range from no cost to .25 per page (actual copying cost less hardship factor). The district will not charge for the costs of search and retrieval.

### Directory Information

The district designates the following information contained in a student's record as "directory information," and it will disclose that information without the prior written consent of the parent or eligible student:

1. The student's name;
2. The student's address;
3. The student's telephone listing;
4. The student's date and place of birth;
5. The student's dates of attendance;
6. The student's grade level (i.e., first grade, tenth grade, etc.);
7. The student's participation in officially recognized activities and sports;
8. The student's degrees, honors and awards received;
9. The student's weight and height, if a member of an athletic team;
10. The most recent educational agency or institution attended;
11. The student's photograph; and
12. The student's electronic mail address.

The district will notify parents and eligible students annually of the designated items of directory information by means of a district newsletter, newspaper notice, school handbook or individual notice. Parents and eligible students have the right to exclude directory information from public access by notifying the superintendent's office in writing of any or all of the items they refuse to permit the district to designate as directory information about that student. The student's records will be marked to indicate the items the district will designate as directory information

about that student. This designation will remain in effect until it is modified by the written direction of the student's parent or the eligible student.

### Use and Disclosure of Student Education Records

District officials may release information from a student's education record if the student's parent or the eligible student gives his or her signed and dated prior written consent for the disclosure. The written consent must:

1. Specify the records that may be disclosed;
2. State the purpose of the disclosure; and
3. Identify the party or class of parties to whom the disclosure may be made.

The district will only release information from or permit access to a student's education record with a parent or eligible student's prior written consent, except in the following instances permitted by FERPA:

1. The disclosure is to other school officials, including teachers, within the district whom the district has determined to have legitimate educational interests.

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 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. The district will use reasonable methods to ensure that school officials obtain access to only those education records in which they have legitimate educational interests. The district will ensure that its policy for controlling access to education records is effective and remains in compliance with the legitimate educational interest requirement of the FERPA regulations.

A contractor, consultant, volunteer or other party to whom the district has outsourced institutional services or functions may be considered a school official provided that the outside party performs an institutional service

## SPERRY SECONDARY SCHOOLS HANDBOOK

- or function for which the district would otherwise use employees; is under the district's direct control concerning the use and maintenance of education records; and is subject to the requirements of FERPA regulations governing the use and redisclosure of personally identifiable information from education records.
2. The disclosure is to officials of another school, school system or institution of post secondary education where the student seeks or intends to enroll or where the student is already enrolled so long as the disclosure is related to the student's enrollment or transfer. (Parents and students have a right to obtain copies of the records disclosed under this provision).
  3. The disclosure is to authorized representatives of the Comptroller General of the United States, the U.S. Secretary of Education, or state and local educational authorities. Military services representatives shall have access to student directory information unless the parent, legal guardian or the student age 18 or older specifically denies such access in writing. Military services representatives have the same access to secondary school students as is generally provided to post secondary institutions or prospective employers unless denied in writing by the parent, legal guardian or student age 18 or older.
  4. The disclosure is in connection with financial aid for which the student has applied or that the student has received, if necessary to determine eligibility for the aid, the amount of the aid, the conditions for the aid, or to enforce the terms and conditions of the aid.
  5. The disclosure is to organizations conducting studies for or on behalf of the district to develop, validate or administer predictive tests, administer student aid programs or improve instruction in compliance with Section 99.31(a)(6) of the FERPA regulations.
  6. The disclosure is to accrediting institutions to carry out their accrediting functions.
  7. The disclosure is to parents of eligible students if the parents claim the student as a dependent as defined in Section 152 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986.
  8. The disclosure is to comply with a judicial order or lawfully issued subpoena. The district will make a reasonable effort to notify the student's parents or the eligible student before making a disclosure under this provision unless:
    - A. the disclosure is in compliance with a federal grand jury subpoena and the court or other issuing agency has ordered that the existence or the contents of the subpoena or the information furnished in response to the subpoena not be disclosed;
    - B. the disclosure is in compliance with any other subpoena issued for a law enforcement purpose and the court or other issuing agency has ordered that the existence or the contents of the subpoena or the information furnished in response to the subpoena not be disclosed;
    - C. the disclosure is in compliance with an ex parte court order obtained by the United States Attorney General (or designee not lower than an Assistant Attorney General) concerning the investigation or prosecution of an offense listed in the Patriot Act or an act of domestic or international terrorism as defined by law;
    - D. the district initiates legal action against a parent or student, the district may disclose to the court, without a court order or subpoena, the education records of the student that are relevant for the district to proceed with the legal action as plaintiff; or
    - E. the parent or eligible student initiates legal action against the district, the district may disclose to the court, without a court order or subpoena, the student's education records that are relevant for the district to defend itself.
  9. The disclosure is to appropriate parties in connection with a health or safety emergency if knowledge of the information is necessary to protect the health or safety of the student or other individuals. In making this determination the district may take into account the totality of the circumstances pertaining to a threat to the health or safety of a student or other individuals. If the district determines that there is an articulable and significant threat, it may disclose information from education records to any person whose knowledge of the information is necessary to protect the health or safety of the student or other individuals.
  10. The disclosure contains only "directory information" as defined in this policy, and the

## SPERRY SECONDARY SCHOOLS HANDBOOK

parent or eligible student has not refused to allow the district to designate that item as directory information for the student.

11. The disclosure is made directly to the parent or eligible student.
12. If a state law adopted before November 19, 1974, allows certain specific items of information to be disclosed in personally identifiable form from student records to state and local officials or authorities concerning the juvenile justice system and the system's ability to effectively serve the student whose records are released or if a state law adopted after November 19, 1974, allows such information to be disclosed to state or local officials concerning the juvenile justice system and the system's ability to effectively serve, prior to adjudication, the student whose records are released.

Prior to the release of education records without a parent or eligible student's advance written consent, the district will require an authorized representative of the entity receiving the records to complete a written agreement. The agreement will state, at a minimum:

- The identity of the authorized representative
- The specific personally identifiable information that is to be disclosed
- A clear description of the activity and purpose for the disclosure
- The authorized representative will not re-disclose the personally identifiable information
- The authorized representative will destroy the personally identifiable information within the time set forth in the agreement

The district will use reasonable methods to identify and authenticate the identity of parents, students, school officials and any other parties to whom the district discloses personally identifiable information from education records.

Upon request, the student's parent or eligible student may obtain a copy of any records disclosed under this provision.

### Record of Requests for Access and Disclosures Made From Education Records

The district will maintain an accurate record of each request for access to and each disclosure of personally identifiable information from the education records of each student. The district will maintain this record with the student's education records as long as the records are maintained.

For each request or disclosure the record will include:

1. The name of the party who requested or received personally identifiable information from the education records; and
2. The party's legitimate interests in requesting or obtaining the information.

The district will record the following information when it discloses personally identifiable information from education records under the health or safety emergency exception in FERPA:

1. The articulable and significant threat to the health or safety of a student or other individuals that formed the basis for the disclosure; and
2. The parties to whom the district disclosed the information.

As permitted by FERPA, the district may disclose personally identifiable information from an education record only on the condition that the party to whom the information is disclosed will not disclose the information to any other party without the prior consent of the parent or eligible student. The district will inform a party to whom such disclosure is made of this nondisclosure requirement.

In the alternative, the district may disclose personally identifiable information with the understanding that the party receiving the information may make further disclosure of the information on the district's behalf if:

1. The disclosures meet the requirements of the Use and Disclosure of Student Education Records section of this policy (§99.31);
2. The district makes a record of the disclosure that includes the names of the additional parties to whom the receiving party may disclose the information on the district's behalf and the legitimate interests each additional party has in requesting or obtaining the information (§99.32(b)); and
3. The district maintains a record of the names of state and local educational authorities and federal officials and agencies that may make further disclosures of personally identifiable information from the student's education records without prior written consent and maintains this record with the student's education records as long as the records are maintained (§99.32(b)(2)).

### Procedures to Seek to Correct Education Records

Parents and eligible students have a right to seek to change any part of the student's record they believe

## SPERRY SECONDARY SCHOOLS HANDBOOK

is inaccurate, misleading or in violation of student rights. The district will not use this procedure to consider a request to change the grade a teacher assigns for a course.

For purposes of outlining the procedure to seek to correct education records, the term "incorrect" will be used to describe a record that is alleged to be inaccurate, misleading or in violation of student rights. The term "correct" will be used to describe a record that is alleged to be accurate, not misleading and not in violation of student rights. Also, in this section, the term "requester" will be used to describe the parent of a student or the eligible student who is asking the district to correct a record.

To establish an orderly process to review and correct an education record for a requester, the district may make a decision to comply with the request for a change at several levels in the procedure.

First level decision - When a parent of a student or eligible student finds an item in the student's education record that he or she believes is incorrect, he or she should immediately ask the record custodian to correct it. If the record is incorrect because of an obvious error and it is a simple matter to make the record change at this level, the record custodian will make the correction. However, if the record is changed at this level, the method and result must satisfy the requester.

If the custodian cannot change the record to the requester's satisfaction or the record does not appear to be obviously incorrect, the custodian will provide the requester a copy of the questioned record at no cost; ask the requester to initiate a written request for the change; and follow the procedure for a second level decision.

Second level decision - The written request to correct a student's education record through the procedure at this level should specify the correction the requester wishes the district to make. It should at least identify the item the requester believes is incorrect and state whether he or she believes the item: is inaccurate and why; is misleading and why; or violates student rights and why. The requester must sign and date the request.

Within two weeks after the record custodian receives a written request, he or she will: study the request, discuss it with other school officials (such as the person who made the record or those who

may have a professional concern about the district's response to the request), make a decision to comply or decline to comply with the request and complete the appropriate steps to notify the requester or move the request to the next level for a decision.

If, as a result of this review and discussion, the record custodian decides the record should be corrected, he or she will effect the change and notify the requester in writing that he or she has made the change. Each such notice will include an invitation for the requester to inspect and review the student's education record to make certain the record is in order and the correction is satisfactory. If the custodian decides the record is correct, he or she will make a written summary of any discussions with other officials and of his or her findings in the matter. He or she will transmit this summary and a copy of the written request to the superintendent.

Third level decision - The superintendent or designee will review the material provided by the record custodian and, if necessary, discuss the matter with other officials (such as the school attorney or the board of education (in executive session)). He or she will then make a decision concerning the request and complete the steps at this decision level. Ordinarily, this level of the procedure should be completed within two weeks. If it will take longer, the superintendent or designee will notify the requester in writing of the reasons for the delay and a date when the decision will be made.

If the superintendent or designee decides the record is incorrect and should be changed, he or she will advise the record custodian to make the changes. The record custodian will advise the requester of the change as he or she would if the change had been made at the second level.

If the superintendent or designee decides the record is correct, he or she will prepare a letter to the requester which will include:

1. The district's decision that the record is correct and the basis for the decision;
2. A notice to the requester that he or she has a right to ask for a hearing to present evidence that the record is incorrect and that the district will grant such a hearing;
3. Instructions for the requester to contact the superintendent or designee to discuss acceptable hearing officers, convenient times and a satisfactory site for the hearing. (The district will not be bound by the requester's



## SPERRY SECONDARY SCHOOLS HANDBOOK

- positions on these items, but will, so far as possible, arrange the hearing as the requester wishes.); and
4. Advise that the requester may be represented or assisted in the hearing by other parties, including an attorney at the requester's expense.

Fourth level decision - After the requester has submitted (orally or in writing) his or her wishes concerning the hearing officer and the time and place for the hearing, the superintendent or designee will, within a week, notify the requester when and where the district will hold the hearing and who it has designated as the hearing officer. At the hearing, the hearing officer will provide the requester a full and reasonable opportunity to present material evidence and testimony to demonstrate that the questioned part of the student's education record is incorrect, as shown in the requester's written request for a change in the record (second level).

Within one week after the hearing, the hearing officer will submit to the superintendent or designee a written summary of the evidence submitted at the hearing. Along with the summary, the hearing officer will submit his or her recommendation, based solely on the evidence presented at the hearing, that the record should be changed or remain unchanged.

The superintendent or designee will prepare the district's decision within two weeks of the hearing. That decision will be based on the summary of the evidence presented at the hearing and the hearing officer's recommendation. However, the district's decision will be based solely on the evidence presented at the hearing. Therefore, the superintendent or designee may overrule the hearing officer if he or she believes the hearing officer's recommendation is not consistent with the evidence presented. As a result of the district's decision, the superintendent or designee will take one of the following actions:

1. If the decision is that the district will change the record, the superintendent or designee will instruct the record custodian to correct the record. The record custodian will correct the record and notify the requester as at the second level decision.
2. If the decision is that the district will not change the record, the superintendent or designee will prepare a written notice to the requester, which will include:

- A. The district's decision that the record is correct and will not be changed;
- B. A copy of a summary of the evidence presented at the hearing and a written statement of the reasons for the district's decision; and
- C. A notice that the requester may place in the student's education record an explanatory statement that states the reasons he or she disagrees with the district's decision and/or the reasons he or she believes the record is incorrect.

Final administrative step in the procedure - When the district receives an explanatory statement from a requester after a hearing, it will maintain that statement as part of the student's education record as long as it maintains the questioned part of the record. The statement will be attached to the questioned part of the record, and whenever the questioned part of the record is disclosed, the explanatory statement will also be disclosed.

### Complaints

If a parent of a student, an eligible student or a citizen of the district believes that the district is violating FERPA, that person has a right to file a complaint with the Department of Education. The contact information is:

Family Policy Compliance Office  
U.S. Department of Education  
400 Maryland Avenue, SW  
Washington, D.C. 20202-5091  
Telephone: (202) 260-3887

### Availability of Policy

Copies of this policy will be available for parent and eligible student review in the principal's office of each school building and in the superintendent's office.

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## **DESTRUCTION OF SPECIAL EDUCATION RECORDS**

The district destroys all inactive special education files after five years. However, 60 days before the district destroys the records, it will contact the parents/eligible student and give them the opportunity to take possession of the child's inactive file. Parents/eligible students will be provided a form to sign in order for records to be released.

## SPERRY SECONDARY SCHOOLS HANDBOOK

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### FEES

1. Students who build or otherwise have a personal project will pay for any school supplies used in the project.
2. Students using school owned band instruments will pay a maintenance charge of \$25.00 per semester. Payment must be made before using the instrument. Also, any reeds, supplies, etc. will be furnished by the student.
3. High school students enrolled in art will pay an art supplies fee of \$25.00 per course.
4. Students, who lose their agenda, must pay to replace, at a fee of \$5.00 for each agenda.

Students are to pay their respective teachers. Teachers must give each student a receipt stating what it is for, the amount, date the receipt and sign it. Teachers are to keep a duplicate copy of all receipts on file and turn them in to the office after all moneys are collected. Replacement agendas are purchased through the office.

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### ACTIVITIES (GENERAL)

1. Student must be eligible (see eligibility rules).
2. Student must be with a school sponsor.
3. No student will be allowed in any school building, unless a school sponsor is with them at all times.
4. All fund raising for any school organization or any organization using school facilities or on school premises must be approved through the Assistant Superintendent after first getting the Principal's approval in writing.
5. All school sponsored activity trips must be approved through the administration.
6. All required buses will be scheduled through the Operations Manager.
7. No student is to arrive at school before 7:45 AM, except in an emergency, or with a school sponsor.

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### ACTIVITIES (GENERAL)

8. Student must be eligible (see eligibility rules).
9. Student must be with a school sponsor.
10. No student will be allowed in any school building, unless a school sponsor is with them at all times.

11. All fund raising for any school organization or any organization using school facilities or on school premises must be approved through the Assistant Superintendent after first getting the Principal's approval in writing.
12. All school sponsored activity trips must be approved through the administration.
13. All required buses will be scheduled through the Assistant Superintendent.
14. No student is to arrive at school before 7:45 AM, except in an emergency, or with a school sponsor.
15. All organizations and clubs will present a copy of their constitution and by-laws to the Principal and the Superintendent for approval, before any activity is carried out. This has to be done each year.
16. Letters will be awarded to those who earn them.

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### ROYALTIES AND HOMECOMING ACTIVITIES

The following procedures and criteria will be observed in the selection of the Kings, Queens and their Courts: (no funding from outside school sources will be allowed).

1. The Royalty will be selected by a majority vote of all students enrolled in the particular program.
2. **Football and Wrestling Royalty:** Any girl or boy participating in an extra-curricular activity is eligible to be on the ballot. This includes cheerleaders, football managers and members of: Band, FCCLA, Student Council, FFA, Key Club, and NHS. Each candidate must not be making a D or an F during the eligibility week of the voting and must remain eligible through homecoming ceremonies.
3. **Basketball and Band Royalty:** Any girl or boy participating in their respective programs must be active members in the programs or in an organized support group for the program (ex. manager, cheerleader, pep club, etc.) Each candidate must not be making a D or an F during the eligibility week of the voting and must remain eligible through homecoming ceremonies.
4. There shall not be any display of public affection in the crowning ceremony.
5. All participants elected to a coronation ceremony must have attended Sperry Public

## SPERRY SECONDARY SCHOOLS HANDBOOK

- Schools for one full semester and meet all standards for extra-curricular participation.
- An official ballot of all eligible candidates must be submitted to the administration for approval prior to the election. This ballot shall be coordinated by all participating coaches and sponsors of said activity.
  - Voting shall be by secret ballot three weeks prior to and at a time approved by the administration.
  - The King and Queen must be selected from the senior class and the position of King or Queen may be held one time and one time only in a student's high school career.
  - In the event that there are an insufficient number of eligible representatives from a particular class that position shall be filled by a member of the preceding class (ie: a Senior position may be filled by a Junior, Junior by a Sophomore, etc.)
  - The number of times a student may serve as an attendant shall not be restricted.
  - All homecomings will be decorated in school colors, i.e., black, orange, silver, gray, or white.
  - The only financial responsibility placed on the king/queen/escort/attendant will be the cost of his/her attire (which may be purchased or borrowed at the discretion of each person).
  - One escort/attendant will be chosen from grades 9-11 and two escorts and attendants will be chosen from the senior class using the guidelines set out in (2).
  - The king and queen and royalty will be announced after the ballots have been tabulated.
  - All king, queen, escorts and attendants will be responsible for the setting up and decorating.
  - Decorations will consist of only the trellises, floor covering under the trellises, names, chairs and balloons (optional).
  - The Queen will choose one Flower Girl and the King will choose one Crown Bearer. The Flower Girl and Crown Bearer will be chosen using the following guidelines:
    - children must be at least 4 years of age and no more than 6 years of age;
    - if no child can be arranged within the royalty group, names will be drawn from a hat from the Sperry Elementary Pre-K and Kindergarten students to obtain a child for the homecoming ceremonies.

- Flowers will be purchased for the members of the royalty only.

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### HOMEcomings FLOATS (9-12 grades only)

- Sponsors are in complete control of purchasing; flower pulls, and float work.
- Floats will be constructed in the bus barn. Conduct rules will be applied.
- Only one sponsor will be required to be at each work session.
- Floats will be completed on the Thursday night before the game.
- Floats will be presented in the homecoming parade.

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### JUNIOR/SENIOR PROM

The following rules will apply to the Junior/Senior Prom.

- All financial hold monies must be paid.
- To be eligible to attend the prom and/or to invite a date, students must be classified as a current Sperry High School junior or senior.
- Any outside date must be freshman to "under 21 years of age" and must be approved through the principal.
- Prom attire must be deemed appropriate by principal and sponsors.
- Everyone attending the Prom will purchase a ticket in advance.
- Prom mementos may be ordered separately.

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### TRANSPORTATION BUS RIDING

The Sperry Public School system has chosen to provide transportation for students who live in the transportation areas as determined by the State Department of Education. The Sperry Board of Education has deemed that the cost of transportation is a valid expenditure. **The State laws of Oklahoma do not require a school board to provide transportation, thus, it is a privilege rather than a right. This privilege may be withdrawn from those who do not conform to acceptable standards of rules and behavior.**

## SPERRY SECONDARY SCHOOLS HANDBOOK

The following statements are the conditions relative to the transportation program of Sperry Public Schools.

1. The school district is not liable for any damage to roads or property.
2. The driver is responsible for the safety and well-being of the child.
3. Students must adhere to all Bus Rider Rules.
4. The building principal will be the authority in the determination of whether a child may continue to ride the bus in the event there are unsolvable problems. Principal's decisions on exclusion from bus privileges may include the following:
  - a. A warning and a letter to the parent.
  - b. Five day exclusion.
  - c. Ten day exclusion.
  - d. Exclusion for the remainder of the year.
5. For each offense the parent will be notified by phone and/or by letter.
6. Before a student is excluded from riding the bus, the parent will be notified by phone and/or letter that they must find other means of transportation for the student.
7. The loss of bus riding privilege is not appealable action.
5. Bus riders should never tamper with the bus or any of its equipment. The rear door will not be opened except in emergencies.
6. Leave no books, lunches, or other articles on the bus.
7. Keep books, packages, coats, and all other objects out of the aisles.
8. Help look after the safety and comfort of smaller children.
9. Do not throw anything out bus windows.
10. Bus riders are not permitted to leave their seats while the bus is moving.
11. Horse-play is not permitted in or around the bus.
12. Bus riders are expected to be courteous to the driver and fellow pupils.
13. Keep absolutely quiet when the bus approaches a railroad crossing.
14. In case of a road emergency, never leave the bus unless directed to do so.
15. Pop, candy, gum, suckers, etc. are not permitted on the bus.

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### BUS RIDING RULES

***Prior to loading (at the bus stop or at school):***

1. Be on time at the designated school bus stop. Help keep the bus on schedule.
2. Stay off the road at all times while waiting for the bus.
3. Wait until the bus comes to a complete stop before attempting to enter.
4. Be careful in approaching bus stops.
5. No one will ride except those on the regular bus route without special permission from the principal.

***While on the bus:***

1. Keep hands and head inside the bus at all times after entering and until leaving the bus.
2. Assist in keeping the bus safe and sanitary at all times.
3. Remember that loud talking, laughing or unnecessary confusion diverts the driver's attention and may result in a serious accident.
4. Damages to the bus will be paid for by the offender.

***Leaving the bus:***

1. When crossing a road, go at least 10 feet in front of the bus. Stop. Check for traffic. Watch for the bus driver's signal to cross the road.
2. Students not crossing a road should immediately move away from the bus and stay clear of any possible traffic.
3. Help look after the safety of smaller children.
4. The driver will not discharge riders at places other than the regular bus stop. Exceptions must be made by the proper school officials.

### Extra-Curricular Trips

The above rules and regulations will apply to any trip under school sponsorship. Pupils shall respect the wishes of any chaperon appointed by school officials.

### Tips for Safe School Bus Riding

For a safe and enjoyable ride to and from school, follow these rules:

1. Leave home early enough to arrive at your bus stop on time!
2. Wait for your bus in a safe place-well off the roadway.
3. Enter your bus in an orderly manner, and take your seat.
4. Follow the instructions of your bus driver.

## SPERRY SECONDARY SCHOOLS HANDBOOK

5. Remain in your seat while the bus is in motion.
6. Remain quiet and orderly.
7. Be courteous to your driver and fellow passengers.
8. Be alert to traffic when leaving the bus-wait for the Drivers signal to cross

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### INTERNET AND TECHNOLOGY SAFETY PURSUANT TO THE CHILDREN'S INTERNET PROTECTION ACT

It is the policy of the district to: (a) prevent user access over its computer network to, or transmission of, inappropriate material via Internet, electronic mail, or other forms of direct electronic or digital communications; (b) prevent unauthorized access and other unlawful online activity; (c) prevent unauthorized online disclosure, use, or dissemination of personal identification information of minors; and (d) comply with the Children's Internet Protection Act [Pub. L. No. 106-554 and 47 U.S.C. §254(h)].

#### Definition

Key terms as defined in the Children's Internet Protection Act:

*Access to Inappropriate Material* - To the extent practical, technology protection measures (or "Internet Filters") shall be used to block or filter Internet (or other forms of electronic or digital communications) access to inappropriate information. Specifically, as required by the Children's Internet Protection Act, blocking shall be applied to visual depictions of material deemed obscene or child pornography, or to any material deemed harmful to minors. Subject to staff supervision, technology protection measures may be disabled or, in the case of minors, minimized only for bona fide research or other lawful purposes.

#### Inappropriate Network Usage

Any individual who uses the district's resources to access the Internet or engage in any electronic or digital communication is required to participate in the district's education efforts (undertaken pursuant to the Children's Internet Protection Act) and comply with the district's acceptable use policy.

#### Supervision and Monitoring

All employees are responsible for supervising and monitoring student use of the Internet in accordance with the district's technology policies and the Children's Internet Protection Act. The district's IT director shall establish and implement procedures regarding technology protection measures. No individual will be permitted to use the district's technology resources in a manner inconsistent with the district's policies.

#### Personal Safety

Employees and students shall not use the district's technology resources in any manner that jeopardizes personal safety. Students and employees must follow the district's technology policies, including the acceptable use policy which details the district's safe use standards.

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### ACCEPTABLE USE OF INTERNET AND ELECTRONIC AND DIGITAL COMMUNICATIONS DEVICES

The forms of electronic and digital communications change rapidly. This policy addresses common existing forms of electronic and digital communication (email, texting, blogging, tweeting, posting, etc.) but is intended to cover any new form of electronic or digital communication which utilizes a computer, phone or other digital or electronic device.

As a part of the resources available to students and employees, the district provides Internet access at each school site and at its administrative offices. The district intends for this resource to be used for educational purposes and not to be used for conduct which is harmful. This policy outlines the district's expectations regarding Internet access. The ability to access the Internet while on school property is a privilege and not a right. Access cannot be granted until an individual has completed an "Internet Access Agreement" and access may be revoked at any time.

In addition to Internet access, the district also provides school employees, as needed, with a laptop for business use. This equipment is loaned to the employee for the remainder of the school year for the express purpose of increasing educational opportunities. The employee is required to return the laptop at the conclusion of the school year in the same condition the laptop was issued to the employee, minus normal wear and

## SPERRY SECONDARY SCHOOLS HANDBOOK

tear. In the event the laptop is damaged, lost or stolen, the employee agrees to reimburse the district in accordance with the laptop agreement.

Any individual using district resources to engage in electronic or digital communications has no expectation of privacy. Further, employees and students must be cognizant of the fact that electronic or digital communications which occur on private equipment are often permanently available and may be available to school administrators.

Employees and students are expected to use good judgment in all their electronic or digital communications - whether such activities occur on or off campus or whether the activity uses personal or district technology. Any electronic or digital communication which can be considered inappropriate, harassing, intimidating, threatening or bullying to an employee or student of the district - regardless of whether the activity uses district equipment or occurs during school/work hours - is strictly forbidden. Employees and students face the possibility of penalties, including student suspension and employee termination, for failing to abide by district policies when accessing and using electronic or digital communications.

The Internet provides users the ability to quickly access information on any topic - even topics which are considered harmful to minors. The district's IT department has attempted to filter this access in order to protect students from harmful content. In the event inappropriate material is inadvertently accessed, students should promptly report the site to their teacher so that other students can be protected. No individual is permitted to circumvent the district's privacy settings by accessing blocked content through alternate methods. In the event an employee needs access to blocked content, he/she should make arrangements through the building principal or IT director.

Although the district's IT department has taken appropriate steps to block offensive material, users may unwittingly encounter offensive material. All users of the district's electronic resources are required to exercise personal responsibility for the material they access, send or display, and must not engage in electronic conduct which is prohibited by law or policy. If a student inadvertently accesses or receives offensive material, he/she should report the communication to the assigned teacher. If an employee accesses or receives offensive material, he/she should report the communication to the building principal or IT director. No individual is

permitted to access, view or distribute materials which are inappropriate or create a hostile environment.

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### INTERNET ACCESS - TERMS AND CONDITIONS.

#### Acceptable Use.

Students agree to access material in furtherance of educational goals or for personal leisure and recreational use which does not otherwise violate this policy. No student may make an electronic or digital communication which disrupts the education environment - even if that communication is made outside of school or on personal equipment. Types of electronic or digital communications which can disrupt the education environment include, but are not limited to:

- Sexting;
- Harassing, intimidating, threatening or bullying posts, tweets, blogs, images, texts, etc.;
- Distributing pictures, recordings or information which is harmful or embarrassing.

Students who engage in electronic or digital communications which disrupt the education environment are subject to disciplinary action, including suspension from school. Depending on the nature of the electronic or digital communication, students may also be subject to civil and criminal penalties.

#### Prohibited Use.

Users specifically agree that they will not use the Internet to access material which is: threatening, indecent, lewd, obscene, or protected by trade secret. Users further agree that they will not use the district's electronic resources for commercial activity, charitable endeavors (without prior administrative approval), product advertisement or political lobbying.

#### Parental Consent.

Parents must review this policy with their student and sign the consent form prior to a student being granted Internet access.

Privilege of Use. The district's electronic resources, including Internet access, is a privilege which can be revoked at any time for misuse. Prior to receiving Internet access, all users will be

## SPERRY SECONDARY SCHOOLS HANDBOOK

required to successfully complete an Internet training program administered by the district.

### Internet Etiquette.

All users are required to comply with generally accepted standards for electronic or digital communications, including:

- a. **Appropriate Language.** Users must refrain from the use of abusive, discriminatory, vulgar, lewd or profane language in their electronic or digital communications.
- b. **Content.** Users must refrain from the use of hostile, threatening, discriminatory, intimidating, or bullying content in their electronic or digital communications.
- c. **Safety.** Students must not include personal contact information (name, address, phone number, address, banking numbers, etc.) in their electronic or digital communications. Students must never agree to meet with someone they met online and must report any electronic or digital communication which makes them uncomfortable to their teacher or principal.
- d. **Privacy.** Users understand that the district has access to and can read all electronic or digital communications created and received with district resources. Users agree that they will not use district resources to create or receive any electronic or digital communications which they want to be private. System Resources. Users agree to use the district's electronic resources carefully so as not to damage them or impede others' use of the district's resources. Users will not:
  - install any hardware, software, program or app without approval from the IT department
  - download large files during peak use hours
  - disable security features
  - create or run a program known or intended to be malicious
  - stream music or video for personal entertainment
- e. **Intellectual Property and Copyrights.** Users will respect others' works by giving proper credit and not plagiarizing, even if using websites designed for educational

and classroom purposes (*See* [www.copyright.gov/fls/fl1102.html](http://www.copyright.gov/fls/fl1102.html)) Users agree to ask the media center director for assistance in citing sources as needed.

### Limitation of Liability.

The district makes no warranties of any kind, whether express or implied, for the services provided and is not responsible for any damages arising from use of the district's technology resources. The district is not responsible for the information obtained from the use of its electronic resources and is not responsible for any charges a user may incur while using its electronic resources.

### Security.

If a user notices a potential security problem, he/she should notify the IT director immediately but should not demonstrate the problem to others or attempt to identify potential security problems. Users are responsible for their individual account and should not allow others to use their account. Users should not share their access code or password with others. If a user believes his/her account has been compromised, he/she must notify the IT director immediately. Any attempt to log on to the district's electronic resources as another user or administrator, or to access restricted material, may result in the loss of access for the remainder of the school year or other disciplinary measures.

### Vandalism.

No user may harm or attempt to harm any of the district's electronic resources. This includes, but is not limited to, uploading or creating a virus or taking any action to disrupt, crash, disable, damage, or destroy any part of the district's electronic resources. Further, no user may use the district's electronic resources to hack vandalize another computer or system.

### Inappropriate Material.

Access to information shall not be restricted or denied solely because of the political, religious or philosophical content of the material. Access will be denied for material which is:

- a. **Obscene to minors, meaning**
  - i. material which, taken as a whole, lacks serious literary, artistic, political or scientific value for minors and,
  - ii. when an average person, applying contemporary community



## SPERRY SECONDARY SCHOOLS HANDBOOK

standards, would find that the written material, taken as a whole, appeals to an obsessive interest in sex by minors.

- b. Libelous, meaning a false and unprivileged statement about a specific individual which tends to harm the individual's reputation.
- c. Vulgar, lewd or indecent, meaning material which, taken as a whole, an average person would deem improper for access by or distribution to minors because of sexual connotations or profane language.
- d. Display or promotion of unlawful products or services, meaning material which advertises or advocates the use of products or services prohibited by law from being sold or provided to minors.
- e. Group defamation or hate literature, meaning material which disparages a group or a member of a group on the basis of race, color, sex, national origin, religion, disability, veteran status, sexual orientation, age, or genetic information or advocates illegal conduct or violence or discrimination toward any particular group of people. This includes racial and religious epithets, "slurs", insults and abuse.
- f. Disruptive school operations, meaning material which, on the basis of past experience or based upon specific instances of actual or threatened disruptions relating to the information or material in question, is likely to cause a material and substantial disruption of the proper and orderly operation of school activities or school discipline.

### Application and Enforceability.

The terms and conditions set forth in this policy shall be deemed to be incorporated in their entirety in the Internet Access Agreement executed by each user. By executing the Internet Access Agreement, the user agrees to abide by the terms and conditions contained in this policy. The user acknowledges that any violation of this policy may result in access privileges being revoked and disciplinary action being taken. For students, this means any action permitted by the district's policy on student behavior. For employees, this means any action

permitted by law, including termination of employment.

### Education of Students Regarding Appropriate On-Line Behavior.

In compliance with the Protecting Children in the 21st Century Act, Section 254(h)(5), the district provides education to minors about the appropriate use of the district's electronic resources, including interacting with others on social networking and chat sites, and cyber bullying. As a part of that education, guidelines on cyber bullying and internet safety for students are attached to this policy.

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### **CYBER BULLYING AND INTERNET SAFETY FACT SHEET**

People can be bullied in lots of ways, including through cyber bullying. Cyber bullying is when someone sends or posts things (words, pictures, recordings) that are mean, embarrassing or make people feel scared, embarrassed or uncomfortable. Even if they don't do this at school sometimes cyber bullying makes things at school hard. No student is allowed to disrupt school through cyber bullying.

### Cyber bullies work in lots of ways, but here's some of their most common:

- Send or post mean messages
- Make up websites or accounts with stories, cartoons, pictures or "jokes" that are mean to others
- Take embarrassing pictures or recordings (without asking first)
- Send or post stuff to embarrass others
- Hack into other people's accounts or read their stuff
- Hack into other people's accounts and send or post their private stuff
- Pretend to be somebody else to get someone to give them private info
- Send threats

*If you are a cyber bully, knock it off! Ask your principal/counselor how you can make things right.*

### If someone is cyber bullying you, there's something you can do about it:

## SPERRY SECONDARY SCHOOLS HANDBOOK

- Don't respond to and don't ignore a cyber bully. Instead, tell an adult you trust. If cyber bullying follows you to school, tell your teacher, counselor or principal.
- Even if what the bully does is embarrassing, don't delete it. Instead, get a copy so you can prove what happened.
- Have an adult help you contact a company representative (cell phone company, Yahoo, Facebook, Twitter, etc.) about blocking or removing the bad stuff.

You can't always stop people from being mean, but there are ways to help yourself:

- Don't give out your personal info in electronic or digital communications
- Don't tell anyone but your parents what your login name, password or PIN number is
- Don't post or send embarrassing pics or recordings (even on your own sites) - bullies love to copy your stuff

Suggestions for Parents:

- Help your child understand how permanent electronic or digital communications are
- Talk to your child about understanding, preventing and responding to cyber bullying
- Contact your student's school for help if you suspect your child is being cyber bullied – or if you suspect your child is engaging in cyber bullying

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### PERSONAL WIRELESS DEVICES

The district requires that all individuals devote their full attention to education while at school or during education activities. Accordingly, the district expects both employees and students to limit their use of personal wireless devices at school. Wireless devices include, but are not limited to, cell phones, laptops, recorders, etc.

Personal wireless devices shall be turned off and out-of-sight in locations such as restrooms, locker rooms, changing rooms, etc. (“private areas”). The use of any audio/visual recording and camera features are strictly prohibited in private areas. Students who observe a violation of this provision shall immediately report this conduct to a teacher,

coach, or the building principal. Employees who observe a violation of this provision shall immediately report this conduct to a supervisor, the building principal or other administrator.

It is the district's policy that students who possess a personal wireless device at school must keep that device turned off and out of sight during class time. No student will be permitted to access his/her personal wireless device during class time except with teacher permission due to an emergency. Students may use their personal wireless devices during breaks and lunch.

Students who violate this policy will have their personal wireless device confiscated until after a parent conference, and may lose the privileges of possessing such a device for the remainder of the school year. Students are also subject to other disciplinary action.

Students may not use any personal wireless device to:

- Send or receive answers to test questions;
- Record conversations or events during the school day, on school property or at school activities;
- Threaten, harass, intimidate, or bully;
- Take, possess, or distribute obscene or pornographic images or photos;
- Engage in lewd communications;
- Violate school policies, handbook provisions, or regulations.

**Warning:** Possessing, taking, disseminating, transferring, or sharing obscene, pornographic, lewd, or otherwise illegal images, photographs, or communications, whether by electronic data transfer or otherwise (commonly called texting, sexting, emailing, and other modes of electronic or digital communication) may constitute a CRIME under state and/or federal law. Any person possessing, taking, disseminating, transferring, or sharing obscene, pornographic, lewd or otherwise illegal images, photographs, or communications will be reported to law enforcement and/or other appropriate state or federal agencies, which may result in arrest, criminal prosecution, and inclusion on sexual offender registries.

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# SPERRY SECONDARY SCHOOLS HANDBOOK

## INTERNET ACCESS AGREEMENT (STUDENTS)

### *STUDENT SECTION:*

Student Full Name: \_\_\_\_\_

School Site: \_\_\_\_\_ Grade: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone No.: \_\_\_\_\_

I have received a copy of the policy titled *Acceptable Use of Internet and Electronic and Digital Communications Devices* (as part of the Handbook), including the attachment regarding cyber bullying, and a copy of the *Student Handbook*. I have read and agree to abide by their provisions. I understand that any violation of the policy or handbook provisions may result in disciplinary action including, but not limited to, suspension and/or revocation of network privileges and suspension from school.

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

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

### *SPONSORING PARENT OR GUARDIAN SECTION (Required):*

I have received a copy of the policy titled *Acceptable Use of Internet and Electronic and Digital Communications Devices*, including the attachment regarding cyber bullying, and a copy of the *Student Handbook*. I have read and discussed these provisions with my child. My child and I understand that any violation of the policy or handbook provisions may result in disciplinary action including, but not limited to, suspension and/or revocation of network privileges and suspension from school.

I understand that the school district has taken reasonable precautions to ensure that access to controversial material is limited to the extent possible, but I realize that it is not possible to guarantee that my child will never encounter objectionable material. I hereby release the school district from liability in the event that my child acquires inappropriate material through use of the district's technology resources, including the Internet.

I request that the district issue an account for my child and certify that the information contained on this form is correct.

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

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

***Student Access Agreement must be renewed each academic year.***