

Yoe High School



Student and Parent Handbook
And
Student Code of Conduct
2016-2017

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PREFACE

To Students and Parents:

Welcome to school year 2016–17! Education is a team effort, and we know that students, parents, teachers, and other staff members all working together can make this a wonderfully successful year for our students.

The C. H. Yoe High Student Handbook is designed to provide basic information that you and your child will need during the school year. The handbook is divided into two sections:

Section I—PARENTAL RIGHTS—with information to assist you in responding to school-related issues. We encourage you to take some time to closely review this section of the handbook.

Section II—OTHER IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR STUDENTS AND PARENTS—organized alphabetically by topic, and, where possible, further divided by applicability to ages and/or grade levels, for quick access when searching for information on a specific issue.

Please be aware that the term “parent,” unless otherwise noted, is used to refer to the parent, legal guardian, any person granted some other type of lawful control of the student, or any other person who has agreed to assume school-related responsibility for a student.

Both students and parents should become familiar with the Cameron ISD Student Code of Conduct, which is a document adopted by the board and intended to promote school safety and an atmosphere for learning. That document may be found on the district’s website at <http://www.cameronisd.net> and is available in hard copy upon request.

The Student Handbook is a general reference guide only and is designed to be in harmony with board policy and the Student Code of Conduct. Please be aware that it is not a complete statement of all policies, procedures, or rules that may be applicable in a given circumstance.

In case of conflict between board policy (including the Student Code of Conduct) and any provisions of the Student Handbook, the current provisions of board policy and the Student Code of Conduct are to be followed.

Also, please be aware that the Student Handbook is updated yearly, while policy adoption and revision may occur throughout the year. The district encourages parents to stay informed of proposed board policy changes by attending board meetings. Changes in policy or other rules that affect Student Handbook provisions will be made available to students and parents through newsletters or other communications. The district reserves the right to modify provisions of the Student Handbook at any time, whenever it is deemed necessary. Notice of any revision or modification will be given as is reasonably practical under the circumstances.

Although the Student Handbook may refer to rights established through law or district policy, the Student Handbook does not create any additional rights for students and parents. It does not, nor is it intended to, create contractual or legal rights between any student or parent and the district.

If you or your child has questions about any of the material in this handbook, please contact the principal.

Your child’s school will request that you provide contact information, such as your current phone number and e-mail address, in order for the school to communicate items specific to your child,

your child's school, or the district. If you consent to receive such information through a landline or wireless phone, please ensure that you notify the school's administration office immediately upon a change in or disconnection of your phone number. The district or school may generate automated or pre-recorded messages, text messages, or real-time phone or e-mail communication, so prompt notification of any change in contact information will be crucial to maintain timely communication with you. Standard messaging rates of your phone carrier may apply. If you have specific requests or needs related to how the district contacts you, please contact your child's principal. Please see **Safety** on page 78 for information regarding contact with parents during an emergency situation.

Also, please complete and return to your child's campus the following forms provided in the forms packet distributed at the beginning of the year or upon the student's enrollment:

1. Acknowledgment Form OR Acknowledgment of Electronic Distribution of Student Handbook;
2. Notice Regarding Directory Information and Parent's Response Regarding Release of Student Information;
3. Parent's Objection to the Release of Student Information to Military Recruiters and Institutions of Higher Education, if you choose to restrict the release of information to these entities; and
4. Consent/Opt-Out Form.

[See **Objecting to the Release of Directory Information** on page 4 and **Consent Required Before Student Participation in a Federally Funded Survey, Analysis, or Evaluation** on page 5 for more information.]

Please note that references to policy codes are included so that parents can refer to current board policy. The district's official policy manual is available for review in the district administration office.

SECTION I: PARENTAL RIGHTS

This section of the Yoe High School Student Handbook includes information related to certain rights of parents as specified in state or federal law.

CONSENT, OPT-OUT, AND REFUSAL RIGHTS

Consent to Conduct a Psychological Evaluation

A district employee will not conduct a psychological examination, test, or treatment without obtaining prior written parental consent unless the examination, test, or treatment is required under state or federal law regarding requirements for special education or by the Texas Education Agency (TEA) for child abuse investigations and reports.

Consent to Display a Student's Original Works and Personal Information

Teachers may display students' work, which may include personally identifiable student information, in classrooms or elsewhere on campus as recognition of student achievement.

However, the district will seek parental consent before displaying students' artwork, special projects, photographs taken by students, original videos or voice recordings, and other original works on the district's website, a website affiliated or sponsored by the district, such as a campus or classroom website, and in district publications, which may include printed materials, videos, or other methods of mass communication.

Consent to Receive Parenting and Paternity Awareness Instruction if Student is Under Age 14

A child under the age of 14 must have parental permission to receive instruction in the district's parenting and paternity awareness program; otherwise, the child will not be allowed to participate in the instruction. This program, developed by the Office of the Texas Attorney General and the State Board of Education (SBOE), is incorporated into the district's health education classes.

Consent to Video or Audio Record a Student When Not Otherwise Permitted by Law

State law permits the school to make a video or voice recording without parental permission for the following circumstances:

- When it is to be used for school safety;
- When it relates to classroom instruction or a co-curricular or extracurricular activity;
- When it relates to media coverage of the school; or
- When it relates to the promotion of student safety as provided by law for a student receiving special education services in certain settings.

The district will seek parental consent through a written request before making any other video or voice recording of your child not otherwise allowed by law.

[See **Video Cameras** on page 92 for more information, including a parent’s right to request video and audio equipment be placed in certain special education settings.]

Prohibiting the Use of Corporal Punishment

Corporal punishment—spanking or paddling the student—may be used as a discipline management technique in accordance with the Student Code of Conduct and policy FO(LOCAL) in the district’s policy manual.

If you do not want corporal punishment to be administered to your child as a method of student discipline, please return the form included in the forms packet or submit a written statement to the campus principal stating this decision. A signed statement must be provided each year if you do not want corporal punishment to be administered to your child.

You may choose to revoke this prohibition at any time during the year by providing a signed statement to the campus principal. However, district personnel may choose to use discipline methods other than corporal punishment even if the parent requests that this method be used on the student.

Please note that if the district is made aware that a student is in temporary or permanent conservatorship (custody) of the state, through foster care, kinship care, or other arrangements, corporal punishment will not be administered, even when a signed statement prohibiting its use has not been submitted by the student’s caregiver or caseworker.

Limiting Electronic Communications with Students by District Employees

Teachers and other approved employees are permitted by the district to communicate with students through the use of electronic media within the scope of the individual’s professional responsibilities. For example, a teacher may set up a social networking page for his or her class that has information related to class work, homework, and tests. As a parent, you are welcome to join or become a member of such a page.

An employee described above may also contact a student individually through electronic media to communicate about items such as homework or upcoming tests.

If you prefer that your child not receive any one-to-one electronic communications from a district employee or if you have questions related to the use of electronic media by district employees, please contact the campus principal.

Objecting to the Release of Directory Information

The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act, or FERPA, permits the district to disclose appropriately designated “directory information” from a child’s education records without written consent. “Directory information” is information that is generally not considered harmful or an invasion of privacy if released. Examples include a student’s photograph for publication in the school yearbook; a student’s name and grade level for purposes of communicating class and teacher assignment; the name, weight, and height of an athlete for publication in a school athletic program; a list of student birthdays for generating schoolwide or classroom recognition; a student’s name and photograph posted on a district-approved and -managed social media platform; and the names and grade levels of students submitted by the district to a local newspaper or other community publication to recognize the A/B honor roll for a specific grading

period. Directory information will be released to anyone who follows procedures for requesting it.

However, a parent or eligible student may object to the release of a student's directory information. This objection must be made in writing to the principal within ten school days of your child's first day of instruction for this school year. [See the "Notice Regarding Directory Information and Parent's Response Regarding Release of Student Information" included in the forms packet.]

The district has identified the following as directory information: student name; address; telephone listing; electronic mail address; photograph; date and place of birth; major field of study; degrees, honors, and awards received; dates of attendance; grade level; most recent educational institution attended participation in officially recognized activities and sports; and weight and height of members of athletic teams. If you object to the release of the student information included on the directory information response form, your decision will also apply to the use of that information for school-sponsored purposes, such as the honor roll, school newspaper, the yearbook, recognition activities, news releases, and athletic programs.

Also review the information at **Authorized Inspection and Use of Student Records** on page 9.

Objecting to the Release of Student Information to Military Recruiters and Institutions of Higher Education

The district is required by federal law to comply with a request by a military recruiter or an institution of higher education for students' names, addresses, and telephone listings, unless parents have advised the district not to release their child's information without prior written consent. A form included in the forms packet is available if you do not want the district to provide this information to military recruiters or institutions of higher education.

Participation in Third-Party Surveys

Consent Required Before Student Participation in a Federally Funded Survey, Analysis, or Evaluation

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

- Political affiliations or beliefs of the student or the student's parent.
- Mental or psychological problems of the student or the student's family.
- Sexual behavior or attitudes.
- Illegal, antisocial, self-incriminating, or demeaning behavior.
- Critical appraisals of individuals with whom the student has a close family relationship.
- Relationships privileged under law, such as relationships with lawyers, physicians, and ministers.
- Religious practices, affiliations, or beliefs of the student or parents.

- Income, except when the information is required by law and will be used to determine the student’s eligibility to participate in a special program or to receive financial assistance under such a program.

You will be able to inspect the survey or other instrument and any instructional materials used in connection with such a survey, analysis, or evaluation. [For further information, see policy EF(LEGAL).]

“Opting Out” of Participation in Other Types of Surveys or Screenings and the Disclosure of Personal Information

As a parent, you have a right to receive notice of and deny permission for your child’s participation in:

- Any survey concerning the private information listed above, regardless of funding.
- School activities involving the collection, disclosure, or use of personal information gathered from your child for the purpose of marketing, selling, or otherwise disclosing that information. Note that this does not apply to the collection, disclosure, or use of personal information collected from students for the exclusive purpose of developing, evaluating, or providing educational products or services for, or to, students or educational institutions.
- Any nonemergency, invasive physical examination or screening required as a condition of attendance, administered and scheduled by the school in advance and not necessary to protect the immediate health and safety of the student. Exceptions are hearing, vision, or scoliosis screenings, or any physical exam or screening permitted or required under state law. [See policies EF and FFAA.]

As a parent, you may inspect a survey created by a third party before the survey is administered or distributed to your child.

REMOVING A STUDENT FROM INSTRUCTION OR EXCUSING A STUDENT FROM A REQUIRED COMPONENT OF INSTRUCTION

Human Sexuality Instruction

As a part of the district’s curriculum, students receive instruction related to human sexuality. The School Health Advisory Council (SHAC) is involved with the selection of course materials for such instruction.

State law requires that any instruction related to human sexuality, sexually transmitted diseases, or human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) or acquired immune deficiency syndrome (AIDS) must:

- Present abstinence from sexual activity as the preferred choice of behavior in relationship to all sexual activity for unmarried persons of school age;
- Devote more attention to abstinence from sexual activity than to any other behavior;

- Emphasize that abstinence is the only method that is 100 percent effective in preventing pregnancy, sexually transmitted diseases, and the emotional trauma associated with adolescent sexual activity;
- Direct adolescents to a standard of behavior in which abstinence from sexual activity before marriage is the most effective way to prevent pregnancy and sexually transmitted diseases; and
- If included in the content of the curriculum, teach contraception and condom use in terms of human use reality rates instead of theoretical laboratory rates.

In accordance with state law, as a parent you are entitled to review the district’s curriculum regarding human sexuality instruction. In addition, you may remove your child from any part of the human sexuality instruction with no academic, disciplinary, or other penalties. You may also choose to become more involved with the development of curriculum used for this purpose by becoming a member of the district’s SHAC. Please see the campus principal for additional information.

Reciting a Portion of the Declaration of Independence in Grades 3–12

You may request that your child be excused from recitation of a portion of the Declaration of Independence. State law requires students in social studies classes in grades 3–12 to recite a portion of the text of the Declaration of Independence during Celebrate Freedom Week unless (1) you provide a written statement requesting that your child be excused, (2) the district determines that your child has a conscientious objection to the recitation, or (3) you are a representative of a foreign government to whom the U.S. government extends diplomatic immunity. [See policy EHBK(LEGAL).]

Reciting the Pledges to the U.S. and Texas Flags

As a parent, you may request that your child be excused from participation in the daily recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance to the U.S. flag and the Pledge of Allegiance to the Texas flag. The request must be in writing. State law does not allow your child to be excused from participation in the required minute of silence or silent activity that follows. [See **Pledges of Allegiance and a Minute of Silence** on page 75 and policy EC(LEGAL).]

Religious or Moral Beliefs

You may remove your child temporarily from the classroom if an instructional activity in which your child is scheduled to participate conflicts with your religious or moral beliefs. The removal cannot be for the purpose of avoiding a test and may not extend for an entire semester. Further, your child must satisfy grade-level and graduation requirements as determined by the school and by state law.

Tutoring or Test Preparation

Based on informal observations, evaluative data such as grades earned on assignments or tests, or results from diagnostic assessments, a teacher may determine that a student is in need of additional targeted assistance in order for the student to achieve mastery in state-developed essential knowledge and skills. The school will always attempt to provide tutoring and strategies for test-taking in ways that prevent removal from other instruction as much as possible. In

accordance with state law and policy EC, the school will not remove a student from a regularly scheduled class for remedial tutoring or test preparation for more than ten percent of the school days on which the class is offered, unless the student's parent consents to this removal.

The school may also offer tutorial services, which students whose grades are below 70 will be required to attend.

[Also refer to policies EC and EHBC, and contact your student's teacher with questions about any tutoring programs provided by the school.]

RIGHT OF ACCESS TO STUDENT RECORDS, CURRICULUM MATERIALS, AND DISTRICT RECORDS/POLICIES

Instructional Materials

As a parent, you have a right to review teaching materials, textbooks, and other teaching aids and instructional materials used in the curriculum, and to examine tests that have been administered to your child.

You are also entitled to request that the school allow your child to take home any instructional materials used by the student. If the school determines that sufficient availability exists to grant the request, the student must return the materials at the beginning of the next school day if requested to do so by the child's teacher.

Notices of Certain Student Misconduct to Noncustodial Parent

A noncustodial parent may request in writing that he or she be provided, for the remainder of the school year, a copy of any written notice usually provided to a parent related to his or her child's misconduct that may involve placement in a disciplinary alternative education program (DAEP) or expulsion. [See policy FO(LEGAL) and the Student Code of Conduct.]

Participation in Federally Required, State-Mandated, and District Assessments

You may request information regarding any state or district policy related to your child's participation in assessments required by federal law, state law, or the district.

Student Records

Accessing Student Records

You may review your child's student records. These records include:

- Attendance records,
- Test scores,
- Grades,
- Disciplinary records,
- Counseling records,
- Psychological records,
- Applications for admission,

- Health and immunization information,
- Other medical records,
- Teacher and school counselor evaluations,
- Reports of behavioral patterns,
- State assessment instruments that have been administered to your child, and
- Teaching materials and tests used in your child’s classroom.

Authorized Inspection and Use of Student Records

A federal law, known as the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act, or FERPA, affords parents and eligible students certain rights with respect to student education records. For purposes of student records, an “eligible” student is one who is age 18 or older or who is attending an institution of postsecondary education. These rights, as discussed in this section as well as at **Objecting to the Release of Directory Information** on page 4, are:

- The right to inspect and review student records within 45 days after the day the school receives a request for access.
- The right to request an amendment to a student record the parent or eligible student believes is inaccurate, misleading, or otherwise in violation of FERPA.
- The right to provide written consent before the school discloses personally identifiable information from the student’s records, except to the extent that FERPA authorizes disclosure without consent.
- The right to file a complaint with the U.S. Department of Education concerning failures by the school to comply with FERPA requirements. The name and address of the office that administers FERPA are:

Family Policy Compliance Office
 U.S. Department of Education
 400 Maryland Avenue, SW
 Washington, DC 20202-5901

Both FERPA and state laws safeguard student records from unauthorized inspection or use and provide parents and eligible students certain rights of privacy. Before disclosing any personally identifiable information from a student’s records, the district must verify the identity of the person, including a parent or the student, requesting the information.

Virtually all information pertaining to student performance, including grades, test results, and disciplinary records, is considered confidential educational records.

Inspection and release of student records is primarily restricted to an eligible student or a student’s parents—whether married, separated, or divorced—unless the school is given a copy of a court order terminating parental rights or the right to access a student’s education records.

Federal law requires that, as soon as a student reaches the age of 18, is emancipated by a court, or enrolls in a postsecondary institution, control of the records goes to the student. The parents may continue to have access to the records, however, if the student is a dependent for tax

purposes and under limited circumstances when there is a threat to the health and safety of the student or other individuals.

FERPA permits the disclosure of personally identifiable information from a student's education records, without written consent of the parent or eligible student, in the following circumstances:

- When district school officials have what federal law refers to as a “legitimate educational interest” in a student's records. School officials would include board members and employees, such as the superintendent, administrators, and principals; teachers, school counselors, diagnosticians, and support staff (including district health or district medical staff); a person or company with whom the district has contracted or allowed to provide a particular institutional service or function (such as an attorney, consultant, third-party vendor that offers online programs or software, auditor, medical consultant, therapist, school resource officer, or volunteer); a parent or student serving on a school committee; or a parent or student assisting a school official in the performance of his or her duties. “Legitimate educational interest” in a student's records includes working with the student; considering disciplinary or academic actions, the student's case, or an individualized education program for a student with disabilities; compiling statistical data; reviewing an educational record to fulfill the official's professional responsibility to the school and the student; or investigating or evaluating programs.
- To authorized representatives of various governmental agencies, including juvenile service providers, the U.S. Comptroller General's office, the U.S. Attorney General's office, the U.S. Secretary of Education, TEA, the U.S. Secretary of Agriculture's office, and Child Protective Services (CPS) caseworkers or other child welfare representatives, in certain cases.
- To individuals or entities granted access in response to a subpoena or court order.
- To another school, school district/system, or institution of postsecondary education to which a student seeks or intends to enroll or in which he or she is already enrolled.
- In connection with financial aid for which a student has applied or which the student has received.
- To accrediting organizations to carry out accrediting functions.
- To organizations conducting studies for, or on behalf of, the school, in order to develop, validate, or administer predictive tests; administer student aid programs; or improve instruction.
- To appropriate officials in connection with a health or safety emergency.
- When the district discloses information it has designated as directory information [see **Objecting to the Release of Directory Information** on page 4 for opportunities to prohibit this disclosure].

Release of personally identifiable information to any other person or agency—such as a prospective employer or for a scholarship application—will occur only with parental or student permission as appropriate.

The principal is custodian of all records for currently enrolled students at the assigned school. The principal is the custodian of all records for students who have withdrawn or graduated.

A parent or eligible student who wishes to inspect the student's records should submit a written request to the records custodian identifying the records he or she wishes to inspect. Records may be inspected by a parent or eligible student during regular school hours. The records custodian or designee will respond to reasonable requests for explanation and interpretation of the records.

A parent or eligible student who provides a written request and pays copying costs of ten cents per page may obtain copies. If circumstances prevent inspection during regular school hours and the student qualifies for free or reduced-price meals, the district will either provide a copy of the records requested or make other arrangements for the parent or student to review these records. The address of the superintendent's office is 304 E. 12th Street, Cameron Texas

The address of the principals' offices are: 303 E. 12th Street, Cameron Texas

A parent (or eligible student) may inspect the student's records and request a correction or amendment if the records are considered inaccurate, misleading, or otherwise in violation of the student's privacy rights. A request to correct a student's record should be submitted to the appropriate records custodian. The request must clearly identify the part of the record that should be corrected and include an explanation of how the information in the record is inaccurate. If the district denies the request to amend the records, the parent or eligible student has the right to request a hearing. If the records are not amended as a result of the hearing, the parent or eligible student has 30 school days to exercise the right to place a statement commenting on the information in the student's record.

Although improperly recorded grades may be challenged, contesting a student's grade in a course or on an examination is handled through the general complaint process found in policy FNG(LOCAL). A grade issued by a classroom teacher can be changed only if, as determined by the board of trustees, the grade is arbitrary, erroneous, or inconsistent with the district's grading policy. [See FINALITY OF GRADES at FNG(LEGAL), **Report Cards/Progress Reports and Conferences** on page 78, and **Complaints and Concerns** on page 28 for an overview of the process.]

The district's policy regarding student records found at policy FL is available from the principal's or superintendent's office www.cameronisd.net.

The parent's or eligible student's right of access to and copies of student records do not extend to all records. Materials that are not considered educational records—such as a teacher's personal notes about a student that are shared only with a substitute teacher—do not have to be made available to the parents or student.

Teacher and Staff Professional Qualifications

You may request information regarding the professional qualifications of your child's teachers, including whether a teacher has met state qualification and licensing criteria for the grade levels and subject areas in which the teacher provides instruction; whether the teacher has an emergency permit or other provisional status for which state requirements have been waived; and whether the teacher is currently teaching in the field of discipline of his or her certification. You also have the right to request information about the qualifications of any paraprofessional who may provide services to your child.

STUDENTS WITH EXCEPTIONALITIES OR SPECIAL CIRCUMSTANCES

Children of Military Families

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

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

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

Additional information may be found at <http://tea.texas.gov/index2.aspx?id=7995>.

Parental Role in Certain Classroom and School Assignments

Multiple Birth Siblings

As a parent, if your children are multiple birth siblings (e.g., twins, triplets, etc.) assigned to the same grade and campus, you may request that they be placed either in the same classroom or in separate classrooms. Your written request must be submitted no later than the 14th day after the enrollment of your children. [See policy FDB(LEGAL).]

Safety Transfers/Assignments

As a parent, you may:

- Request the transfer of your child to another classroom or campus if your child has been determined by the district to have been a victim of bullying as the term is defined by Education Code 37.0832. Transportation is not provided for a transfer to another campus. See the principal for information.
- Consult with district administrators if your child has been determined by the district to have engaged in bullying and the board decides to transfer your child to another classroom or campus. Transportation is not provided for a transfer to another campus. [See **Bullying** on page 21, policy FDB, and policy FFI.]
- Request the transfer of your child to attend a safe public school in the district if your child attends school at a campus identified by TEA as persistently dangerous or if your child has been a victim of a violent criminal offense while at school or on school grounds. [See policy FDE.]

- Request the transfer of your child to another district campus or a neighboring district if your child has been the victim of a sexual assault by another student assigned to the same campus, whether the assault occurred on or off campus, and that student has been convicted of or placed on deferred adjudication for that assault. If the victim does not wish to transfer, the district will transfer the assailant in accordance with policy FDE.

Service/Assistance Animal Use by Students

A parent of a student who uses a service/assistance animal because of the student's disability must submit a request in writing to the principal at least ten district business days before bringing the service/assistance animal on campus.

Students in the Conservatorship of the State (Foster Care)

A student who is currently in the conservatorship (custody) of the state and who enrolls in the district after the beginning of the school year will be allowed credit-by-examination opportunities outside the district's established testing windows, and the district will grant proportionate course credit by semester (partial credit) when a student only passes one semester of a two-semester course.

A student who is currently in the conservatorship of the state and who is moved outside of the district's or school's attendance boundaries, or who is initially placed in the conservatorship of the state and who is moved outside the district's or school's boundaries, is entitled to continue in enrollment at the school he or she was attending prior to the placement or move until the student reaches the highest grade level at the particular school. In addition, if a student in grade 11 or 12 transfers to another district but does not meet the graduation requirements of the receiving district, the student can request to receive a diploma from the previous district if he or she meets the criteria to graduate from the previous district.

[See also **Credit by Examination For Advancement/Acceleration** on page 38, **Course Credit** on page 38, and **Students in Foster Care** on page 86 for more information.]

Students Who Are Homeless

Children who are homeless will be provided flexibility regarding certain district provisions, including:

- Proof of residency requirements;
- Immunization requirements;
- Educational program placement, if the student is unable to provide previous academic records, or misses an application deadline during a period of homelessness;
- Credit-by-examination opportunities;
- The award of partial credit (awarding credit proportionately when a student passes only one semester of a two-semester course);
- Eligibility requirements for participation in extracurricular activities; and
- Graduation requirements.

If a student in grade 11 or 12 is homeless and transfers to another school district but does not meet the graduation requirements of the receiving district, the student can request to receive a diploma from the previous district if he or she meets the criteria to graduate from the previous district.

Federal law also allows a homeless student to remain enrolled in what is called the “school of origin” or to enroll in a new school in the attendance area where the student is currently residing.

[See also **Credit by Examination for Advancement/Acceleration** on page 39, **Course Credit** on page 39, and **Homeless Students** on page 67 for more information.]

Students Who Have Learning Difficulties or Who Need Special Education Services

If a child is experiencing learning difficulties, the parent may contact the person listed below to learn about the district’s overall general education referral or screening system for support services. This system links students to a variety of support options, including referral for a special education evaluation. Students having difficulty in the regular classroom should be considered for tutorial, compensatory, and other academic or behavior support services that are available to all students including a process based on Response to Intervention (RtI). The implementation of RtI has the potential to have a positive impact on the ability of districts to meet the needs of all struggling students.

At any time, a parent is entitled to request an evaluation for special education services. Within a reasonable amount of time, the district must decide if the evaluation is needed. If the evaluation is needed, the parent will be notified and asked to provide informed written consent for the evaluation. The district must complete the evaluation and the report within the timeline prescribed by law once the district receives written consent. The district must give a copy of the evaluation report to the parent.

If the district determines that the evaluation is not needed, the district will provide the parent with prior written notice that explains why the child will not be evaluated. This written notice will include a statement that informs the parents of their rights, if they disagree with the district. The district is required to give parents the *Notice of Procedural Safeguards—Rights of Parents of Students with Disabilities*. Additional information regarding the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) is available from the school district in a companion document, *A Guide to the Admission, Review, and Dismissal Process*. Both documents may also be found at <http://framework.esc18.net/display/Webforms/LandingPage.aspx>.

The following websites provide information to those who are seeking information and resources specific to students with disabilities and their families:

- Texas Project First, at <http://www.texasprojectfirst.org>
- Partners Resource Network, at <http://www.partnerstx.org>

The designated person to contact regarding options for a child experiencing learning difficulties or a referral for evaluation for special education services is Misti Green at 254-697-3902.

Students Who Receive Special Education Services with Other School-Aged Children in the Home

If a student is receiving special education services at a campus outside his or her attendance zone, the parent or guardian may request that any other student residing in the household be transferred to the same campus, if the appropriate grade level for the transferring student is offered on that campus. However, the district is not required to provide transportation to the other children in the household. The parent or guardian should speak with the principal of the school regarding transportation needs prior to requesting a transfer for any other children in the home. [See policy FDB(LOCAL).]

Students Who Speak a Primary Language Other than English

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

Students with Physical or Mental Impairments Protected Under Section 504

A child determined to have a physical or mental impairment that substantially limits a major life activity, as defined by law, and who does not otherwise qualify for special education services, may qualify for protections under Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act. Section 504 is a federal law designed to prohibit discrimination against individuals with disabilities. When an evaluation is requested, a committee will be formed to determine if the child is in need of services and supports under Section 504 to receive a free appropriate public education (FAPE), as this is defined in federal law.

The designated person to contact regarding a referral for evaluation applicable to Section 504 is Melissa Shelton at 254-697-3902.

[Also see policy FB.]

SECTION II: OTHER IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR STUDENTS AND PARENTS

Topics in this section of the Student Handbook contain important information on academics, school activities, and school operations and requirements. Take a moment with your child to become familiar with the various issues addressed in this section. It is organized in alphabetical order to serve as a quick-reference when you or your child has a question about a specific school-related issue. Where possible, the topics are also organized to alert you to the applicability of each topic based on a student's age or grade level. Should you be unable to find the information on a particular topic, please contact Yoe High office at 254-697-3902.

ABSENCES/ATTENDANCE

Regular school attendance is essential for a student to make the most of his or her education—to benefit from teacher-led and school activities, to build each day's learning on the previous day's, and to grow as an individual. Absences from class may result in serious disruption of a student's mastery of the instructional materials; therefore, the student and parent should make every effort to avoid unnecessary absences. Two state laws—one dealing with the required presence of school-aged children in school, e.g., compulsory attendance, the other with how a child's attendance affects the award of a student's final grade or course credit—are of special interest to students and parents. They are discussed below.

Compulsory Attendance

Age 19 and Older

A student who voluntarily attends or enrolls after his or her 19th birthday is required to attend each school day until the end of the school year. If a student age 19 or older has more than five unexcused absences in a semester, the district may revoke the student's enrollment. The student's presence on school property thereafter would be unauthorized and may be considered trespassing. [See policy FEA.]

Between Ages 6 and 19

State law requires that a student between the ages of 6 and 19 attend school, as well as any applicable accelerated instruction program, extended year program, or tutorial session, unless the student is otherwise excused from attendance or legally exempt.

State law requires attendance in an accelerated reading instruction program when kindergarten, first grade, or second grade students are assigned to such a program. Parents will be notified in writing if their child is assigned to an accelerated reading instruction program as a result of a diagnostic reading instrument.

A student will be required to attend any assigned accelerated instruction program, which may occur before or after school or during the summer, if the student does not meet the passing standards on the state assessment for his or her grade level and/or applicable subject area.

Exemptions to Compulsory Attendance

State law allows exemptions to the compulsory attendance requirements for several types of absences if the student makes up all work. These include the following activities and events:

- Religious holy days;
- Required court appearances;
- Activities related to obtaining U.S. citizenship;
- Documented health-care appointments for the student or a child of the student, including absences for recognized services for students diagnosed with autism spectrum disorders, if the student comes to school or returns to school on the same day as the appointment. A note from the health-care provider must be submitted upon the student’s arrival or return to campus; and
- For students in the conservatorship (custody) of the state,
 - An activity required under a court-ordered service plan; or
 - Any other court-ordered activity, provided it is not practicable to schedule the student’s participation in the activity outside of school hours.

As listed in Section I at **Children of Military Families**, absences of up to five days will be excused for a student to visit with a parent, stepparent, or legal guardian who has been called to duty for, is on leave from, or immediately returned from certain deployments. Please see page 12 for that section.

In addition, a junior or senior student’s absence of up to two days related to visiting a college or university will be considered an exemption, provided this has been authorized by the board under policy FEA(LOCAL), the student receives approval from the campus principal, follows the campus procedures to verify such a visit, and makes up any work missed.

Absences of up to two days in a school year will also be considered an exemption for:

- A student serving as an early voting clerk, provided the district’s board has authorized this in policy FEA(LOCAL), the student notifies his or her teachers, and the student receives approval from the principal prior to the absences; and
- A student serving as an election clerk, if the student makes up any work missed.

An absence of a student in grades 6–12 for the purpose of sounding “Taps” at a military honors funeral for a deceased veteran will also be excused by the district.

Failure to Comply with Compulsory Attendance

School employees must investigate and report violations of the state compulsory attendance law. A student absent without permission from school; from any class; from required special programs, such as additional special instruction, termed “accelerated instruction” by the state; or from required tutorials will be considered in violation of the compulsory attendance law and subject to disciplinary action.

Age 19 and Older

After a student age 19 or older incurs a third unexcused absence, the district will send the student a letter as required by law explaining that the district may revoke the student’s enrollment for the remainder of the school year if the student has more than five unexcused absences in a semester.

As an alternative to revoking a student's enrollment, the district may implement a behavior improvement plan.

Between Ages 6 and 19

When a student between ages 6 and 19 incurs unexcused absences for three or more days or parts of days within a four-week period, the school will send a notice to the student's parent, as required by law, to remind the parent that it is the parent's duty to monitor his or her child's attendance and to require the student to come to school. The notice will also inform the parent that the district will initiate truancy prevention measures and request a conference between school administrators and the parent. These measures will include a behavior improvement plan, school-based community service, or referrals to either in-school or out-of-school counseling or other social services. Any other measures considered appropriate by the district will also be initiated.

The truancy prevention facilitator for the district is high school assistant principal. If you have questions about your student and the effect of his or her absences from school, please contact the facilitator or any other campus administrator.

A court of law may also impose penalties against a student's parent if a school-aged student is deliberately not attending school. A complaint against the parent may be filed in court if the student is absent without excuse from school on ten or more days or parts of days within a six-month period in the same school year.

If a student ages 12–18 incurs unexcused absences on ten or more days or parts of days within a six-month period in the same school year, the district, in most circumstances, will refer the student to truancy court.

[See policy FEA(LEGAL).]

Attendance for Credit or Final Grade

To receive credit or a final grade in a class, a student in kindergarten–grade 12 must attend at least 90 percent of the days the class is offered. A student who attends at least 75 percent but fewer than 90 percent of the days the class is offered may receive credit or a final grade for the class if he or she completes a plan, approved by the principal, that allows the student to fulfill the instructional requirements for the class. If a student is involved in a criminal or juvenile court proceeding, the approval of the judge presiding over the case will also be required before the student receives credit or a final grade for the class.

If a student attends less than 75 percent of the days a class is offered or has not completed the plan approved by the principal, then the student will be referred to the attendance review committee to determine whether there are extenuating circumstances for the absences and how the student can regain credit or a final grade lost because of absences. [See policy FEC.]

All absences, whether excused or unexcused, must be considered in determining whether a student has attended the required percentage of days. In determining whether there were extenuating circumstances for the absences, the attendance committee will use the following guidelines:

- If makeup work is completed, absences for the reasons listed above at **Exemptions to Compulsory Attendance** will be considered extenuating circumstances for purposes of attendance for credit or the award of a final grade.
- A transfer or migrant student begins to accumulate absences only after he or she has enrolled in the district.
- In reaching a decision about a student’s absences, the committee will attempt to ensure that it is in the best interest of the student.
- The committee will review absences incurred based on the student’s participation in board-approved extracurricular activities. These absences will be considered by the attendance committee as extenuating circumstances in accordance with the absences allowed under FM(LOCAL) if the student made up the work missed in each class.
- The committee will consider the acceptability and authenticity of documented reasons for the student’s absences.
- The committee will consider whether the absences were for reasons over which the student or the student’s parent could exercise any control.
- The committee will consider the extent to which the student has completed all assignments, mastered the essential knowledge and skills, and maintained passing grades in the course or subject.
- The student or parent will be given an opportunity to present any information to the committee about the absences and to talk about ways to earn or regain credit or a final grade.

The student or parent may appeal the committee’s decision to the board by following policy FNG(LOCAL).

The actual number of days a student must be in attendance in order to receive credit or a final grade will depend on whether the class is for a full semester or for a full year.

Official Attendance-Taking Time

The district must submit attendance of its students to the TEA reflecting attendance at a specific time each day.

Official attendance is taken every day at during the second instructional hour as required by state rule.

A student absent for any portion of the day, including at the official attendance-taking time, should follow the procedures below to provide documentation of the absence.

Documentation After an Absence

When a student is absent from school, the student—upon arrival or return to school—must bring a note signed by the parent that describes the reason for the absence. A note signed by the student, even with the parent’s permission, will not be accepted unless the student is age 18 or older or is an emancipated minor under state law. A phone call from the parent may be accepted, but the district reserves the right to require a written note.

The campus will document in its attendance records for the student whether the absence is considered by the district to be excused or unexcused. Please note that, unless the absence is for a statutorily allowed reason under compulsory attendance laws, the district is not required to excuse any absence, even if the parent provides a note explaining the absence.

Doctor's Note After an Absence for Illness

Upon return to school, returning to school, a student absent for more than three consecutive days because of a personal illness must bring a statement from a doctor or health clinic verifying the illness or condition that caused the student's extended absence from school. Otherwise, the student's absence may be considered unexcused and, if so, would be considered to be in violation of compulsory attendance laws.

Should the student develop a questionable pattern of absences, the principal or attendance committee may require a statement from a doctor or health clinic verifying the illness or condition that caused the student's absence from school in order to determine whether the absence or absences will be excused or unexcused.

[See policy FEC(LOCAL).]

Driver License Attendance Verification

For a student between the ages of 16 and 18 to obtain a driver license, written parental permission must be provided for the Texas Department of Public Safety (DPS) to access the student's attendance records and, in certain circumstances, for a school administrator to provide the student's attendance information to DPS. A verification of enrollment (VOE) form may be obtained from the office, which the student will need to submit to DPS upon application for a driver license.

ACCOUNTABILITY UNDER STATE AND FEDERAL LAW

Cameron ISD and each of its campuses are held to certain standards of accountability under state and federal law. A key component of the accountability requirements is the dissemination and publication of certain reports and information, which include:

- The Texas Academic Performance Report (TAPR) for the district, compiled by TEA, the state agency that oversees public education, based on academic factors and ratings;
- A School Report Card (SRC) for each campus in the district compiled by TEA based on academic factors and ratings;
- The district's financial management report, which will include the financial accountability rating assigned to the district by TEA;
- The performance ratings of the district's evaluation of community and student engagement using the indicators required by law; and
- Information compiled by TEA for the submission of a federal report card that is required by federal law.

Information about all of these can be found on the district's website at www.cameronisd.net. Hard copies of any reports are available upon request to the district's administration office.

TEA also maintains additional accountability and accreditation information at <http://www.texaschoolaccountabilitydashboard.org> and <http://www.tea.texas.gov>.

AUTOMATED CALLING SYSTEM

This automated system will be used to contact parents when a mass message needs to be sent or in the event that parents need to be notified for absences, change in extra-curricular activities, school closures due to weather, or any other event requiring parent notification

BULLYING

Bullying occurs when a student or group of students engages in written or verbal expression, expression through electronic methods, or physical conduct against another student on school property, at a school-sponsored or -related activity, or in a district operated vehicle, and the behavior:

- Results in harm to the student or the student's property;
- Places a student in reasonable fear of physical harm or of damage to the student's property; or
- Is so severe, persistent, and pervasive that it creates an intimidating, threatening, or abusive educational environment.

This conduct is considered bullying if it exploits an imbalance of power between the student perpetrator(s) and the student victim and if it interferes with a student's education or substantially disrupts the operation of the school.

Bullying is prohibited by the district and could include hazing, threats, taunting, teasing, confinement, assault, demands for money, destruction of property, theft of valued possessions, name-calling, rumor-spreading, or ostracism. In some cases, bullying can occur through electronic methods, called "cyberbullying."

If a student believes that he or she has experienced bullying or has witnessed bullying of another student, it is important for the student or parent to notify a teacher, school counselor, principal, or another district employee as soon as possible to obtain assistance and intervention. The administration will investigate any allegations of bullying or other related misconduct.

If the results of an investigation indicate that bullying has occurred, the administration will take appropriate disciplinary action. Disciplinary or other action may be taken even if the conduct did not rise to the level of bullying. The district will also contact the parents of the victim and of the student who was found to have engaged in the bullying. Available counseling options will be provided to these individuals, as well as to any students who have been identified as witnesses to the bullying.

Any retaliation against a student who reports an incident of bullying is prohibited.

Upon the recommendation of the administration, the board may, in response to an identified case of bullying, decide to transfer a student found to have engaged in bullying to another classroom at the campus. In consultation with the student's parent, the student may also be transferred to another campus in the district. The parent of a student who has been determined by the district to be a victim of bullying may request that his or her child be transferred to another classroom or campus within the district. [Also see **Safety Transfers/Assignments** on page 12.]

A copy of the district's policy is available in the principal's office, superintendent's office, and on the district's website, and is included at the end of this handbook in the form of an appendix. Procedures related to reporting allegations of bullying may also be found on the district's website.

A student or parent who is dissatisfied with the outcome of an investigation may appeal through policy FNG(LOCAL).

[Also see **Safety Transfers/Assignments** on page 12, **Dating Violence, Discrimination, Harassment, and Retaliation** on page 39, **Hazing** on page 62, policy FFI, and the district improvement plan, a copy of which can be viewed in the campus office.]

CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION (CTE) PROGRAMS

The district offers career and technical education programs in the following areas: Agriculture, Business, and technology.. Admission to these programs is based on pre-requisites for the course..

These programs will be offered without regard to race, color, national origin, sex, or disability. Cameron ISD will take steps to ensure that lack of English language skills will not be a barrier to admission and participation in all educational and CTE programs. [Also see **Nondiscrimination Statement** on page 75 for the name and contact information for the Title IX coordinator and Section 504 coordinator, who will address certain allegations of discrimination.]

CELEBRATIONS

Although a parent or grandparent is not prohibited from providing food for a school-designated function or for children in the child's or grandchild's classroom for his or her birthday, please be aware that children in the school may have severe allergies to certain food products. Therefore, it is imperative to discuss this with the child's teacher prior to bringing any food in this circumstance. Occasionally, the school or a class may host certain functions or celebrations tied to the curriculum that will involve food. The school or teacher will notify students and parents of any known food allergies when soliciting potential volunteers for bringing food products.

[Also see **Food Allergies** on page 64.]

CHILD SEXUAL ABUSE AND OTHER MALTREATMENT OF CHILDREN

The district has established a plan for addressing child sexual abuse and other maltreatment of children, which may be accessed at counseling office. As a parent, it is important for you to be aware of warning signs that could indicate a child may have been or is being sexually abused. Sexual abuse in the Texas Family Code is defined as any sexual conduct harmful to a child's mental, emotional, or physical welfare as well as a failure to make a reasonable effort to prevent sexual conduct with a child. A person who compels or encourages a child to engage in sexual conduct commits abuse. It is illegal to make or possess child pornography or to display such material to a child. Anyone who suspects that a child has been or may be abused or neglected has a legal responsibility, under state law, for reporting the suspected abuse or neglect to law enforcement or to Child Protective Services (CPS).

Possible physical warning signs of sexual abuse could be difficulty sitting or walking, pain in the genital areas, and claims of stomachaches and headaches. Behavioral indicators may include verbal references or pretend games of sexual activity between adults and children, fear of being

alone with adults of a particular gender, or sexually suggestive behavior. Emotional warning signs to be aware of include withdrawal, depression, sleeping and eating disorders, and problems in school.

A child who has experienced sexual abuse or any other type of abuse or neglect should be encouraged to seek out a trusted adult. Be aware as a parent or other trusted adult that disclosures of sexual abuse may be more indirect than disclosures of physical abuse and neglect, and it is important to be calm and comforting if your child, or another child, confides in you. Reassure the child that he or she did the right thing by telling you.

As a parent, if your child is a victim of sexual abuse or other maltreatment, the school counselor or principal will provide information regarding counseling options for you and your child available in your area. The Texas Department of Family and Protective Services (TDFPS) also manages early intervention counseling programs. To find out what services may be available in your county, see http://www.dfps.state.tx.us/Prevention_and_Early_Intervention/Programs_Available_In_Your_County/default.asp.

The following websites might help you become more aware of child abuse and neglect:

- <https://www.childwelfare.gov/pubs/factsheets/whatiscan.pdf>
- <http://kidshealth.org/en/parents/child-abuse.html>
- <http://taasa.org/resources-2/>
- <https://www.texasattorneygeneral.gov/cvs/what-we-can-do-about-child-abuse-1>
- <https://www.texasattorneygeneral.gov/cvs/what-we-can-do-about-child-abuse-2>

Reports of abuse or neglect may be made to:

The CPS division of the TDFPS (1-800-252-5400 or on the web at <http://www.txabusehotline.org>).

CLASS RANK/HIGHEST-RANKING STUDENT

Valedictorian and Salutatorian

The valedictorian and salutatorian shall be the eligible students with the highest and second highest ranking, respectively. To be eligible for such recognition, a student must:

1. Have been continuously enrolled in the District high school for the two school years immediately preceding graduation;
2. Have completed the Recommended Program or the Advanced/Distinguished Achievement Program for graduation; and
- 3. Be graduating after exactly eight semesters of enrollment in high school.

Breaking Ties

- In case of a tie in weighted numerical grade averages, the District shall apply the following methods, in this order, to determine recognition as valedictorian or salutatorian:
 - 1. Calculate a weighted numerical grade average only using eligible grades earned in English, mathematics, science, social studies, and languages other than English.
 - 2. Compare scores on the PSAT, SAT, and state-mandated tests required for graduation if the same tests were taken by all students involved in the tie.
- [For further information, see policy EIC.]

Beginning with students who entered grade 9 in the 2014–15 school year, a new graduation program is in effect. Therefore, class ranking procedures may be adjusted by the district based on the new graduation plan. As these decisions are made, the district will make the information available to the students affected by these changes.

CALCULATION The District shall include in the calculation of class rank semester grades earned in all high school credit courses taken in grades 9–12, unless excluded below.

EXCLUSIONS The calculation of class rank shall exclude grades earned in physical education; athletics; athletic training; band; jazz band; applied music; computer technology; journalism; yearbook; state-mandated assessment remediation classes; study skills; student aide; any course substituted for physical education; any dual enrollment course; or through credit by examination, with or without prior instruction.

In addition, the calculation of class rank shall exclude grades earned through distance learning, unless the grade is earned in a distance learning course either assigned to the student by the District or offered as a course option along with traditional District courses.

WEIGHTED GRADE SYSTEM The District shall categorize and weight eligible courses in accordance with provisions of this policy and as designated in appropriate District publications.

WEIGHTED NUMERICAL GRADE AVERAGE For students graduating in the classes of 2016, 2017, and 2018, the District shall assign five premium points to semester grades and shall calculate a weighted numerical grade average in accordance with the list of premium point courses found in the student handbook.

The District shall record unweighted numerical grades on student transcripts.

WEIGHTED GRADE POINT AVERAGE Beginning with students in the graduating class of 2019, the District shall convert semester grades earned in eligible courses to grade points in accordance with the following chart and shall calculate a weighted grade point average (GPA).

The list of premium and regular courses shall be included in the student handbook. Modified content courses are those courses that have been modified by the student’s admission, review, and dismissal (ARD) committee as to the Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills (TEKS) and have been determined, on an individualized basis, to justify a lower weight based on modified content.

Grade	Premium Courses	Regular Courses	Modified Content Courses
100	5.0	4.0	3.5
99	4.9	3.9	3.4
98	4.8	3.8	3.3
97	4.7	3.7	3.2
96	4.6	3.6	3.1
95	4.5	3.5	3.0

Grade	Premium Courses	Regular Courses	Modified Content Courses
94	4.4	3.4	2.9
93	4.3	3.3	2.8
92	4.2	3.2	2.7
91	4.1	3.1	2.6
90	4.0	3.0	2.5
89	3.9	2.9	2.4
88	3.8	2.8	2.3
87	3.7	2.7	2.2
86	3.6	2.6	2.1
85	3.5	2.5	2.0
84	3.4	2.4	1.9
83	3.3	2.3	1.8
82	3.2	2.2	1.7
81	3.1	2.1	1.6
80	3.0	2.0	1.5
79	2.9	1.9	1.4
78	2.8	1.8	1.3
77	2.7	1.7	1.2
76	2.6	1.6	1.1
75	2.5	1.5	1.0
74	2.4	1.4	0.9
73	2.3	1.3	0.8
72	2.2	1.2	0.7
71	2.1	1.1	0.6
70	2.0	1.0	0.5
69 and below	0	0	0

TRANSFERRED GRADES

When a student transfers grades for properly documented courses, the District shall assign weight to those grades based on the categories and grade weight system used by the District.

LOCAL GRADUATION HONORS

For the purpose of determining honors to be conferred during graduation activities, the District shall calculate class rank using grades available at the time of calculation at the end of the fifth six-week grading period of the senior year. The average of the fourth and fifth six-week grades shall be used as the semester grade for this purpose.

For the purpose of applications to institutions of higher education, the District shall also calculate class rank as required by state law. The District's eligibility criteria for local graduation honors shall apply only for local recognitions and shall not restrict class rank for the purpose of automatic admission under state law. [See EIC(LEGAL)]

**VALEDICTORIAN
AND
SALUTATORIAN**

The valedictorian and salutarian shall be the eligible students with the highest and second highest rank, respectively. To be eligible for such recognition, a student must:

1. Have been continuously enrolled in the District high school for the two school years immediately preceding graduation;
2. Have completed the Recommended Program or the Advanced/Distinguished Achievement Program for graduation, or earned the distinguished level of achievement under the foundation program; and
3. Be graduating after exactly eight semesters of enrollment in high school.

BREAKING TIES

In case of a tie in weighted numerical grade averages, the District shall apply the following methods, in this order, to determine recognition as valedictorian or salutarian:

1. Calculate a weighted numerical grade average only using eligible grades earned in English, mathematics, science, social studies, and languages other than English.
2. Compare scores on the PSAT, SAT, and state-mandated tests required for graduation if the same tests were taken by all students involved in the tie.

[For further information, see policy EIC.]

CLASS SCHEDULES

All students are expected to attend school for the entire school day and maintain a class/course schedule to fulfill each period of the day. Exceptions may be made occasionally by the campus principal for students in grades 9–12 who meet specific criteria and receive parental consent to enroll in less than a full-day's schedule.

[See **Schedule Changes** on page 81 for information related to student requests to revise their course schedule.]

COLLEGE AND UNIVERSITY ADMISSIONS

For two school years following his or her graduation, a district student who graduates in the top ten percent and, in some cases, the top 25 percent, of his or her class is eligible for automatic admission into four-year public universities and colleges in Texas if the student:

- Completes the Recommended or Advanced/Distinguished Achievement Program*; or
- Satisfies the ACT College Readiness Benchmarks or earns at least a 1500 out of 2400 on the SAT.

*Beginning with ninth graders in the 2014–15 school year, to be eligible for automatic admission to a Texas four-year college or university, a student must be on track to graduate with the distinguished level of achievement under the foundation graduation program. This means that a student must graduate with at least one endorsement and must have taken Algebra II as one of the four required math courses.

In addition, the student must submit a completed application for admission in accordance with the deadline established by the college or university. The student is ultimately responsible for ensuring that he or she meets the admission requirements of the university or college to which the student submits an application.

The University of Texas at Austin may limit the number of students automatically admitted to 75 percent of the University’s enrollment capacity for incoming resident freshmen. For students who are eligible to enroll in the University during the summer or fall 2017 term, the University will be admitting the top seven percent of the high school’s graduating class who meet the above requirements. Additional applicants will be considered by the University through a holistic review process.

Should a college or university adopt an admissions policy that automatically accepts the top 25 percent of a graduating class, the provisions above will also apply to a student ranked in the top 25 percent of his or her class.

Students and parents should contact the school counselor for further information about automatic admissions, the application process, and deadlines.

[See also **Class Rank/Highest-Ranking Student** on page 23 for information specifically related to how the district calculates a student’s rank in class, and requirements for **Graduation** on page 53 for information associated with the foundation graduation program].

COLLEGE CREDIT COURSES

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

- Certain courses taught at the high school campus, which may include courses termed dual credit, Advanced Placement (AP), International Baccalaureate (IB), or college preparatory;
- Enrollment in an AP or dual credit course through the Texas Virtual School Network;
- Enrollment in courses taught in conjunction and in partnership with Temple College, University of Texas Permian Basin, and TXVSN, which may be offered on or off campus;
- Enrollment in courses taught at other colleges or universities; and
- Certain CTE courses.

All of these methods have eligibility requirements and must be approved prior to enrollment in the course. Please see the school counselor for more information. Depending on the student’s grade level and the course, a state-mandated end-of-course assessment may be required for graduation.

It is important to keep in mind that not all colleges and universities accept credit earned in all dual credit or AP courses taken in high school for college credit. Students and parents should

check with the prospective college or university to determine if a particular course will count toward the student's desired degree plan.

COMPLAINTS AND CONCERNS

Usually student or parent complaints or concerns can be addressed informally by a phone call or a conference with the teacher or principal. For those complaints and concerns that cannot be handled so easily, the board has adopted a standard complaint policy at FNG(LOCAL) in the district's policy manual. A copy of this policy may be obtained in the principal's or superintendent's office or on the district's website at www.cameronisd.net.

Should a parent or student feel a need to file a formal complaint, the parent or student should file a district complaint form within the timelines established in policy FNG(LOCAL). In general, the student or parent should submit the written complaint form to the campus principal. If the concern is not resolved, a request for a conference should be sent to the superintendent. If still unresolved, the district provides for the complaint to be presented to the board of trustees.

CONDUCT

Applicability of School Rules

As required by law, the board has adopted a Student Code of Conduct that prohibits certain behaviors and defines standards of acceptable behavior—both on and off campus as well as on district vehicles—and consequences for violation of these standards. The district has disciplinary authority over a student in accordance with the Student Code of Conduct. Students and parents should be familiar with the standards set out in the Student Code of Conduct, as well as campus and classroom rules. During any periods of instruction during the summer months, the Student Handbook and Student Code of Conduct in place for the year immediately preceding the summer period shall apply, unless the district amends either or both documents for the purposes of summer instruction.

Campus Behavior Coordinator

By law, each campus has a campus behavior coordinator to apply discipline management techniques and administer consequences for certain student misconduct, as well as provide a point of contact for student misconduct. The campus behavior coordinator at Yoe High School is listed below:

- Yoe High School—Assistant Principal

Disruptions of School Operations

Disruptions of school operations are not tolerated and may constitute a misdemeanor offense. As identified by law, disruptions include the following:

- Interference with the movement of people at an exit, entrance, or hallway of a district building without authorization from an administrator.
- Interference with an authorized activity by seizing control of all or part of a building.
- Use of force, violence, or threats in an attempt to prevent participation in an authorized assembly.

- Use of force, violence, or threats to cause disruption during an assembly.
- Interference with the movement of people at an exit or an entrance to district property.
- Use of force, violence, or threats in an attempt to prevent people from entering or leaving district property without authorization from an administrator.
- Disruption of classes or other school activities while on district property or on public property that is within 500 feet of district property. Class disruption includes making loud noises; trying to entice a student away from, or to prevent a student from attending, a required class or activity; and entering a classroom without authorization and disrupting the activity with loud or profane language or any misconduct.
- Interference with the transportation of students in vehicles owned or operated by the district.

Social Events

School rules apply to all school social events. Guests attending these events are expected to observe the same rules as students, and a student inviting a guest will share responsibility for the conduct of his or her guest.

A student attending a social event will be asked to sign out when leaving before the end of the event; anyone leaving before the official end of the event will not be readmitted.

Please contact the campus principal if you are interested in serving as a chaperone for any school social events.

CONDUCT AND DISCIPLINE

LEVELS

Level I Misconduct: Teacher Directed Consequence

Level II Misconduct: Referral Directed Consequence

Level III Misconduct: Persistent Serious Misconduct, Severe Misconduct

Level IV Misconduct: Misconduct that leads to mandatory placement at CISD DAEP

LEVEL I

MISCONDUCT

Teacher Directed Consequence

Definition: Level I refers to minor acts of misconduct. Discipline for Level I offenses will be managed by the classroom teacher. A formal Student Code of Conduct violation report is not required for Level I violations:

- Teacher directed disciplinary action
- No referrals – BUT in-class documentation required
- MUST include parent contact by the teacher
- Campus developed guidelines will be adhered to by each teacher in each classroom
- In the corrective action, teachers shall warn the student privately

Examples of Minor Misbehavior are:

- 1.1 Violation of written classroom guidelines, regulations, and expectations
- 1.2 Violation of written non-classroom guidelines, regulations, and expectations
- 1.3 Violation of dress code
- 1.4 Electronic devices and games

Right of Appeal: Any student and/or parent may appeal the decision of the teacher to the campus principal within 72 hours of the time the parent becomes aware of the discipline. The appeal decision of the campus principal is final.

LEVEL II MISCONDUCT

Referral Directed Consequence

Definition: Level II refers to a major act of misconduct that does not require immediate placement at the DAEP, unless persistent misconduct, or expulsion, but does require a Student Code of Conduct violation report.

- Administrator directed disciplinary action
- Any violation of the Penal Code is subject to a legal citation. School Resource Officers may issue Class C misdemeanor citation and/or arrest students and non-students within the boundaries of Cameron ISD. Student violations of district policy or school rules are considered to be civil violations. Student violations of criminal law are considered criminal offenses.
- Referral written by a teacher and submitted to administrator must be a detailed referral with exact explanation of the misconduct.

Examples of Level II Serious Misbehavior May Include, But Are Not Limited To:

2.1 Persisting in Level I misconduct (Definition: The student continues to engage in violation of written rule, regulation, or guideline after the teacher has completed the disciplinary techniques reflected in his/her plan of discipline.)

2.2 Failing to cooperate with the classroom teacher's discipline options. (Definition: The student is cited for violation of a written classroom rule, regulation, or guideline and thereafter fails to complete the approved disciplinary techniques as reflected in the teacher's plan of discipline.)

2.3 Gambling

2.4 Cutting class, including leaving campus or school-sponsored events without permission, or not being in assigned location

2.5 Harassing, which includes using abusive, indecent, or profane language either spoken or written and/or offensive body gestures toward a student.

2.6 Speaking, directing, or written language that is abusive, indecent, or profane

2.7 Possessing tobacco products

2.8 Possessing matches or lighters

2.9 Using items including, but not limited to electronic recording devices.

2.10 Using items that disrupt the school process.

2.11 Misusing food in the cafeteria and/or violating cafeteria rules

2.12 Violating required school attendance laws

2.13 Attempting physical contact with another student with the implied intent to intimidate or cause harm (including throwing objects that can cause bodily injury or property/damage)

2.14 Engaging in acts of public displays of affection with another.

2.15 Selling or soliciting for sale unauthorized merchandise

2.16 Engaging in any misbehavior that gives school officials reasonable cause to believe that such conduct will substantially disrupt the school program or incite violence

2.17 Failing to comply with directives given by school personnel

2.18 Forging or writing parent's or staff's name (examples: notes, hall passes, school documents, etc.) (See 3.5)

2.19 Giving false information to a staff member

2.20 Violating traffic/safety rules (automobiles, bicycles, safely walking, etc.)

2.21 Violating dress code, repeatedly.

2.22 Possessing, using or giving another student any type of non-prescription medication

2.23 Bullying - Parents of victim may contact principal to discuss reassignment.

2.24 Violating any other written Code of Conduct as determined by the principal, approved by the Superintendent, and communicated in writing to the students in which consequences have been previously communicated.

General Guidelines For Referral System:

1st Referral: Call parent or written correspondence with parent

Each time a Student Code of Conduct violation occurs the administrator shall inform the parent and/or student as to which discipline option will be used. Saturday school is 3 hours and evening detention hall shall be one (2) hour for secondary students.

1 Day of Detention Hall-2 hour (3:40-5:40)

- Must be completed within 5 school days
- Transportation must be provided by parent
- Can still participate in extracurricular activities.

*Failure to attend detention will result in 1 day of suspension from school or ISS

1 In-School Suspension

2nd Referral: Parents will be contacted.

2 Days of Detention Hall-2 hour (3:40-5:40)

- Transportation must be provided by parent
- Can still participate in extracurricular activities.

*Failure to attend detention will result in 1 day of suspension from school or ISS

2 In-School Suspension

3rd Referral: Parent conference required with administrator and/or teacher

3 Days of Detention Hall-2 hour (3:40-5:40)

- Transportation must be provided by parent
- Can still participate in extracurricular activities.

*Failure to attend detention will result in 1 day of suspension from school or ISS

3 In-School Suspension

4th Referral: Referral becomes Level III Misconduct

• Administrator discretion for consequences to include one or more of the area below with term to be determined by that administrator

- Saturday School
- Detention Hall
- Suspension
- DAEP Placement
- In-School Suspension

Right of Appeal: Any student and/or parent may appeal the decision of the assistant principal to the campus principal within three working days of the time the parent becomes aware of the Student Code of Conduct violation report. If due process has been followed, the decision of the assistant principal shall stand. The board designates to campus principals the right to hear appeals of campus based disciplinary decisions. All campus based decisions, except for DAEP placement, are final and may not be appealed beyond the campus level.

NOTE: Discipline Referral is sent to parents.

LEVEL III MISCONDUCT

(Severe)

Definition: Level III Misconduct is defined as persistent Level II misbehavior.

- Administrator directed disciplinary action
- Any violation of the Penal Code is subject to a legal citation. School Resource Officers may issue Class C misdemeanor citation and/or arrest students and non-students within the boundaries of Cameron ISD (see pages 72-73). Student violations of district policy or school rules are considered to be civil violations. Student violations of criminal law are considered to be criminal offenses.
- **MUST** include a discipline conference with parent or guardian, administrator and teacher

Placement:

- Detention- minimum of 2 days, up to 3 days
- Extended Saturday school
- Suspension (up to 3 days) 30
- DAEP minimum 30 days
- In-School Suspension (up to 3 days)

Examples of severe misconduct may include but are not limited to:

- 3.1 Unauthorized actions (refusal of a student who is engaging in misbehavior or does not have legitimate business to obey a reasonable order in regards to the entry, ejection from school property, or fails to give identification of name when asked)
- 3.2 Trespassing on school grounds
- 3.3 Loitering (any student who remains on school property after being advised by the person in charge to leave)
- 3.4 Disrupting activities; school process; **classes**
- 3.5 Forging or writing another person's name (**Examples: on legal documents, school communications, doctor's note, etc.**)
- 3.6 Disrupting transportation
- 3.7 Personal hazing and/or organization hazing
- 3.8 Stealing from students, staff, or the school
- 3.9 Criminal mischief i.e., vandalism and marking on property unless a felony
- 3.10 Reckless damage or destruction
- 3.11 Possessing or displaying inappropriate materials including but not limited to; gang symbols, paraphernalia, or drawings.
- 3.12 Offensive gesture towards an employee
- 3.13 Possession or use of tobacco products
- 3.14 Physical contact with another student with the implied intent to intimidate, **threaten**, or cause harm
- 3.15 Incitement (abusive, indecent, profane, or vulgar language which implies intent to harm)
- 3.16 Gross/willful insubordination as determined by the principal (Definition: Students willfully or intentionally disregards reasonable instructions that implies the intent to cause a disruption)
- 3.17 Abusive, indecent, **threatening**, profane, or vulgar language directed towards an employee
- 3.18 Possession or use of fireworks, stink bomb, smoke bomb, or other noxious chemical
- 3.19 Non-minor sexual harassment as defined by school board policy
- 3.20 Disruption of a lawful assembly
- 3.21 Disorderly conduct
- 3.22 Extortion, coercion, or blackmail
- 3.23 Possession and/or concealment of a weapon or look-alike weapon not included under expellable offenses
- 3.24 Perjury or lying as a witness during a school investigation
- 3.25 Hacking (illegal or unauthorized entry or attempted entry into computer files)
- 3.26 Mooning or other reckless type displays
- 3.27 Engaging in inappropriate sexual conduct
- 3.28 Behavior that is illegal that does not constitute an expellable offense
- 3.29 Persisting in Level II misbehavior (3 or more)
- 3.30 Accessing, exhibiting, displaying or possessing offensive or obscene material including, but not limited to, pornographic material, videos, magazines, vulgar song lyrics, or material from the internet.
- 3.31 Fighting, after a finding of fact a Student Code of Conduct violation report shall be processed with a three-day suspension, a citation, and the consequences of a Student Code of Conduct violation report. Self-defense will be

considered as a mitigating circumstance **only** when the student has a reasonable belief that the force is immediately necessary to protect himself/herself against the other's use or attempted use of unlawful force that could result in serious bodily injury. Reasonable belief, in the school setting, means a belief that would be held by the school principal. Each student is responsible for making every effort to avoid the use of any force and is advised to remove him or herself from the situation if at all possible. The District does not condone or authorize students to use force against another individual, even if that individual provokes or instigates a fight or altercation. The district expects a student to prevent a fight by walking away, seeking adult help, not engaging in verbal altercations or incitement, and to report that trouble is coming if possible.

3.32 Possessing, using, or distributing to another student any type of medication or unauthorized substances.

3.33 Severe or persistent bullying - Parents of victim may contact principal to discuss reassignment.

3.34 Making hit lists - Parents of victim may contact principal to discuss reassignment.

3.35 Violating any other written Code of Conduct as determined by the principal, approved by the superintendent, and communicated in writing to the students.

If there are not definite or sufficient documentation and witness statements, then administrators shall modify the consequences as found in the Student Code of Conduct Handbook. These shall be referred to as a "principal directed option," which will permit the principal to use any combination of suspension, detention hall, Saturday school or any other measure that he/she deems appropriate.

Right of Appeal: The decision of the campus principal in regards to Level III misconduct may not be appealed unless the assigned consequence is DAEP assignment. Any student and/or parent may appeal the decision of the principal to place a student in DAEP within three school days of the time the parent becomes aware of the Student Code of Conduct violation report and "Placement Notice" to the Superintendent. The student will be placed in a campus in-school suspension during the appeal of the principal's decision. If DAEP placement is upheld at Level II, the student is placed in DAEP immediately pending any appeal to the Board of Trustees. (See FOAB Local & FNG Local)

LEVEL IV

MISCONDUCT

(Mandatory Referral CISD DAEP)

Definition: Mandatory Placement in DAEP is defined as those offenses that require placement by state law and those offenses designated by the Board of Education as to require mandatory placement.

Placement within a DAEP shall follow guidelines.

- Administrator directed disciplinary action
- Any violation of the Penal Code is subject to a legal citation.
- Within 72 hours, a discipline conference shall be held inclusive with parent, guardian, administrator and teacher
- Decision may be appealed to the principal (unless the principal has been directly involved in Levels II – III – IV)
- The principal's decision **can be appealed** to the Superintendent within three school days.
- All DAEP placements will be reviewed at the end of each grading period

* **First offense - Mandatory DAEP placement: 45 – 60 days**

* **Second offense - Mandatory DAEP placement: 60 – 90 days**

4.1 Engaging in conduct punishable as a Title V felony

4.2 Assault

4.3 Sells, gives, delivers to another person or possesses, uses or is under the influence of any amount of: (a) marijuana or a controlled substance, as defined by Chapter 481, Health and Safety Code or by 21 U.S.C. Section 801 et sec.; (b) a dangerous drug as defined by Chapter 483, Health and Safety Code.

4.4 Possessing or selling look-alike drugs or items attempted to be passed off as drugs or contraband.

- 4.5 Sells, gives, **uses** or delivers to another person, possession of or is under the influence of alcohol
- 4.6 Offense relating to abusable substances – i.e. glue, markers, aerosol cans, or other items not limited to paint and ether based products.
- 4.7 Offense of public lewdness or indecent exposure
- 4.8 Offense of serious sexual contact.
- 4.9 Offense of retaliation
- 4.10 Terrorist threat
- 4.11 Physical contact with an employee with the implied intent to intimidate or cause harm
- 4.12 Off campus conduct in which the student received deferred prosecution for a Title V felony, engaged in delinquent misconduct, or the superintendent has a reasonable belief that the student has engaged in a Title V felony offense
- 4.13 A student who is younger than 10 engages in an expellable offense Placement by authority of the principal.
- 4.14 Persistent misconduct
- 4.15 Teacher-initiated removal [TEC section 37.002 (b)]
- 4.16 Burglary of district facility
- 4.17 False alarm/bomb threat/bomb hoax
- 4.18 Gang-related behavior, including pledging to become a member, solicits another student to join, clothing, drawings, signs, which includes “GANKING”, etc. (Definition: Gang related term used to intimidate non-gang members; use of fist/hand in a striking motion to the body.)
- 4.19 Any Level III or higher violation after being placed in DAEP may lead to expulsion. (TEC 37.007)

Right of Appeal: Any student and/or parent may appeal the mandatory decision of the principal to place a student in the

Discipline School within three school days of the time the parent becomes aware of the Student Code of Conduct violation report and Placement Notice to the Superintendent. The student will be placed in a campus in-school suspension during the appeal of the principal’s decision. If DAEP placement is upheld at Level II, the student is placed in DAEP immediately pending any appeal to the Board of Trustees. (See FOAB Local & FNG Local).

Right of Appeal: Any student and/or parent may appeal the recommended decision of the principal to expel a student within three working days of the time the parent becomes aware of the Student Code of Conduct violation report and Notice of Expulsion to the assistant superintendent. The decision of the assistant superintendent may be appealed to the Board of Education within three working days. The student shall be removed from the regular program or DAEP until the appeal process has been completed.

BEHAVIOR EXPECTATION

Each student is expected to:

- Demonstrate courtesy and respect for others.
- Behave in a responsible manner
- Attend all classes, regularly and on time
- Prepare for each class; take appropriate materials, do assignments while in class, and bring homework assignments to class
- Be well-groomed and dress appropriately
- Respect the rights and privileges of other students and of teachers and district staff
- Respect the property of others, including district property and facilities
- Cooperate with or assist the school staff in maintaining safety, order, and discipline
- Avoid violations of the Student Code of Conduct
 - Record all assignments and due dates through use of planner

- Take an active role in the learning process.
- Show pride

STUDENT REMOVAL FROM CLASS

Formal Removal by a Teacher

A teacher may remove from class a student who has been documented by the teacher to have repeatedly interfered with the teacher's ability to communicate effectively with the students in the class or with the ability of the students' classmates to learn or whose behavior the teacher determines is so unruly, disruptive, or abusive, that it seriously interferes with the teacher's ability to communicate effectively with the students in the class. The principal may either:

- Place the student in another appropriate classroom;
- Place the student in in-school suspension; or
- Place the student in the DAEP location.

Placement Review Committee

Each school in the district will establish a three-member committee to determine placement of a student when a teacher removes a student and refuses to allow the student to return to his or her classroom. Each committee shall consist of two teachers and one teacher to act as an alternate chosen by the campus faculty, and one member chosen from the professional staff of a campus selected by the principal. The teacher refusing to re-admit the student shall not serve on the committee. The principal may not return the student to the classroom of the teacher who removed the student without the teacher's consent unless the placement review committee determines that such placement is the best or only available alternative. If the student is removed by a teacher, the student may be prohibited from attending or participating in school-sponsored or school-related activities.

Review for Students Removed by Teacher

Not later than the third class day after the day on which a teacher removes a student from class, the school principal or other appropriate administrator shall schedule a conference among the principal or designee, a parent or guardian of the student, the teacher removing the student if any, and the student. At the conference, the student is entitled to written or oral notice of the reasons for the removal, an explanation for the basis for the removal, and an opportunity to respond to the reasons for the removal. The student may not be returned to class pending the conference. Following the conference and whether or not each requested person is in attendance, after valid attempts to require a person's attendance, the principal shall order the placement of the student either in in-school suspension, a DAEP, or another teacher's classroom. If the teacher removed the student for a reason listed as a mandatory DAEP removal, the student will be placed in a DAEP. If the decision is to place the student in a DAEP, the campus will follow the procedures that are provided in the Code of Conduct for removal to a DAEP

VANDALISM/SCHOOL FACILITIES

The taxpayers of the community have made a sustained financial commitment for the construction and upkeep of school facilities. To ensure that school facilities can serve those for whom they are intended—both this year and for years to come—littering, defacing, or damaging school property is not tolerated. Students will be required to pay for damages they cause and will be subject to criminal proceedings as well as disciplinary consequences in accordance with the *Student Code of Conduct*.

SCHOOL PROPERTY

Students have been provided an attractive building and good equipment and are urged to help keep it attractive. Students who destroy or deface public property jeopardize their reputations among students and adults. Students who destroy school property are subject to disciplinary action.

VIOLATION OF LAW - Alcohol, Drugs, Tobacco and Weapons

Under state law and federal law, a student is not allowed to possess, sell, give away, or use, **or be under the influence of** alcohol, illegal drugs, **or** tobacco products, **or use, exhibit or possess** guns or other weapons on, **or within 300 feet of**, school property, or at a school-related or school-sanctioned activity, on or off school property. Having one of these in a privately owned vehicle that the student may have driven to school on district property is also prohibited and would constitute possession. (See the Misconduct Levels for information regarding disciplinary consequences)

SERIOUS LEVELS OF DISCIPLINE

Emergency Placement or Expulsion (See Code of Conduct)

Suspension (See Code of Conduct)

Removal to a Disciplinary Alternative Education Program

State law provides that the student who commits certain offenses must be placed in a DAEP. It also outlines those offenses or acts of misconduct for which a student may be placed in a DAEP. These acts, as well as others determined by the District, are listed in the Code of Conduct.

Within three school days from the student being removed from class by principal, the principal or other appropriate administrator will schedule a conference with the parent or guardian of the student, the teacher removing the student, if applicable, and the student. At the conference, the principal will explain the allegations including the reasons for the removal and provide an opportunity for the student to respond to the reasons for the removal. Following the conference, and whether or not each requested person is in attendance after valid attempts to require the person's attendance, the principal shall order the placement of the student for a period consistent with the student Code of Conduct.

The Board delegates to the campus principal the authority to remove a student to DAEP. If a student's placement in a DAEP extends beyond 60 days or the end of the next grading period, whichever is earlier, a student's parent or guardian is entitled to notice of an opportunity to participate in a proceeding before the principal.

The District will comply with state law regarding a student's opportunity to complete course work when the student is placed in the DAEP.

At the review, the parent or the student will be given an opportunity to present arguments for the student's return to the regular classroom or campus.

If a student withdraws from the district before an order for placement in DAEP is entered, the principal may complete the proceedings and enter an order. If the student subsequently enrolls in the district during the same or subsequent school year, the district may enforce the order at that time except for any period of the placement that has been served by the student on enrollment in another district that honored the order. If during the term of a placement, a student engages in additional conduct for which placement in DAEP is required or permitted, additional proceedings may be conducted and an additional order may be entered.

If, during the term of removal to a DAEP, a student engages in additional conduct for which removal is required or permitted, additional proceedings may be conducted regarding that conduct and the principal may enter an additional order of removal as appropriate.

The length of the placement in DAEP will be made in accordance with the following guidelines:

- Seriousness of the offense
- Age of the student
- Requirements of state law
- Whether District policy or provisions in the Code of Conduct require a particular consequence
- Premeditation of the student
- Student's previous disciplinary record
- Whether the offense is one in which a required length has been established by the District and contained in the Code of Conduct
- The effect of the misconduct on the school environment

- **First offense permissive DAEP placement: 45 days**
- **Second offense permissive DAEP placement: 45-60 days**
- **First offense mandatory DAEP placement: 45 days**
- **Second offense mandatory DAEP placement: 45-60 days**

Cameron DAEP hours vary from campus-time and will begin at 7:30 and end at 3:15 daily

Discipline of Special Education Students under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act

Each disabled student's Individual Education Plan (IEP) shall address the student's specialized needs on discipline including positive behavioral interventions that can be appropriately used with the student. Only a duly constituted admission, review, and dismissal committee may make a change in placement of more than ten (10) days. A student with a disability may not be placed in an alternative educational program solely for education purposes if the student does not meet the criteria for alternative educational placement. When days of suspension, in-school suspension and/or placement in an AEP total 10 days in one school year, an ARD committee shall review the student's IEP. If a student with a disability commits an offense under TEC 37.006 and/or engages in serious or persistent misbehavior, an ARD committee shall be convened to review the student's program and placement, including consideration for removal to an AEP.

A disabled student may be expelled or placed in an AEP for engaging in conduct that would warrant such action for a non-disabled student only if the ARD committee determines the misconduct is not related to the disabling condition or inappropriate placement.

Discipline of Students Served Under Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act.

A student with a disability under Section 504 (District Policy FB) shall not be expelled unless the district first determines that the misbehavior is not a manifestation of the student's disability. The same group of people who make placement decisions may make that determination. The group must have available to it evaluation data that is recent enough to afford an understanding of the student's current behavior. At minimum, the group shall include persons knowledgeable about the student and the meaning of the evaluation data.

See Additional Information Related to Expulsion in District Code of Conduct

COUNSELING

Academic Counseling

High school students and their parents are encouraged to talk with a school counselor, teacher, or principal to learn more about course offerings, graduation requirements, and early graduation procedures. Each year, high school students will be provided information on anticipated course offerings for the next school year and other information that will help them make the most of academic and CTE opportunities, as well as information on the importance of postsecondary education.

The school counselor can also provide information about entrance exams and application deadlines, as well as information about automatic admission, financial aid, housing, and scholarships as these relate to state colleges and universities. The school counselor can also provide information about workforce opportunities after graduation or technical and trade school opportunities, including opportunities to earn industry-recognized certificates and licenses.

Personal Counseling

The school counselor is available to assist students with a wide range of personal concerns, including such areas as social, family, emotional or mental health issues, or substance abuse. A student who wishes to meet with the school counselor should contact the counselor secretary. As

a parent, if you are concerned about your child’s mental or emotional health, please speak with the school counselor for a list of resources that may be of assistance.

[Also see **Substance Abuse Prevention and Intervention** on page 88 and **Suicide Awareness** on page 88.]

COURSE CREDIT

A student in grades 9–12, or in a lower grade when a student is enrolled in a high school credit-bearing course, will earn credit for a course only if the final grade is 70 or above. For a two-semester (1 credit) course, the student’s grades from both semesters will be averaged and credit will be awarded if the combined average is 70 or above. Should the student’s combined average be less than 70, the student will be required to retake the semester in which he or she failed.

CREDIT BY EXAMINATION—If a Student Has Taken the Course/Subject

A student who has previously taken a course or subject—but did not receive credit or a final grade for it—may, in circumstances determined by the principal or attendance committee, be permitted to earn credit by passing an exam approved by the district’s board of trustees on the essential knowledge and skills defined for that course or subject. Prior instruction may include, for example, incomplete coursework due to a failed course or excessive absences, homeschooling, or coursework by a student transferring from a nonaccredited school. The opportunity to take an examination to earn credit for a course or to be awarded a final grade in a subject after the student has had prior instruction is sometimes referred to as “credit recovery.”

The school counselor or principal would determine if the student could take an exam for this purpose. If approval is granted, the student must score at least 70 on the exam to receive credit for the course or subject.

The attendance review committee may also offer a student with excessive absences an opportunity to earn credit for a course by passing an exam.

[For further information, see the school counselor and policy EHDB(LOCAL).]

CREDIT BY EXAMINATION FOR ADVANCEMENT/ACCELERATION—If a Student Has Not Taken the Course/Subject

A student will be permitted to take an exam to earn credit for an academic course or subject area for which the student has had no prior instruction, i.e., for advancement or to accelerate to the next grade level. The exams offered by the district are approved by the district’s board of trustees, and state law requires the use of certain exams, such as College Board Advanced Placement (AP) and College Level Examination Program (CLEP) tests, when applicable. The dates on which exams are scheduled during the 2016–17 school year will be published in appropriate district publications and on the district’s website. The only exceptions to the published dates will be for any exams administered by another entity besides the district or if a request is made outside of these time frames by a student experiencing homelessness or by a student involved in the foster care system. When another entity administers an exam, a student and the district must comply with the testing schedule of the other entity. During each testing window provided by the district, a student may attempt a specific exam only once.

If a student plans to take an exam, the student (or parent) must register with the school counselor no later than 30 days prior to the scheduled testing date. [For further information, see policy EHDC.]

Students in Grades 6–12

A student in grade 6 or above will earn course credit with a passing score of at least 80 on the exam, a scaled score of 50 or higher on an exam administered through the CLEP, or a score of 3 or higher on an AP exam, as applicable. A student may take an exam to earn high school course credit no more than twice. If a student fails to achieve the designated score on the applicable exam before the beginning of the school year in which the student would need to enroll in the course according to the school's high school course sequence, the student must complete the course.

DATING VIOLENCE, DISCRIMINATION, HARASSMENT, AND RETALIATION

The district believes that all students learn best in an environment free from dating violence, discrimination, harassment, and retaliation and that their welfare is best served when they are free from this prohibited conduct while attending school. Students are expected to treat other students and district employees with courtesy and respect, to avoid behaviors known to be offensive, and to stop those behaviors when asked or told to stop. District employees are expected to treat students with courtesy and respect.

The board has established policies and procedures to prohibit and promptly respond to inappropriate and offensive behaviors that are based on a person's race, color, religion, gender, national origin, disability, or any other basis prohibited by law. A copy of the district's policy is available in the principal's office and in the superintendent's office www.cameronisd.net. [See policy FFH.]

Dating Violence

Dating violence occurs when a person in a current or past dating relationship uses physical, sexual, verbal, or emotional abuse to harm, threaten, intimidate, or control the other person in the relationship. Dating violence also occurs when a person commits these acts against a person in a marriage or dating relationship with the individual who is or was once in a marriage or dating relationship with the person committing the offense. This type of conduct is considered harassment if the conduct is so severe, persistent, or pervasive that it affects the student's ability to participate in or benefit from an educational program or activity; creates an intimidating, threatening, hostile, or offensive educational environment; or substantially interferes with the student's academic performance.

Examples of dating violence against a student may include, but are not limited to, physical or sexual assaults; name-calling; put-downs; threats to hurt the student, the student's family members, or members of the student's household; destroying property belonging to the student; threats to commit suicide or homicide if the student ends the relationship; threats to harm a student's current dating partner; attempts to isolate the student from friends and family; stalking; or encouraging others to engage in these behaviors.

Discrimination

Discrimination is defined as any conduct directed at a student on the basis of race, color, religion, gender, national origin, disability, or any other basis prohibited by law that negatively affects the student.

Harassment

Harassment, in general terms, is conduct so severe, persistent, or pervasive that it affects the student's ability to participate in or benefit from an educational program or activity; creates an intimidating, threatening, hostile, or offensive educational environment; or substantially interferes with the student's academic performance.

Examples of harassment may include, but are not limited to, offensive or derogatory language directed at a person's religious beliefs or practices, accent, skin color, or need for accommodation; threatening, intimidating, or humiliating conduct; offensive jokes, name-calling, slurs, or rumors; physical aggression or assault; graffiti or printed material promoting racial, ethnic, or other negative stereotypes; or other kinds of aggressive conduct such as theft or damage to property.

In addition to dating violence as described above, two other types of prohibited harassment are described below.

Sexual Harassment and Gender-Based Harassment

Sexual harassment and gender-based harassment of a student by an employee, volunteer, or another student are prohibited.

Examples of sexual harassment may include, but not be limited to, touching private body parts or coercing physical contact that is sexual in nature; sexual advances; jokes or conversations of a sexual nature; and other sexually motivated conduct, communications, or contact.

Sexual harassment of a student by an employee or volunteer does not include necessary or permissible physical contact not reasonably construed as sexual in nature, such as comforting a child with a hug or taking the child's hand. However, romantic and other inappropriate social relationships, as well as all sexual relationships, between students and district employees are prohibited, even if consensual.

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

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

Retaliation

Retaliation against a person who makes a good faith report of discrimination or harassment, including dating violence, is prohibited. Retaliation against a person who is participating in an investigation of alleged discrimination or harassment is also prohibited. A person who makes a

false claim or offers false statements or refuses to cooperate with a district investigation, however, may be subject to appropriate discipline.

Examples of retaliation may include threats, rumor spreading, ostracism, assault, destruction of property, unjustified punishments, or unwarranted grade reductions. Unlawful retaliation does not include petty slights or annoyances.

Reporting Procedures

Any student who believes that he or she has experienced dating violence, discrimination, harassment, or retaliation should immediately report the problem to a teacher, school counselor, principal, or other district employee. The report may be made by the student's parent. [See policy FFH(LOCAL) and (EXHIBIT) for other appropriate district officials to whom to make a report.]

Upon receiving a report of prohibited conduct as defined by policy FFH, the district will determine whether the allegations, if proven, would constitute prohibited conduct as defined by that policy. If not, the district will refer to policy FFI to determine if the allegations, if proven, would constitute bullying, as defined by law and that policy. If the alleged prohibited conduct, if proven, would constitute prohibited conduct and would also be considered bullying as defined by law and policy FFI, an investigation of bullying will also be conducted.

The district will promptly notify the parents of any student alleged to have experienced prohibited conduct involving an adult associated with the district. In the event alleged prohibited conduct involves another student, the district will notify the parents of the student alleged to have experienced the prohibited conduct when the allegations, if proven, would constitute a violation as defined by policy FFH.

Investigation of Report

To the extent possible, the district will respect the privacy of the student; however, limited disclosures may be necessary to conduct a thorough investigation and to comply with law. Allegations of prohibited conduct, which includes dating violence, discrimination, harassment, and retaliation, will be promptly investigated.

If a law enforcement or other regulatory agency notifies the district that it is investigating the matter and requests that the district delay its investigation, the district will resume the investigation at the conclusion of the agency's investigation.

During the course of an investigation and when appropriate, the district will take interim action to address the alleged prohibited conduct.

If the district's investigation indicates that prohibited conduct occurred, appropriate disciplinary action, and, in some cases, corrective action, will be taken to address the conduct. The district may take disciplinary and corrective action even if the conduct that is the subject of the complaint was not unlawful.

All involved parties will be notified of the outcome of the district investigation within the parameters and limits allowed under the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA).

A student or parent who is dissatisfied with the outcome of the investigation may appeal in accordance with policy FNG(LOCAL).

DISCRIMINATION

[See **Dating Violence, Discrimination, Harassment, and Retaliation** on page 39.]

DISTANCE LEARNING

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

The distance learning opportunities that the district makes available to district students are University of Texas Permian Basin, Edgenuity, and Temple College.

If a student wishes to enroll in a correspondence course or a distance learning course that is not provided through the Texas Virtual School Network (TxVSN), as described below, in order to earn credit in a course or subject, the student must receive permission from the principal prior to enrolling in the course or subject. If the student does not receive prior approval, the district may not recognize and apply the course or subject toward graduation requirements or subject mastery.

Texas Virtual School Network (TxVSN)

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

Depending on the TxVSN course in which a student enrolls, the course may be subject to the “no pass, no play” rules. [Also see **Extracurricular Activities, Clubs, and Organizations** on page 47.] In addition, for a student who enrolls in a TxVSN course for which an end-of-course (EOC) assessment is required, the student must still take the corresponding EOC assessment.

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

A copy of policy EHDE will be distributed to parents of middle and high school students at least once each year. If you do not receive a copy or have questions about this policy, please contact the Principal.

DISTRIBUTION OF LITERATURE, PUBLISHED MATERIALS, OR OTHER DOCUMENTS

School Materials

Publications prepared by and for the school may be posted or distributed, with the prior approval of the principal, sponsor, or teacher. Such items may include school posters, brochures, flyers, etc.

The school newspaper and the yearbook are available to students.

All school publications are under the supervision of a teacher, sponsor, and the principal.

Nonschool Materials

From Students

Students must obtain prior approval from the Principal before selling, posting, circulating, or distributing more than ten copies of written or printed materials, handbills, photographs, pictures, films, tapes, or other visual or auditory materials that were not developed under the oversight of the school. To be considered, any nonschool material must include the name of the sponsoring person or organization. The decision regarding approval will be made within two school days.

The Principal has designated locations for approved nonschool materials to be placed for voluntary viewing or collection by students. [See policy FNAA.]

A student may appeal a decision in accordance with policy FNG(LOCAL). Any student who sells, posts, circulates, or distributes nonschool material without prior approval will be subject to disciplinary action in accordance with the Student Code of Conduct. Materials displayed without approval will be removed.

From Others

Written or printed materials, handbills, photographs, pictures, films, tapes, or other visual or auditory materials not sponsored by the district or by a district-affiliated school-support organization will not be sold, circulated, distributed, or posted on any district premises by any district employee or by persons or groups not associated with the district, except as permitted by policy GKDA. To be considered for distribution, any nonschool material must meet the limitations on content established in the policy, include the name of the sponsoring person or organization, and be submitted to the Principal for prior review. The Principal will approve or reject the materials within two school days of the time the materials are received. The requestor may appeal a rejection in accordance with the appropriate district complaint policy. [See policies at DGBA or GF.]

The Principal has designated locations for approved nonschool materials to be placed for voluntary viewing or collection.

Prior review will not be required for:

- Distribution of materials by an attendee to other attendees of a school-sponsored meeting intended for adults and held after school hours.
- Distribution of materials by an attendee to other attendees of a community group meeting held after school hours in accordance with policy GKD(LOCAL) or a noncurriculum-related student group meeting held in accordance with FNAB(LOCAL).
- Distribution for electioneering purposes during the time a school facility is being used as a polling place, in accordance with state law.

All nonschool materials distributed under these circumstances must be removed from district property immediately following the event at which the materials are distributed.

DRESS AND GROOMING

The district's dress code is established to teach grooming and hygiene, prevent disruption, and minimize safety hazards. Students and parents may determine a student's personal dress and grooming standards, provided that they comply with the following:

Hair

- No distracting items stuck in the hair ex: net, pins, curlers, etc.
- No sideburns below the earlobes
- Hair must be clean and well-groomed including facial hair
- Boy's hair is not to extend past the bottom of a dress shirt collar
- No distracting hairstyles (Unnatural color, Mohawk, Feauxhawk, Spiked, etc.)
- No symbols, designs, or initials are to be cut into the hair

Footwear

- No house shoes permitted and tennis shoes or fully closed shoes are recommended for safety and comfort

Hats

- No hats or head coverings are to be worn during school hours.

Shirts

- Shirts must be either collared or T-shirt and have sleeves
- Boy's shirts will be tucked into the pants unless they do not hang lower than the bottom of the front pocket opening of their pants when worn at the waist.
- No clothing is permitted which advertises nudity, tobacco, alcohol, prohibited substances, vulgar or obscene topics, or that which implies any of the above
- Tops (shirts, blouses, etc.) must overlap waist bands so that NO midriff is showing at anytime

Other Clothing

- NO "sagging" of pants or shorts is allowed. Pants and shorts are to be worn at the natural waistline.
- Pants, shorts, dresses must be no higher than four inches above the knee.
- Any clothing which reveals underwear or cleavage is prohibited
- Tight-fitting garments such as yoga pants, spandex tights, jeggings, etc. must be covered by a garment that is no higher than four inches above the knee
- Clothing which is torn or ripped is not permitted. Pants which are frayed are allowed as long as no skin is visible four inches above the knee through the frayed areas when standing or sitting.

Earrings/Piercing

- Boys are prohibited from wearing earrings gauges, or studs
- Body piercing other than ears is prohibited for all students

Other Guidelines

- Students are to be clean shaven, sideburns may not extend below the bottom of the ear
- Students are required to keep themselves clean and free of body odor
- Tattoos with lewd writing, gang-related, obscene or offensive pictures or emblems must be covered

If the principal determines that a student's grooming or clothing violates the school's dress code, the student will be given an opportunity to correct the problem at school. If not corrected, the student may be assigned to in-school suspension for the remainder of the day, until the problem is corrected, or until a parent or designee brings an acceptable change of clothing to the school. Repeated offenses may result in more serious disciplinary action in accordance with the Student Code of Conduct.

ELECTRONIC DEVICES AND TECHNOLOGY RESOURCES

Possession and Use of Personal Telecommunications Devices, Including Mobile Telephones

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

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

If a student uses a telecommunications device without authorization during the school day, the device will be confiscated. The student may pick up the confiscated telecommunications device from the principal's office for a fee of \$15.

Confiscated telecommunications devices that are not retrieved by the student or the student's parents will be disposed of after the notice required by law. [See policy FNCE.]

In limited circumstances and in accordance with law, a student's personal telecommunications device may be searched by authorized personnel. [See **Searches** on page 82 and policy FNF.]

Any disciplinary action will be in accordance with the Student Code of Conduct. The district is not responsible for damaged, lost, or stolen telecommunications devices.

Possession and Use of Other Personal Electronic Devices

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

In limited circumstances and in accordance with law, a student's personal electronic device may be searched by authorized personnel. [See **Searches** on page 82 and policy FNF.]

Any disciplinary action will be in accordance with the Student Code of Conduct. The district is not responsible for any damaged, lost, or stolen electronic device.

Instructional Use of Personal Telecommunications and Other Electronic Devices

In some cases, students may find it beneficial or might be encouraged to use personal telecommunications or other personal electronic devices for instructional purposes while on campus. Students must obtain prior approval before using personal telecommunications or other personal electronic devices for instructional use. Students must also sign a user agreement that contains applicable rules for use (separate from this handbook). When students are not using the devices for approved instructional purposes, all devices must be turned off during the instructional day. Violations of the user agreement may result in withdrawal of privileges and other disciplinary action.

Acceptable Use of District Technology Resources

To prepare students for an increasingly technological society, the district has made an investment in the use of district-owned technology resources for instructional purposes; specific resources may be issued individually to students. Use of these technological resources, which include the district's network systems and use of district equipment, is restricted to approved purposes only. Students and parents will be asked to sign a user agreement (separate from this handbook) regarding use of these district resources. Violations of the user agreement may result in withdrawal of privileges and other disciplinary action.

Unacceptable and Inappropriate Use of Technology Resources

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

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

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

END-OF-COURSE (EOC) ASSESSMENTS

[See **Graduation** on page 53 and **Standardized Testing** on page 84.]

ENGLISH LANGUAGE LEARNERS

A student who is an English language learner is entitled to receive specialized services from the district. To determine whether the student qualifies for services, a Language Proficiency Assessment Committee (LPAC) will be formed, which will consist of both district personnel and at least one parent representative. The student's parent must consent to any services recommended by the LPAC for an English language learner. However, pending the receipt of parental consent or denial of services, an eligible student will receive the services to which the student is entitled and eligible.

In order to determine a student's level of proficiency in English, the LPAC will use information from a variety of assessments. If the student qualifies for services, and once a level of proficiency has been established, the LPAC will then designate instructional accommodations or additional special programs that the student will require to eventually become proficient at grade level work in English. Ongoing assessments will be conducted to determine a student's continued eligibility for the program.

The LPAC will also determine whether certain accommodations are necessary for any state-mandated assessments. The STAAR L, as mentioned at **Standardized Testing** on page 84, may be administered to an English language learner, or, for a student up to grade 5, a Spanish version of STAAR. In limited circumstances, a student's LPAC may exempt the student from an otherwise required state-mandated assessment or may waive certain graduation requirements related to the English I end-of-course (EOC) assessment. The Texas English Language Proficiency Assessment System (TELPAS) will also be administered to English language learners who qualify for services.

If a student is considered an English language learner and receives special education services because of a qualifying disability, the student's ARD committee will make instructional and assessment decisions in conjunction with the LPAC.

EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES, CLUBS, AND ORGANIZATIONS

Participation in school-sponsored activities is an excellent way for a student to develop talents, receive individual recognition, and build strong friendships with other students; participation, however, is a privilege, not a right.

Participation in some of these activities may result in events that occur off-campus. When the district arranges transportation for these events, students are required to use the transportation provided by the district to and from the events. Exceptions to this may only be made with the approval of the activity's coach or sponsor. [Also see **Transportation** on page 90.]

Eligibility for initial and continuing participation in many of these activities is governed by state law and the rules of the University Interscholastic League (UIL)—a statewide association overseeing interdistrict competition. If a student is involved in an academic, athletic, or music activity governed by UIL, the student and parent are expected to know and follow all rules of the UIL organization. Students involved in UIL athletic activities and their parents can access the UIL Parent Information Manual at <https://www.uil texas.org/athletics/manuals>; a hard copy can be provided by the coach or sponsor of the activity on request. To report a complaint of alleged noncompliance with required safety training or an alleged violation of safety rules required by

law and the UIL, please contact the curriculum division of TEA at (512) 463-9581 or curriculum@tea.texas.gov.

[See <http://www.uiltexas.org> for additional information on all UIL-governed activities.]

Student safety in extracurricular activities is a priority of the district. The equipment used in football is no exception. As a parent, you are entitled to review the district's records regarding the age of each football helmet used by the campus, including when a helmet has been reconditioned.

In addition, the following provisions apply to all extracurricular activities:

- A student who receives at the end of a grading period a grade below 70 in any academic class—other than an Advanced Placement (AP) or International Baccalaureate (IB) course; or an honors or dual credit course in English language arts, mathematics, science, social studies, economics, or language other than English—may not participate in extracurricular activities for at least three school weeks.
- A student who receives special education services and who fails to meet the standards in the individualized education program (IEP) may not participate for at least three school weeks.
- An ineligible student may practice or rehearse but may not participate in any competitive activity.
- A student is allowed in a school year up to 10 absences not related to post-district competition. All extracurricular activities and public performances, whether UIL activities or other activities approved by the board, are subject to these restrictions.
- An absence for participation in an activity that has not been approved will receive an unexcused absence.

Standards of Behavior

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

Offices and Elections

Certain clubs, organizations, and performing groups will hold elections for student officers.

FEES

Materials that are part of the basic educational program are provided with state and local funds at no charge to a student. A student, however, is expected to provide his or her own pencils, paper, erasers, and notebooks and may be required to pay certain other fees or deposits, including:

- Costs for materials for a class project that the student will keep.
- Membership dues in voluntary clubs or student organizations and admission fees to extracurricular activities.

- Security deposits.
- Personal physical education and athletic equipment and apparel.
- Voluntarily purchased pictures, publications, class rings, yearbooks, graduation announcements, etc.
- Voluntarily purchased student accident insurance.
- Musical instrument rental and uniform maintenance, when uniforms are provided by the district.
- Personal apparel used in extracurricular activities that becomes the property of the student.
- Parking fees and student identification cards.
- Fees for lost, damaged, or overdue library books.
- Fees for driver training courses, if offered.
- Fees for optional courses offered for credit that require use of facilities not available on district premises.
- Summer school for courses that are offered tuition-free during the regular school year.
- A reasonable fee for providing transportation to a student who lives within two miles of the school. [See **Buses and Other School Vehicles** on page 90.]
- A fee not to exceed \$50 for costs of providing an educational program outside of regular school hours for a student who has lost credit or has not been awarded a final grade because of absences and whose parent chooses the program in order for the student to meet the 90 percent attendance requirement. The fee will be charged only if the parent or guardian signs a district-provided request form.
- In some cases, a fee for a course taken through the Texas Virtual School Network (TxVSN).

Any required fee or deposit may be waived if the student and parent are unable to pay. Application for such a waiver may be made to the Principal. [For further information, see policy FP.]

FIELD TRIPS

Students may be provided the chance to participate in field trips when possible. Field trips are privileges students earn by displaying appropriate behavior, attendance, and meeting other requirements as set forth by the campus administration and field trip sponsor. In order to be eligible to participate in a field trip, a student must have a permission form for the specific field trip signed by a parent or guardian.

THE FOLLOWING ARE POTENTIAL TRIPS THAT FALL INTO THE CATEGORY OF FIELD TRIPS.

Y-Award Picnic

- Students must be involved in at least **4 clubs or activities**
- Student must have less than 9 total absences for the school year in each class in which they are enrolled including full day medical absences.
- Must have a clean discipline record – No ISS, Suspensions, or DAEP
- Must be clear of all charges such as but not limited to textbooks, technology, dual credit, cafeteria, library, etc

Senior Trip

- Students must be in good standing with their Senior Class and be classified as a Senior.
- Student must participate in fundraising activities/be current with class dues.
- Must have less than 9 total absences for the school year in each class in which they are enrolled including full day medical absences.
- Must have a clean discipline record – No ISS, Suspensions, or DAEP
- Must be clear of all charges such as but not limited to textbooks, technology, dual credit, cafeteria, library, etc

FINAL EXAM EXEMPTION POLICY

Semester exams will count one seventh (1/7th) of the semester grade. Students will have one (1) week to make up final exams after the semester ends. After that time the final exam grade becomes a “0”. The purpose of the exemption policy is to increase academic achievement, promote good attendance and encourage responsible behavior. The following procedures will be adhered to: Students (Grades 9-12), who meet the following requirements, may be exempt from taking the semester examination for the course in question. Students that meet all the requirements will not be limited to the number of exams they can exempt.

- **1.** Students must have passed all parts of the most recent EOC/TAKS or any other alternate test approved by the state, regardless of the class they wish to Exempt. The Spring Benchmark may be substituted for the Spring semester.
- **2.** If the term average is a 70, they can have no more than 1 excused absence.
If the term average is an 80, they can have no more than 2 excused absences.
If the term average is a 90, they can have no more than 3 excused absences.
- **3.** Must have no UNEXCUSED absences.
- **4.** Must have a “clean” discipline record. This means no suspensions, no time in DAEP during the term in question, no full days in ISS, and no swats.
- **5.** Students must attend school on day of the semester exam in which they are exempt

during the state attendance period.

- **6.** Extenuating circumstances can be appealed in the principal's office.
- **7.** Must be clear of all charges such as but not limited to textbooks, technology, dual credit, cafeteria, library, etc
- **Unexcused absence:** Absences that are not excused by law, board policy or that are not for approved extracurricular activities shall be designated as unexcused, even if the student has parental permission to be absent.
- **Excused absence:** An excused absence for exemption purposes only, is one that a student: may be excused for temporary absences resulting from personal illness, sickness or death in the family, quarantine, weather or road conditions making travel dangerous, doctor or dentist appointments, religious holidays, College Visit Days (Juniors and Seniors– 2 Days Maximum), or any other unusual causes acceptable to the attendance official. These absences could be for full or partial days. **NOTE: Documentation (parent note, doctor note, etc.) for records is accepted NO LATER than THREE DAYS after the absence.**
- Underclassmen (9th & 10th) that take College Visits will be considered as Excused Absences for purposes of State attendance with proper documentation.
- **1.** Students who are absent for school business will not be considered absent. Ex: FFA, UIL, One-Act Play, School Athletic or Band Contests, etc.
- **2.** Students who enroll after the 3rd school day of the semester are not eligible for Exemptions. Transfer students must show proof of meeting attendance criteria from previous school as determined by the principal's office.
- Absences will be counted up to the day of the exam.

Flame King and Queen Court

Each Class will elect one boy and one girl to serve as candidates for Flame King and Queen. (There will be no run-offs unless there is a tie for the top position.) A final ballot will be prepared for all students. One boy and one girl from each Class will be included on the final ballot. The Flame King and Queen will then be elected by all students (grades 9-12). (There will be no run-off unless there is a tie for the top position.) The Flame Court and King and Queen will be announced during the Flame Pep Rally scheduled for a Tuesday or Wednesday of the week of the last out-of-town district football game

FUNDRAISING

Student groups or classes and/or parent groups may be permitted to conduct fundraising drives for approved school purposes. An application for permission must be made to the Principal at least 14 days before the event. [For further information, see policies FJ and GE.]

GANG-FREE ZONES

Certain criminal offenses, including those involving organized criminal activity such as gang-related crimes, will be enhanced to the next highest category of offense if they are committed in a gang-free zone. For purposes of the district, a gang-free zone includes a school bus and a

location in, on, or within 1,000 feet of any district-owned or leased property or campus playground.

GENDER-BASED HARASSMENT

[See **Dating Violence, Discrimination, Harassment, and Retaliation** on page 39.]

GRADE-LEVEL CLASSIFICATION

After the ninth grade, students are classified according to the number of credits earned toward graduation.

Credits Earned	Classification
6	Grade 10 (Sophomore)
12	Grade 11 (Junior)
18	Grade 12 (Senior)

GRADING GUIDELINES

Grading guidelines for each grade level or course will be communicated and distributed to students and their parents by the classroom teacher. These guidelines have been reviewed by each applicable curriculum department and have been approved by the campus principal. These guidelines establish the minimum number of assignments, projects, and examinations required for each grading period. In addition, these guidelines establish how the student's mastery of concepts and achievement will be communicated (i.e., letter grades, numerical averages, checklist of required skills, etc.). Grading guidelines also outline in what circumstances a student will be allowed to redo an assignment or retake an examination for which the student originally made a failing grade. Procedures for a student to follow after an absence will also be addressed.

- A student will receive a grade each six weeks in each course (excluding non-grade point courses listed in the Grading System and Grade Point System section beginning on page 52).
- Teachers will return to students all tests, quizzes, homework, etc., where grades have been recorded, in a reasonable length of time.
- Yoe High School does not require Six Weeks Exams. However, teachers are required to give at least one exam during each six weeks, not counting the final semester exam.
- The final six weeks grade is calculated as follows:
 - 50% Daily Grades (homework, class work, and assignments specified by the teacher). This may vary depending on department.
 - 50% Major Grades (exams, major projects, research papers, sketch books, or other major assignments as specified by the teacher). This may vary depending on department.
- Zeroes are recorded for work missed as the result of truancy or unexcused absences.

- Semester exams are required in all courses that count toward a student’s GPA. Unless they meet semester exam exemption policy

DAILY GRADES

Teachers will take at least ten daily grades each six weeks.

MAJOR GRADES

Teachers will take at least three major grades each six weeks (test, projects, presentations, etc.)

SIX WEEK GRADES

Daily grades will count as 50% and major grades will count as 50% of the six week grade.

SEMESTER GRADES

Each six week grade will count as 2/7 of the semester grade with the semester exam grade counting as 1/7 of the semester grade.

GRADING SYSTEM AND GRADE POINT SYSTEM

- Numerical grades will be used for all evaluation of students
- Transfer students (Including those with properly documented, public school, private school, and homeschool courses) will have letter grades converted to numerical grades as follows:

A+ = 99	A = 95	A- = 90
B+ = 89	B = 85	B- = 80
C+ = 79	C = 77	C- = 75
D+ = 74	D = 72	D- = 70
All Fs = 69		

- Numerical grades are used for Class Rankings and Academic Honors. The following courses are **NOT** included for the calculation of Class Rankings and Honors:

Athletics	Band and Jazz Band	Yearbook
Dual Enrollment Classes	SAT/ACT Prep	Student Aide
Physical Education	EOC Prep Classes	Journalism
Athletic Training	Study Skills	

- Premium Points: Students receive premium, or extra grade points for designated courses. Advanced sections of the same Premium Point courses may not be offered every year. Final semester grades do not change on the Report Card or permanent record. However, for Class Rankings and Academic Honors, Premium Points are added to final semester grades. **NO Premium Points are added for grades BELOW 70**

[Also see **Report Cards/Progress Reports and Conferences** on page 78 for additional information on grading guidelines.]

GRADUATION

Requirements for a Diploma for a Student Enrolled in High School Prior to the 2014–15 School Year

To receive a high school diploma from the district, a student who was enrolled in high school prior to the 2014–15 school year must successfully:

- Complete the required number of credits established by the state and any additional credits required by the district;
- Complete any locally required courses in addition to the courses mandated by the state; and
- Achieve passing scores on certain end-of-course (EOC) assessments or approved substitute assessments, unless specifically waived as permitted by state law.

[Also see **Standardized Testing** on page 84 for more information.]

Requirements for a Diploma Beginning with the 2014–15 School Year

Beginning with students who entered grade 9 in the 2014–15 school year, as well as any currently enrolled high school student who decides to graduate under the foundation graduation program, a student must meet the following requirements to receive a high school diploma from the district:

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

Testing Requirements for Graduation

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

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

In limited circumstances, a student who fails to demonstrate proficiency on two or fewer of the required assessments may still be eligible to graduate if an individual graduation committee, formed in accordance with state law, unanimously determines that the student is eligible to graduate.

[Also see **Standardized Testing** on page 84 for more information.]

Minimum, Recommended, and Advanced/Distinguished Achievement Graduation Programs

For students who were enrolled in high school prior to the 2014–15 school year, the district offers the graduation programs listed in this section. Students enrolled in high school prior to the 2014–15 school year also have the option to pursue the foundation graduation program as described below. Note that permission to enroll in the Minimum Program as described in this section will be granted only if a written agreement is reached among the student, the student’s parent or person standing in parental relation, and the school counselor or appropriate administrator. In order for a student to take courses under the Minimum Program, the student must be at least 16 years of age; have completed at least two credits each in English language arts, math, science, and social studies courses that are required for graduation; or have failed grade 9 one or more times. [See policy EIF(LEGAL).]

All students who were enrolled in high school prior to the 2014–15 school year must meet the following credit and course requirements for graduation under the programs listed or may choose to pursue the foundation graduation program as described on page 56:

Courses	Number of Credits: Minimum Program	Number of Credits: Recommended Program	Number of Credits: Advanced/Distinguished Achievement Program
English/Language Arts	4	4	4
Mathematics	3	4	4
Science	2	4	4
Social Studies, including Economics	3	4	4
Physical Education*	1	1	1
Speech	0.5	0.5	0.5
Language other than English	0	2	3
Fine Arts	1	1	1
Locally required courses	0.5 credit in Health	0.5 credit in Health	0.5 credit in Health

Courses	Number of Credits: Minimum Program	Number of Credits: Recommended Program	Number of Credits: Advanced/Distinguished Achievement Program
Electives**	6.5 credits	5.5 credits	4.5 credits
Miscellaneous			Completion of 4 Advanced Measures***
TOTAL	22 credits	26 credits	26 credits

* A student who is unable to participate in physical activity due to a disability or illness may be able to substitute a course in English language arts, mathematics, science, or social studies for the required credit of physical education. This determination will be made by the student’s ARD committee, Section 504 committee, or other campus committee, as applicable.

** State rules prohibit a student from combining a half-credit of a course for which there is an EOC assessment with another half-credit of an elective credit course to satisfy an elective credit requirement. However, the district will allow a student to satisfy a graduation requirement for which there are multiple options with one-half credit of one allowable option and one-half credit of another allowable option, if neither course has an EOC assessment.

*** A student graduating under the Advanced/Distinguished Achievement Program must also achieve a combination of four of the following advanced measures:

1. An original research project or other project that is related to the required curriculum. These projects must be judged by a panel of professionals or conducted under the direction of a mentor and reported to an appropriate audience. Please note that no more than two of the four advanced measures may be received from this option.
2. Test data where a student receives:
 - a. A score of three or above on an Advanced Placement (AP) exam;
 - b. A score of four or above on an International Baccalaureate (IB) exam; or
 - c. A score on the Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test (PSAT/NMSQT) that qualifies the student for recognition as a commended scholar or higher by the College Board and National Merit Scholarship Corporation, as part of the National Hispanic Recognition Program (NHRP) of the College Board, or as part of the National Achievement Scholarship Program of the National Merit Scholarship Corporation. The PSAT/NMSQT score will count as only one advanced measure regardless of the number of honors received by the student.
3. College academic courses, including those taken for dual credit, and advanced technical courses, including locally articulated courses, provided the student scores the equivalent of a 3.0 or higher.

Foundation Graduation Program

Every student in a Texas public school who entered grade 9 in the 2014–15 school year and thereafter will graduate under the “foundation graduation program.” Within the foundation graduation program are “endorsements,” which are paths of interest that include Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM); Business and Industry; Public Services; Arts and Humanities; and Multidisciplinary Studies. Endorsements earned by a student will be noted on the student’s transcript. The foundation graduation program also involves the term “distinguished level of achievement,” which reflects the completion of at least one endorsement and Algebra II as one of the required advanced mathematics credits. A personal graduation plan will be completed for each high school student.

State law and rules prohibit a student from graduating solely under the foundation graduation program without an endorsement unless, after the student’s sophomore year, the student and student’s parent are advised of the specific benefits of graduating with an endorsement and submit written permission to the school counselor for the student to graduate without an endorsement. A student who anticipates graduating under the foundation graduation program without an endorsement and who wishes to attend a four-year university or college after graduation must carefully consider whether this will satisfy the admission requirements of the student’s desired college or university.

Graduating under the foundation graduation program will also provide opportunities to earn “performance acknowledgments” that will be acknowledged on a student’s transcript. Performance acknowledgments are available for outstanding performance in bilingualism and biliteracy, in a dual credit course, on an AP or IB exam, on certain national college preparatory and readiness or college entrance exams, or for earning a state recognized or nationally or internationally recognized license or certificate. The criteria for earning these performance acknowledgments are prescribed by state rules, and the school counselor can provide more information about these acknowledgments.

A student enrolled in high school prior to the 2014–15 school year has the option of graduating under the foundation graduation program rather than the programs identified above that would otherwise be applicable to that student. See the school counselor for additional information.

The foundation graduation program requires completion of the following credits:

Course Area	Number of Credits: Foundation Graduation Program	Number of Credits: Foundation Graduation Program With an Endorsement
English/Language Arts	4	4
Mathematics	3	4*
Science	3	4
Social Studies, including Economics	3	3
Physical Education**	1	1

Course Area	Number of Credits: Foundation Graduation Program	Number of Credits: Foundation Graduation Program With an Endorsement
Language other than English***	2	2
Fine Arts	1	1
Locally required courses	0.5 credit in Health 1 credit in Technology	0.5 credit in Health 1 credit in Technology
Electives	3.5	6.5
Miscellaneous		Available Endorsements****: Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics Business and Industry Public Services Arts and Humanities Multidisciplinary Studies
TOTAL	22 credits	26 credits

* In order to obtain the distinguished level of achievement under the foundation graduation program, which will be denoted on a student's transcript and is a requirement to be considered for automatic admission purposes to a Texas four-year college or university, a student must complete an endorsement and take Algebra II as one of the 4 mathematics credits.

** A student who is unable to participate in physical activity due to a disability or illness may be able to substitute a course in English language arts, mathematics, science, social studies, or another locally determined credit-bearing course for the required credit of physical education. This determination will be made by the student's ARD committee, Section 504 committee, or other campus committee, as applicable.

*** Students are required to earn two credits in the same language other than English to graduate. Any student may substitute computer programming languages for these credits. In limited circumstances, a student may be able to substitute this requirement with other courses, as determined by a district committee authorized by law to make these decisions for the student.

**** A student must specify upon entering grade 9 the endorsement he or she wishes to pursue.

Personal Graduation Plans for Students Under the Foundation Graduation Program

A personal graduation plan will be developed for each high school student who is subject to the requirements of the foundation graduation program. The district encourages all students to pursue a personal graduation plan that includes the completion of at least one endorsement and to graduate with the distinguished level of achievement. Attainment of the distinguished level of

achievement entitles a student to be considered for automatic admission to a public four year college or university in Texas, depending on his or her rank in class. The school will review personal graduation plan options with each student entering grade 9 and his or her parent. Before the end of grade 9, a student and his or her parent will be required to sign off on a personal graduation plan that includes a course of study that promotes college and workforce readiness and career placement and advancement, as well as facilitates the transition from secondary to postsecondary education. The student's personal graduation plan will denote an appropriate course sequence based on the student's choice of endorsement.

Please also review TEA's Graduation Toolkit, available here: <http://tea.texas.gov/communications/brochures.aspx>.

A student may, with parental permission, amend his or her personal graduation plan after the initial confirmation.

Available Course Options for All Graduation Programs

Information regarding specific courses required or offered in each curriculum area will be distributed to students each spring in order to enroll in courses for the upcoming school year. Note that the district may require the completion of certain courses for graduation even if these courses are not required by the state for graduation.

Please be aware that not all courses are offered at every secondary campus in the district. A student who wants to take a course not offered at his or her regular campus should contact the school counselor about a transfer or other alternatives. If the parents of at least 22 students request a transfer for those students to take a course in the required curriculum other than fine arts or CTE, the district will offer the course for the following year either by teleconference or at the school from which the transfers were requested.

Certificates of Coursework Completion

A certificate of coursework completion will be issued to a student who has successfully completed state and local credit requirements for graduation but has not yet demonstrated satisfactory performance on the state-mandated tests required for graduation.

Students with Disabilities

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

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

[See policy FMH(LEGAL).]

Please also be aware that if an ARD committee places a student with a disability on a modified curriculum in a subject area, the student will be automatically placed in the Minimum Program,

if that program is applicable based on the school year in which the student entered high school, in accordance with state rules.

If a student receiving special education services is scheduled to graduate under the Minimum Program or in accordance with the provisions of his or her IEP, the student's ARD committee will determine whether the general EOC assessment is an accurate measure of the student's achievement and progress and, if so, whether successful performance is required for graduation, or whether an alternative assessment is more appropriate. STAAR Alternate 2 is the alternative assessment currently allowed by the state. [See **Standardized Testing** for additional information.]

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

Graduation Activities

Graduation activities will include: Senior Class Picture and Commencement

Commencement Exercises: Students who have met coursework requirements for graduation but have not yet demonstrated satisfactory performance on end-of-course assessments and have not been declared eligible to graduate by an individual graduation committee, if applicable, will be allowed to participate in graduation activities. However, please keep in mind that participating in the activities and ceremonies is not synonymous with graduating. Ultimately, the final awarding of a diploma will be contingent upon the student's completion of all applicable requirements for graduation.

Required Dress and Grooming for Students Participating in Commencement Exercises:

The dress and grooming requirements for Baccalaureate AND Graduation Exercises will be **STRICTLY** enforced. A senior will not be allowed to participate if he or she chooses not to abide by these guidelines.

BOYS:

- Dark-colored slacks – **NO JEANS**
- Light-colored shirt **WITH COLLAR**
- Dark tie
- Dark boots or dress shoes – **NO TENNIS SHOES**
- Black socks
- The front of the cap and mortar board should be centered on the forehead, not tilted on the back of the head, and the top should be flat. The hair in front should be under the cap, not in bangs on the forehead.

- **Absolutely NO lettering or other symbols, or pins, beads, etc. may be worn on the mortar board or the gown.** The **ONLY** exception is the NHS cord or
- Distinguished Achievement Graduate qualification insignia.

GIRLS:

- V-neck or low-necked blouse or dress. **The dress or skirt should NOT be longer than the gown.**
- Black shoes
- Simple jewelry – small earrings; no beads, etc.
- The front of the cap and mortar board should be centered on the forehead, not tilted on the back of the head, and the top should be flat. The hair in front should be under the cap, not in bangs on the forehead. Use hair pins to secure cap if necessary.
- **Absolutely NO lettering or other symbols, or pins, beads, etc. may be worn on the mortar board or the gown.** The **ONLY** exception is the NHS cord or
- Distinguished Achievement Graduate qualification insignia.

Graduation Speakers

Certain graduating students will be given an opportunity to have speaking roles at graduation ceremonies.

A student must meet local eligibility criteria, which may include requirements related to student conduct, to have a speaking role. Students eligible for speaking roles will be notified by the principal and given an opportunity to volunteer.

[See FNA(LOCAL) and the Student Code of Conduct. For student speakers at other school events, see **Student Speakers** on page 88.]

Graduation Expenses

Because students and parents will incur expenses in order to participate in the traditions of graduation—such as the purchase of invitations, senior ring, cap and gown, and senior picture—both the student and parent should monitor progress toward completion of all requirements for graduation. The expenses often are incurred in the junior year or first semester of the senior year. [See **Student Fees** on page 48.]

Scholarships and Grants

Students who have a financial need according to federal criteria and who complete the Recommended Program or Advanced/Distinguished Achievement Program, for as long as those programs are in place, or who complete the foundation graduation program, may be eligible under the TEXAS Grant Program for tuition and fees to Texas public universities, community colleges, and technical schools, as well as to private institutions.

Contact the school counselor for information about other scholarships and grants available to students.

HALL OF HONOR

- 2007 – Present
- Students named National Merit.
- Students that qualify for International Science Fair
- Students that place/medal 6th or better as individuals/3rd or better as a team) at State UIL Competition.
- Students that participate in UIL Competitions and are named 1st Team All-State based on that participation and students that receive individual honors at these state competitions (example: Honorable Mention All-Star Cast/OAP).
- Students that are named to 1st Team All-State Academic based on their participation in UIL activities.

HARASSMENT

[See **Dating Violence, Discrimination, Harassment, and Retaliation** on page 39.]

HAZING

Hazing is defined as any intentional, knowing, or reckless act occurring on or off campus directed against a student that endangers the mental or physical health or the safety of a student for the purpose of pledging, being initiated to, affiliating with, holding office in, or maintaining membership in any organization whose members are or include other students.

Hazing will not be tolerated by the district. If an incident of hazing occurs, disciplinary consequences will be handled in accordance with the Student Code of Conduct. It is a criminal offense if a person engages in hazing; solicits, encourages, directs, aids, or attempts to aid another in hazing; or has firsthand knowledge of an incident of hazing being planned or having occurred and fails to report this to the principal or superintendent.

[Also see **Bullying** on page 21 and policies FFI and FNCC.]

HEALTH-RELATED MATTERS

Student Illness

When your child is ill, please contact the school to let us know he or she won't be attending that day. It is important to remember that schools are required to exclude students with certain illnesses from school for periods of time as identified in state rules. For example, if your child has a fever over 100 degrees, he or she must stay out of school until fever-free for 24 hours without fever-reducing medications. In addition, students with diarrheal illnesses must stay home until they are diarrhea free without diarrhea-suppressing medications for at least 24 hours. A full list of conditions for which the school must exclude children can be obtained from the school nurse.

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

The district is also required to report certain contagious (communicable) diseases or illnesses to the Texas Department of State Health Services (TDSHS) or our local/regional health authority. The school nurse can provide information from TDSHS on these notifiable conditions.

Contact the school nurse if you have questions or if you are concerned about whether or not your child should stay home.

Bacterial Meningitis (All Grade Levels)

State law requires the district to provide information about bacterial meningitis:

- What is meningitis?

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

- What are the symptoms?

Someone with meningitis will become very ill. The illness may develop over one or two days, but it can also rapidly progress in a matter of hours. Not everyone with meningitis will have the same symptoms.

Children (over 2 years old) and adults with bacterial meningitis commonly have a severe headache, high fever, and neck stiffness. Other symptoms might include nausea, vomiting, discomfort looking into bright lights, confusion, and sleepiness. In both children and adults, there may be a rash of tiny, red-purple spots. These can occur anywhere on the body.

The diagnosis of bacterial meningitis is based on a combination of symptoms and laboratory results.

- How serious is bacterial meningitis?

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

- How is bacterial meningitis spread?

Fortunately, none of the bacteria that cause meningitis are as contagious as diseases like the common cold or the flu, and they are not spread by casual contact or by simply breathing the air where a person with meningitis has been. They are spread when people exchange respiratory or throat secretions (such as by kissing, coughing, or sneezing).

The germ does not cause meningitis in most people. Instead, most people become carriers of the germ for days, weeks, or even months. The bacteria rarely overcome the body's immune system and cause meningitis or another serious illness.

- How can bacterial meningitis be prevented?

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

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

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

You should seek prompt medical attention.

- Where can you get more information?

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

* Please note that the TDSHS requires at least one meningococcal vaccination for a student ages 11 to 12 or for a student enrolling in grades 7–12, and state guidelines recommend this vaccination be administered between ages 11 and 12, with a booster dose at 16 years of age. Also note that entering college students must show, with limited exception, evidence of receiving a bacterial meningitis vaccination within the five-year period prior to enrolling in and taking courses at an institution of higher education. Please see the school nurse for more information, as this may affect a student who wishes to enroll in a dual credit course taken off campus.

[Also refer to **Immunization** on page 67 for more information.]

Food Allergies

The district requests to be notified when a student has been diagnosed with a food allergy, especially those allergies that could result in dangerous or possibly life-threatening reactions either by inhalation, ingestion, or skin contact with the particular food. It is important to disclose the food to which the student is allergic, as well as the nature of the allergic reaction. Please contact the school nurse or campus principal if your child has a known food allergy or as soon as possible after any diagnosis of a food allergy.

The district has developed and annually reviews a food allergy management plan, which addresses employee training, dealing with common food allergens, and specific strategies for dealing with students diagnosed with severe food allergies. When the district receives information that a student has a food allergy that puts the student at risk for anaphylaxis, individual care plans will be developed to assist the student in safely accessing the school

environment. The district's food allergy management plan can be accessed from the Food Service Manager at 254-697-3512.

[Also see policy FFAF and **Celebrations** on page 22.]

Head Lice

Head lice, although not an illness or a disease, is very common among children and is spread very easily through head-to-head contact during play, sports, or nap time and when children share things like brushes, combs, hats, and headphones. If careful observation indicates that a student has head lice, the school nurse will contact the student's parent to determine whether the child will need to be picked up from school and to discuss a plan for treatment with an FDA-approved medicated shampoo or cream rinse that may be purchased from any drug or grocery store. After the student has undergone one treatment, the parent should check in with the school nurse to discuss the treatment used. The nurse can also offer additional recommendations, including subsequent treatments and how best to get rid of lice and prevent their return.

More information on head lice can be obtained from the TDSHS website at <http://www.dshs.state.tx.us/schoolhealth/lice.shtm>.

School Health Advisory Council (SHAC)

During the preceding school year, the district's School Health Advisory Council (SHAC) held meetings. Additional information regarding the district's SHAC is available from the Tammy Wimmer.

The duties of the SHAC range from recommending curriculum to developing strategies for integrating curriculum into a coordinated school health program encompassing issues such as school health services, counseling services, a safe and healthy school environment, recess recommendations, improving student fitness, mental health concerns, and employee wellness.

[See policies at BDF and EHAA. See **Human Sexuality Instruction** on page 6 for additional information.]

Student Wellness Policy/Wellness Plan

Cameron ISD is committed to encouraging healthy students and therefore has developed a board-adopted wellness policy at FFA(LOCAL) and corresponding plans and procedures to implement the policy. You are encouraged to contact the Assistant Superintendent with questions about the content or implementation of the district's wellness policy and plan.

Other Health-Related Matters

Physical Fitness Assessment

Annually, the district will conduct a physical fitness assessment of students in grades 3–12 who are enrolled in a physical education course or a course for which physical education credit is awarded. At the end of the school year, a parent may submit a written request to the principal to obtain the results of his or her child's physical fitness assessment conducted during the school year.

Vending Machines

The district has adopted and implemented the state and federal policies and guidelines for food service, including the guidelines to restrict student access to vending machines. For more information regarding these policies and guidelines, see the school official. [See policies at CO and FFA.]

Tobacco and E-Cigarettes Prohibited

Students are prohibited from possessing or using any type of tobacco product, electronic cigarettes (e-cigarettes), or any other electronic vaporizing device, while on school property at any time or while attending an off-campus school-related activity.

The district and its staff strictly enforce prohibitions against the use of all tobacco products, e-cigarettes, or any other electronic vaporizing device, by students and all others on school property and at school-sponsored and school-related activities. [See the Student Code of Conduct and policies at FNCD and GKA.]

Asbestos Management Plan

The district works diligently to maintain compliance with federal and state law governing asbestos in school buildings. A copy of the district's Asbestos Management Plan is available in the superintendent's office. If you have any questions or would like to examine the district's plan in more detail, please contact Kyle Deal, the district's designated asbestos coordinator, at 254-697-3512.

Pest Management Plan

The district is required to follow integrated pest management (IPM) procedures to control pests on school grounds. Although the district strives to use the safest and most effective methods to manage pests, including a variety of non-chemical control measures, pesticide use is sometimes necessary to maintain adequate pest control and ensure a safe, pest-free school environment.

All pesticides used are registered for their intended use by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and are applied only by certified pesticide applicators. Except in an emergency, signs will be posted 48 hours before indoor application. All outdoor applications will be posted at the time of treatment, and signs will remain until it is safe to enter the area. Parents who have further questions or who want to be notified prior to pesticide application inside their child's school assignment area may contact Kyle Deal, the district's IPM coordinator, at 254-697-3512.

HOMECOMING COURT

1. Grades 9-12 will nominate by secret ballot **one Senior** girl for Homecoming Queen.

The five girls who receive the highest number of nominations will be declared Homecoming Queen Candidates. (There will be no run-off except for a tied 5th candidate.)

2. Grades 9-12 will vote by secret ballot for one of the five Queen candidates. A run-off will be held only if there is a tie for the top position.

3. Students in each grade, 9-11, will nominate one girl from each respective Class. The two girls who receive the most nominations will be placed on a final Class ballot.

(There will be no run-off unless there is a tie for the 2nd candidate.) Each Class will then elect by secret ballot the Class Duchess.

4. The Homecoming Court, consisting of the five Senior girl Queen candidates, and the 9th, 10th, and 11th grade Duchess representatives will be announced immediately after the balloting has been determined. The Homecoming court and Queen will be presented at the halftime of the Homecoming football game. A male parent or guardian will escort each girl.

HOMELESS STUDENTS

You are encouraged to inform the district if you or your child are experiencing homelessness. District staff can share resources with you that may be able to assist you and your family.

For more information on services for homeless students, contact the district's homeless education liaison, Assistant Superintendent at 254-697-3512

[See also **Students Who Are Homeless** on page 13.]

HONOR ROLL

To be placed on the Principal's Distinguished Student Honor Roll, a student must make a grade of A in all courses taken. The A/B Honor Roll requires A's and B's in all courses taken

ILLNESS

[See **Student Illness** under **Health-Related Matters** on page 13.]

IMMUNIZATION

A student must be fully immunized against certain diseases or must present a certificate or statement that, for medical reasons or reasons of conscience, including a religious belief, the student will not be immunized. For exemptions based on reasons of conscience, only official forms issued by the Texas Department of State Health Services (TDSHS), Immunization Branch, can be honored by the district. This form may be obtained by writing the TDSHS Immunization Branch (MC 1946), P.O. Box 149347, Austin, Texas 78714-9347; or online at <https://corequest.dshs.texas.gov/>. The form must be notarized and submitted to the principal or school nurse within 90 days of notarization. If the parent is seeking an exemption for more than one student in the family, a separate form must be provided for each student.

The immunizations required are: diphtheria, tetanus, and pertussis; measles, mumps, and rubella; polio; hepatitis A; hepatitis B; varicella (chicken pox); and meningococcal. The school nurse can provide information on age-appropriate doses or on an acceptable physician-validated history of illness required by the TDSHS. Proof of immunization may be established by personal records from a licensed physician or public health clinic with a signature or rubber-stamp validation.

If a student should not be immunized for medical reasons, the student or parent must present a certificate signed by a U.S. registered and licensed physician stating that, in the doctor's opinion, the immunization required is medically contraindicated or poses a significant risk to the health and well-being of the student or a member of the student's family or household. This certificate must be renewed yearly unless the physician specifies a lifelong condition.

As noted at **Bacterial Meningitis**, entering college students must also, with limited exception, furnish evidence of having received a bacterial meningitis vaccination within the five years prior to enrolling in and attending classes at an institution of higher education. A student wanting to enroll in a dual credit course taken off campus may be subject to this requirement.

[For further information, see policy FFAB(LEGAL) and the TDSHS website: <http://www.dshs.state.tx.us/immunize/school/default.shtm>.]

INCOMPLETE GRADES ON REPORT CARDS

A student may receive an "I" (Incomplete) on their six weeks Report Card if the student has work to complete due to school-related or excused absences. The "I" must be removed and replaced by a numerical grade within five school days following the end of the six weeks grading period of which the "I" was assigned.

An "I", until removed by a teacher, is the same as a failing grade for eligibility purposes in UIL competition

LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES

Questioning of Students

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

- The principal will verify and record the identity of the officer or other authority and ask for an explanation of the need to question or interview the student at school.
- The principal ordinarily will make reasonable efforts to notify the parents unless the interviewer raises what the principal considers to be a valid objection.
- The principal ordinarily will be present unless the interviewer raises what the principal considers to be a valid objection.

Students Taken Into Custody

State law requires the district to permit a student to be taken into legal custody:

- To comply with an order of the juvenile court.
- To comply with the laws of arrest.
- By a law enforcement officer if there is probable cause to believe the student has engaged in delinquent conduct or conduct in need of supervision.
- By a probation officer if there is probable cause to believe the student has violated a condition of probation imposed by the juvenile court.

- By an authorized representative of Child Protective Services, Texas Department of Family and Protective Services, a law enforcement officer, or a juvenile probation officer, without a court order, under the conditions set out in the Family Code relating to the student's physical health or safety.
- To comply with a properly issued directive to take a student into custody.

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

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

Notification of Law Violations

The district is required by state law to notify:

- All instructional and support personnel who have responsibility for supervising a student who has been taken into custody, arrested, or referred to the juvenile court for any felony offense or for certain misdemeanors.
- All instructional and support personnel who have regular contact with a student who is thought to have committed certain offenses or who has been convicted, received deferred prosecution, received deferred adjudication, or was adjudicated for delinquent conduct for any felony offense or certain misdemeanors.
- All appropriate district personnel in regards to a student who is required to register as a sex offender.

[For further information, see policies FL(LEGAL) and GRAA(LEGAL).]

LEAVING CAMPUS

Please remember that student attendance is crucial to learning. We ask that appointments be scheduled outside of school hours as much as reasonably possible. Also note that picking up a child early on a regular basis results in missed opportunities for learning. Unless the principal has granted approval because of extenuating circumstances, a student will not regularly be released before the end of the school day.

State rules require that parental consent be obtained before any student is allowed to leave campus for any part of the school day. The district has put the following procedures in place in order to document parental consent:

- For students in elementary and middle school, a parent or otherwise authorized adult must come to the office and sign the student out. Please be prepared to show identification. Once an identity is verified, a campus representative will then call for the student or collect the student and bring him or her to the office. For safety purposes and stability of the learning environment, we cannot allow you to go to the classroom or other

area unescorted to pick up the student. If the student returns to campus the same day, the parent or authorized adult must sign the student back in through the main office upon the student's return. Documentation regarding the reason for the absence will also be required.

- For students in high school, the same process will be followed. If the student's parent will authorize the student to leave campus unaccompanied, a note provided by the parent must be submitted to the main office in advance of the absence, no later than two hours prior to the student's need to leave campus. A phone call received from the parent may be accepted, but the school may ultimately require a note to be submitted for documentation purposes. Once the office has received information that the student's parent consents to the student leaving campus, a pass will be issued to the student to hand to his or her teacher with the necessary information. The student must sign out through the main office and sign in upon his or her return, if the student returns the same day. If a student is 18 years of age or is an emancipated minor, the student may produce a note on his or her own behalf. Documentation regarding the reason for the absence will be required.
- If a student becomes ill during the school day and the school nurse or other district personnel determines that the student should go home, the nurse will contact the student's parent and document the parent's wishes regarding release from school. Unless directed by the parent to release the student unaccompanied, the parent or other authorized adult must follow the sign-out procedures as listed above. If a student is allowed to leave campus by himself or herself, as permitted by the student's parent, or if the student is age 18 or is an emancipated minor, the nurse will document the time of day the student was released. Under no circumstances will a child in elementary or middle school be released unaccompanied by a parent or adult authorized by the parent.

During Lunch

Yoe High School is a closed campus. Students are not allowed to leave during lunch. Students who leave campus in violation of these rules will be subject to disciplinary action in accordance with the Student Code of Conduct.

At Any Other Time During the School Day

Students are not authorized to leave campus during regular school hours for any other reason, except with the permission of the principal.

Students who leave campus in violation of these rules will be subject to disciplinary action in accordance with the Student Code of Conduct.

LOST AND FOUND

A "lost and found" collection box is located in the cafeteria. If your child has lost an item, please encourage him or her to check the lost and found box. The district discourages students from bringing to school personal items of high monetary value, as the district is not responsible for lost or stolen items. The campus will dispose of lost and found items at the end of each semester.

MAKEUP WORK/LATE WORK

Makeup Work Because of Absence

For any class missed, the teacher may assign the student makeup work based on the instructional objectives for the subject or course and the needs of the individual student in mastering the essential knowledge and skills or in meeting subject or course requirements.

A student will be responsible for obtaining and completing the makeup work in a satisfactory manner and within the time specified by the teacher. A student who does not make up assigned work within the time allotted by the teacher will receive a grade of zero for the assignment.

A student is encouraged to speak with his or her teacher if the student knows of an absence ahead of time, including absences for extracurricular activities, so that the teacher and student may plan any work that can be completed before or shortly after the absence. Please remember the importance of student attendance at school and that, even though absences may be excused or unexcused, all absences account for the 90 percent threshold in regards to the state laws surrounding “attendance for credit or final grade.” [See also **Attendance for Credit or Final Grade** on page 18.]

A student involved in an extracurricular activity must notify his or her teachers ahead of time about any absences.

A student will be permitted to make up tests and to turn in projects due in any class missed because of absence. Teachers may assign a late penalty to any long-term project in accordance with time lines approved by the principal and previously communicated to students.

DAEP Makeup Work

A high school student removed to a disciplinary alternative education program (DAEP) during the school year will have an opportunity to complete, before the beginning of the next school year, a foundation curriculum course in which the student was enrolled at the time of removal. The district may provide the opportunity to complete the course through an alternative method, including a correspondence course, another distance learning option, or summer school. The district will not charge the student for any method of completion provided by the district. [See policy FOCA(LEGAL).]

In-School Suspension (ISS) Makeup Work

A student removed from the regular classroom to in-school suspension or another setting, other than a DAEP, will have an opportunity to complete before the beginning of the next school year each course the student was enrolled in at the time of removal from the regular classroom. The district may provide the opportunity by any method available, including a correspondence course, another distance learning option, or summer school. The district will not charge the student for any method of completion provided by the district. [See policy FO(LEGAL).]

MEDICINE AT SCHOOL

Medication that must be administered to a student during school hours must be provided by the student’s parent. All medication, whether prescription or nonprescription, must be kept in the nurse’s office and administered by the nurse or another authorized district employee, unless the

student is authorized to possess his or her own medication because of asthma or a severe allergy as described below or as otherwise allowed by law.

The district will not purchase nonprescription medication to give to a student. District employees will not give a student prescription medication, nonprescription medication, herbal substances, anabolic steroids, or dietary supplements, with the following exceptions:

Only authorized employees, in accordance with policy FFAC, may administer:

- Prescription medication, in the original, properly labeled container, provided by the parent, along with a written request.
- Prescription medication from a properly labeled unit dosage container filled by a registered nurse or another qualified district employee from the original, properly labeled container.
- Nonprescription medication, in the original, properly labeled container, provided by the parent along with a written request.
- Herbal or dietary supplements provided by the parent only if required by the student's individualized education program (IEP) or Section 504 plan for a student with disabilities.

Students whose schedules provide for regular time spent outdoors, including for recess and physical education classes, should apply sunscreen before coming to school.

For students at the elementary level, the student's teacher or other district personnel will apply sunscreen to a student's exposed skin if the student brings the sunscreen to school and requests assistance with the application of the sunscreen. Nothing prohibits a student at this level from applying his or her own sunscreen if the student is capable of doing so.

For students at the secondary level, a student may possess and apply sunscreen when necessary. If the student will need assistance with this application, please address the need for assistance with the school nurse.

Whether a student is at the elementary or secondary level, if sunscreen needs to be administered to treat any type of medical condition, this should be handled through communication with the school nurse so that the district is made aware of any safety and medical issues.

A student with asthma or severe allergic reaction (anaphylaxis) may be permitted to possess and use prescribed asthma or anaphylaxis medication at school or school-related events only if he or she has written authorization from his or her parent and a physician or other licensed health-care provider. The student must also demonstrate to his or her physician or health-care provider and to the school nurse the ability to use the prescribed medication, including any device required to administer the medication.

If the student has been prescribed asthma or anaphylaxis medication for use during the school day, the student and parents should discuss this with the school nurse or principal.

In accordance with a student's individual health plan for management of diabetes, a student with diabetes will be permitted to possess and use monitoring and treatment supplies and equipment while at school or at a school-related activity. See the school nurse or principal for information. [See policy FFAF(LEGAL).]

Psychotropic Drugs

A psychotropic drug is a substance used in the diagnosis, treatment, or prevention of a disease or as a component of a medication. It is intended to have an altering effect on perception, emotion, or behavior and is commonly described as a mood- or behavior-altering substance.

Teachers and other district employees may discuss a student's academic progress or behavior with the student's parents or another employee as appropriate; however, they are not permitted to recommend use of psychotropic drugs. A district employee who is a registered nurse, an advanced nurse practitioner, a physician, or a certified or credentialed mental health professional can recommend that a student be evaluated by an appropriate medical practitioner, if appropriate. [For further information, see policy FFAC.]

MR. and MRS. Y.H.S.

Nominations are made by the Senior Class and the top two in each category are presented for a vote by the entire student body.

NATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY

The Yoe High School Chapter of the National Honor Society (NHS) is composed of 10th, 11th and 12th grade students who have earned a 92.500 or better cumulative grade average for all grade-point courses. Students who qualify scholastically will then be submitted to a faculty committee appointed by the Principal. The committee will include the NHS local advisor and at least five high school teachers. Students will be evaluated on the basis of leadership in the school and community, service to the school and community, and moral and ethical character. Students will fill out a prescribed form listing their activities in the school and the community. Students are required to submit this form by a designated date in order to be considered for membership. (See Club Sponsor for more details if invitation is extended)

NEW STUDENT REGISTRATION

Any student entering Cameron I.S.D. for the first time must:

1. Be accompanied by a least one (1) parent or court-appointed guardian.
2. Present proof of residency within C.I.S.D., such as utility bill, telephone bill, etc.
3. Present records from former school.
4. Present his/her birth certificate or its equivalent.
5. Present a copy of the student's health record from the former school or a personal health record validated by a physician or health clinic.
6. Have a parent or guardian fill out an Emergency Contact Form/Card, provided at the time of registration, to be placed in the school nurse's office.
7. Have a parent or guardian complete the home language survey, also provided at the time of registration.

NONDISCRIMINATION STATEMENT

In its efforts to promote nondiscrimination and as required by law, Cameron ISD does not discriminate on the basis of race, religion, color, national origin, gender, sex, disability, age, or any other basis prohibited by law, in providing education services, activities, and programs, including CTE programs, and provides equal access to the Boy Scouts and other designated youth groups. The following district representatives have been designated to coordinate compliance with these legal requirements:

- Title IX Coordinator, for concerns regarding discrimination on the basis of sex, including sexual harassment or gender-based harassment: Allan Sapp, Superintendent, 304 E. 12th Cameron TX, 254-697-3512.
- ADA/Section 504 Coordinator, for concerns regarding discrimination on the basis of disability: Susan Pommerening, Assistant Superintendent, 304 E. 12th Cameron TX, 254-697-3512
- All other concerns regarding discrimination: See the superintendent, Allan Sapp, Superintendent, 304 E. 12th Cameron TX, 254-697-3512

[See policies FB, FFH, and GKD.]

NONTRADITIONAL ACADEMIC PROGRAMS

PARENT AND FAMILY ENGAGEMENT

Working Together

Both experience and research tell us that a child's education succeeds best when there is good communication and a strong partnership between home and school. Your involvement and engagement in this partnership may include:

- Encouraging your child to put a high priority on education and working with your child on a daily basis to make the most of the educational opportunities the school provides.
- Ensuring that your child completes all homework assignments and special projects and comes to school each day prepared, rested, and ready to learn.
- Becoming familiar with all of your child's school activities and with the academic programs, including special programs, offered in the district.
- Discussing with the school counselor or principal any questions you may have about the options and opportunities available to your child.
- Reviewing the requirements and options for graduation with your child in middle school and again while your child is enrolled in high school.
- Monitoring your child's academic progress and contacting teachers as needed. [See **Academic Counseling** on page 37.]
- Attending scheduled conferences and requesting additional conferences as needed. To schedule a telephone or in-person conference with a teacher, school counselor, or

principal, please call the school office at 254-697-3902 for an appointment. The teacher will usually return your call or meet with you during his or her conference period or before or after school. [See **Report Cards/Progress Reports and Conferences** on page 78.]

- Becoming a school volunteer. [For further information, see policy GKG and **Volunteers** on page 94.]
- Participating in campus parent organizations.
- Participating in campus parent organizations. Parent organizations include:
 - VIPS: (Volunteers in public school) Contact Melissa Shelton email address mshelton@cameronisd.net
 - Agriculture Booster Club: Contact Brian Kopriva at 254-697-2352 email address bakopriva@cameronisd.net.
 - Athletic Booster Club: Contact Tommy Brashear at 254-697-2675 email address tbrashear@cameronisd.net
 - Band Booster Club: Contact Craig George at 254-697-3371 email address cgeorge@cameronisd.net

- Serving as a parent representative on the district-level or campus-level planning committees, assisting in the development of educational goals and plans to improve student achievement. [For further information, see policies at BQA and BQB, and contact the Principal
- Serving on the School Health Advisory Council (SHAC), assisting the district in ensuring local community values are reflected in health education instruction and other wellness issues. [See policies at BDF, EHAA, FFA, and information in this handbook at **School Health Advisory Council (SHAC)** on page 65.]
- Serving on a committee to determine criteria to be used to evaluate the overall performance of the district and each campus in community and student engagement. For further information, please contact the campus principal.
- Being aware of the school's ongoing bullying and harassment prevention efforts.
- Contacting school officials if you are concerned with your child's emotional or mental well-being.
- Attending board meetings to learn more about district operations. [See policies at BE and BED for more information.]

PHYSICAL EXAMINATIONS/HEALTH SCREENINGS

Athletics' Participation

A student who wishes to participate in, or continue participation in, the district's athletics program governed by the UIL must submit certification from a health-care provider authorized under UIL rules that the student has been examined and is physically able to participate in the athletic program.

This examination is required to be submitted annually to the district.

Also see policy FFAA.

PLEDGES OF ALLEGIANCE AND A MINUTE OF SILENCE

Each school day, students will recite the Pledge of Allegiance to the U.S. flag and the Pledge of Allegiance to the Texas flag. Parents may submit a written request to the principal to excuse their child from reciting a pledge. [See **Reciting the Pledges to the U.S. and Texas Flags** on page 7.]

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

[See policy EC for more information.]

PRAYER

Each student has a right to individually, voluntarily, and silently pray or meditate in school in a manner that does not disrupt instructional or other activities of the school. The school will not encourage, require, or coerce a student to engage in or to refrain from such prayer or meditation during any school activity.

PREMIUM POINT CLASSES

The following courses offer Premium Points:

1. All courses designated as Honors
2. Pre-Calculus
3. Calculus
4. Anatomy and Physiology
5. Spanish III
6. Spanish IV

Premium Points are used to calculate grades for Class Ranking and Academic Honors.

Premium Points do not appear on Report Cards or permanent records.

PLACEMENT IN PREMIUM POINT CLASSES

The following criteria will be used for placement of students in Premium Point class sections for English and Social Studies. All three of these requirements **MUST** be met:

1. A student must have a passing score on the latest TAKS/EOC Reading and Writing Tests. Incoming 9th grade students must also have scored a passing grade on the 8th grade EOC Social Studies Test.
2. A student must have a grade average of 85 or above in the preceding year's English course and/or the preceding year's Social Studies course.
3. If a student does not have a mid-term average of 85 or above, the student is subject to placement in a regular class.
4. Science and Math courses (Advanced) require a 2200 on the student's prior year TAKS Exam or 4000 on the student's prior year EOC Exam.

NOTE: Students enrolled in the Advanced Academic Program (AAP) are eligible for Premium Point sections without being required to meet the above requirements. However, if the student does not meet the requirements listed above, parental permission must be obtained before the student may be scheduled for a Premium Point section upon approval of a site based committee.

PROM

Prom is for Junior and Senior class students (Freshmen/Sophomores may attend by invitation only). The Faculty will nominate three 11th grade girls and three 11th grade boys for Duchess and Duke. The 11th grade Class will then select one boy and one girl by secret ballot. (There will be no run-off unless there is a tie for the top position.) Senior students will nominate five boys and five girls for Prom King and Queen. (There will be no run-off unless there is a tie for the 5th candidate.) By secret ballot, The Senior class members in attendance at the prom will then select the King and Queen. (There will be no run-off unless there is a tie for the top position.) The Junior Class President will crown the Duke and duchess, and the Duke and Duchess will then crown the King and Queen. All voting conducted by students will take place at the prom.

- All students must have at least 90% attendance for the year in order to attend and no more than 8 total absences during the second semester including full day medical absences.
- Prom guests – No prom guests over the age of 20 and students must be at least enrolled in high school (No Junior High Students). Non-Yoe High students must be approved in advance by the principal's office. Approval forms may be obtained from the office. Siblings as guests are not permitted.
- Students should have a clean discipline record in order to attend the Prom as determined by the principal's office.
- All students: If the attire is questionable, students are encouraged to show their evening wear to administrators beforehand to determine if it is dance appropriate. : The determination of the appropriateness of student dress and grooming shall rest with the principal/assistant principals. Students and their dates who are non-compliant with the dress code will not be admitted to the dance or will be escorted out of the dance. No

refunds will be given for dance dress code infractions in which these students are asked to leave.

PROMOTION AND RETENTION

A student will be promoted only on the basis of academic achievement or demonstrated proficiency in the subject matter of the course or grade level, the recommendation of the student's teacher, the score received on any criterion-referenced or state-mandated assessment, and any other necessary academic information as determined by the district.

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

High School Grade Levels

To earn credit in a course, a student must receive a grade of at least 70 based on course-level or grade-level standards.

A student in grades 9–12 will be advanced a grade level based on the number of course credits earned. [Also see **Grade Level Classification** on page 50.]

Students will also have multiple opportunities to retake EOC assessments. [See **Graduation** on page 53 and **Standardized Testing** on page 84 for more information about EOC assessments.]

REGISTRAR

Students' academic records are kept in confidential and secure files by the registrar.

- Copies of transcripts must be requested 48 hours prior to the date needed. There is a form that must be completed and turned in to the registrar.

RELEASE OF STUDENTS FROM SCHOOL

[See **Leaving Campus** on page 69.]

REPORT CARDS/PROGRESS REPORTS AND CONFERENCES

Report cards with each student's grades or performance and absences in each class or subject are issued at least once every 4 weeks.

At the end of the first three weeks of a grading period, parents will receive a progress report if their child's performance in any course/subject area is near or below 70, or is below the expected level of performance. If the student receives a grade lower than 70 in any class or subject at the end of a grading period, the parent will be requested to schedule a conference with the teacher of that class or subject. [See **Working Together** on page 74 for how to schedule a conference.]

Teachers follow grading guidelines that have been approved by the principal pursuant to the board-adopted policy and are designed to reflect each student's relative mastery of each assignment for the grading period, semester, or course. State law provides that a test or course grade issued by a teacher cannot be changed unless the board determines that the grade was

arbitrary or contains an error, or that the teacher did not follow the district's grading policy. [See policy EIA(LOCAL) and **Grading Guidelines** on page 52.]

Questions about grade calculation should first be discussed with the teacher; if the question is not resolved, the student or parent may request a conference with the principal in accordance with FNG(LOCAL).

The report card or unsatisfactory progress report will state whether tutorials are required for a student who receives a grade lower than 70 in a class or subject.

The district may use an electronic program to communicate academic information about your child, including for report card and progress reporting purposes. An electronic signature of the parent will be accepted by the district, but you are entitled to request the option to provide a handwritten signature of acknowledgment instead.

RETALIATION

[See **Dating Violence, Discrimination, Harassment, and Retaliation** on page 39.]

SAFETY

Student safety on campus, at school-related events, and on district vehicles is a high priority of the district. Although the district has implemented safety procedures, the cooperation of students is essential to ensuring school safety. A student is expected to:

- Avoid conduct that is likely to put the student or others at risk.
- Follow the behavioral standards in this handbook and the Student Code of Conduct, as well as any additional rules for behavior and safety set by the principal, campus behavior coordinator, teachers, or bus drivers.
- Remain alert to and promptly report to a teacher or the principal any safety hazards, such as intruders on campus or threats made by any person toward a student or staff member.
- Know emergency evacuation routes and signals.
- Follow immediately the instructions of teachers, bus drivers, and other district employees who are overseeing the welfare of students.

Accident Insurance

Soon after the school year begins, parents will have the opportunity to purchase low-cost accident insurance that would help meet medical expenses in the event of injury to their child.

Preparedness Drills: Evacuation, Severe Weather, and Other Emergencies

From time to time, students, teachers, and other district employees will participate in preparedness drills of emergency procedures. When the command is given or alarm is sounded, students need to follow the direction of teachers or others in charge quickly, quietly, and in an orderly manner.

Emergency Medical Treatment and Information

If a student has a medical emergency at school or a school-related activity when the parent cannot be reached, the school may have to rely on previously provided written parental consent to obtain emergency medical treatment, and information about allergies to medications, foods, insect bites, etc. Therefore, parents are asked each year to complete an emergency care consent form. Parents should keep emergency care information up-to-date (name of doctor, emergency phone numbers, allergies, etc.). Please contact the school nurse to update any information that the nurse or the teacher needs to know.

Emergency School-Closing Information

Each year, parents are asked to complete an emergency release form to provide contact information in the event that school is dismissed early or opening is delayed because of severe weather or another emergency, or if the campus must restrict access due to a security threat.

The district will rely on contact information on file with the district to communicate with parents in an emergency situation, which may include real-time or automated messages. It is crucial to notify your child's school when a phone number previously provided to the district has changed.

If the campus must close, delay opening, or restrict access to the building because of an emergency, the district will also alert the community in the following ways: local radio (KMIL), Connect 5 (phone message/social media), and television.

SAT, ACT, AND OTHER STANDARDIZED TESTS

[See **Standardized Testing** on page 84.]

SCHEDULE CHANGES

Students will have a course selection meeting the spring prior to the fall enrollment. Students will select courses with parents and submit their request via ESC Region VI program (computerized registration). Schedules will be distributed prior to the start of school. Any course change request will be made through the counselor's office and must take place within ten school days of each semester.

SCHOOL FACILITIES

Use by Students Before and After School

Certain areas of the school will be accessible to students before and after school for specific purposes. Students are required to remain in the area where their activity is scheduled to take place.

The following areas are open to students before school, beginning at 7:15 a.m.

- Cafeteria – opens at 7:20 a.m. for breakfast
- Classrooms – open at 7:30 a.m. for tutorials
- Commons Area – opens at 7:15 a.m.

Unless the teacher or sponsor overseeing an activity gives permission, a student will not be permitted to go to another area of the building or campus.

After dismissal of school in the afternoon, unless a student is involved in an activity under the supervision of a teacher or other authorized employee or adult, or unless students are granted permission to remain on campus in accordance with policy FNAB, students must leave campus immediately.

Conduct Before and After School

Teachers and administrators have full authority over student conduct at before- or after-school activities on district premises and at school-sponsored events off district premises, such as play rehearsals, club meetings, athletic practices, and special study groups or tutorials. Students are subject to the same rules of conduct that apply during the instructional day and will be subject to consequences established by the Student Code of Conduct or any stricter standards of behavior established by the sponsor for extracurricular participants.

Use of Hallways During Class Time

Loitering or standing in the halls during class is not permitted. During class time, a student must have a hall pass to be outside the classroom for any purpose. Failure to obtain a pass will result in disciplinary action in accordance with the Student Code of Conduct.

Cafeteria Services

The district participates in the School Breakfast Program and National School Lunch Program and offers students nutritionally balanced meals daily in accordance with standards set forth in state and federal law.

Free and reduced-price meals are available based on financial need or household situation. Information about a student's participation is confidential; however, disclosure of a student's eligibility may be made without prior notice or consent to programs, activities, and individuals that are specifically authorized access under the National School Lunch Act (NSLA), which is the law that sets forth the disclosure limits for the district's child nutrition programs. A student's name, eligibility status, and other information may be disclosed to certain agencies as authorized under the NSLA to facilitate the enrollment of eligible children in Medicaid or the state children's health insurance program (CHIP) unless the student's parent notifies the district that a student's information should not be disclosed. A parent's decision will not affect the child's eligibility for free and reduced price meals or free milk. See Abbie Hanke to apply for free or reduced price meal services.

Parents are strongly encouraged to continually monitor their child's meal account balance. When a student's meal account is depleted, the district will notify the parent. The student will be allowed to continue purchasing meals for up to 5 days or up to \$14.25, whichever occurs first, and the district will present the parent with a schedule of repayment for any outstanding account balance. If the district is unable to work out an agreement with the student's parent on replenishment of the student's meal account and payment of any outstanding balance, the student will receive an alternate meal.

Ala Carte Items

Healthy snack items are available for purchase.

Method of Payment:

Cameron ISD uses a district networked computerized system in the cafeterias to track payments and meal consumption. You may pay for meals with cash, check or our online payment system, Lunch Money Now. A link can be found on the Cameron ISD website - Cafeteria Manager - at www.cameronisd.net

Library

The library is a learning laboratory with books, computers, magazines, and other materials available for classroom assignments, projects, and reading or listening pleasure.

Meetings of Noncurriculum-Related Groups

Student-organized, student-led noncurriculum-related groups are permitted to meet during the hours designated by the principal before and after school. These groups must comply with the requirements of policy FNAB(LOCAL).

SEARCHES

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

Students' Desks and Lockers

Students' desks and lockers are school property and remain under the control and jurisdiction of the school even when assigned to an individual student.

Students are fully responsible for the security and contents of their assigned desks and lockers. Students must be certain that their lockers are locked, and that the combinations are not available to others.

Searches of desks or lockers may be conducted at any time there is reasonable suspicion to believe that they contain articles or materials prohibited by policy, whether or not a student is present.

The parent will be notified if any prohibited items are found in the student's desk or locker.

Telecommunications and Other Electronic Devices

Use of district-owned equipment and its network systems is not private and will be monitored by the district. [See policy CQ for more information.]

Any searches of personal telecommunications or other personal electronic devices will be conducted in accordance with law, and the device may be confiscated in order to perform a lawful search. A confiscated device may be turned over to law enforcement to determine whether a crime has been committed.

[See policy FNF(LEGAL) and **Electronic Devices and Technology Resources** on page 43 for more information.]

Vehicles on Campus

A student has full responsibility for the security and content of his or her vehicle parked on district property and must make certain that it is locked and that the keys are not given to others. [See also the Student Code of Conduct.]

Vehicles parked on district property are under the jurisdiction of the district. School officials may search any vehicle any time there is reasonable suspicion to do so, with or without the permission of the student. If a vehicle subject to search is locked, the student will be asked to unlock the vehicle. If the student refuses, the student's parent will be contacted. If a search is also refused by the student's parent, the district will turn the matter over to law enforcement. The district may, in certain circumstances, contact law enforcement even if permission to search is granted.

All students must present a copy of driver's license, proof of insurance, and must purchase a tag (\$2) to be displayed in the vehicle at all times.

Students who wish to drive their own vehicle to campus must register for a parking space and a designated parking tag. The following rules will apply:

1. Safety is our first priority. Students must abide by the posted signs in the parking lot. Students driving recklessly or dangerously will receive a 10-day parking suspension. Subsequent offenses will result in a permanent parking suspension.
2. If an unidentified car is found parked on school premise, or is illegally parked, the license plate number will be shared with local police authority and is subject to be towed without warning.
3. Vehicles that are parked in an undesignated area or the band practice area will be towed.
4. Under no circumstances may a student park in the visitor's lot (in front of the main entrance), faculty lot, or in a handicapped space. Your car will be towed at the owner's expense. There is no warning given.
7. Parking Permits must be displayed on the mirror.
8. Upon arriving on campus students are to park their vehicles in the assigned area and go directly to the building. The parking lot is numbered and the parking permit number will correspond to a specific parking space.
9. There is to be no parking along the entrances at the rear of the building, in the fire lanes or in the area next to the vocational shops.
10. All parking is at your own risk. We do not assume responsibility for vehicles parked on campus

Trained Dogs

The district will use trained dogs to alert school officials to the presence of prohibited or illegal items, including drugs and alcohol. At any time, trained dogs may be used around lockers and

the areas around vehicles parked on school property. Searches of classrooms, common areas, or student belongings may also be conducted by trained dogs when students are not present. An item in a classroom, a locker, or a vehicle to which a trained dog alerts may be searched by school officials.

Metal Detectors

[For further information, see policy FNF(LOCAL).]

Drug Testing

[For further information, see policy FNF(LOCAL). Also see **Steroids** on page 86.]

SENIOR PERSONALITIES

Each Senior will nominate by secret ballot a classmate for each of the following: Most Intellectual Boy and Girl; Most Beautiful Girl, Most Handsome Boy, Most Athletic Boy and Girl, Most Courteous Boy and Girl; Most Friendly Boy and Girl; Most Talented Boy and Girl; Most Likely to Succeed Boy and Girl. A student will be limited to one honor, and if a student is selected for more than one personality, he or she will receive the honor where the most votes were received. There will be no run-offs.

SEXUAL HARASSMENT

[See **Dating Violence, Discrimination, Harassment, and Retaliation** on page 39.]

SPECIAL PROGRAMS

The district provides special programs for gifted and talented students, homeless students, bilingual students, migrant students, English language learners, students diagnosed with dyslexia, and students with disabilities. The coordinator of each program can answer questions about eligibility requirements, as well as programs and services offered in the district or by other organizations. A student or parent with questions about these programs should contact the counselor.

STANDARDIZED TESTING

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

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

Note that participation in these assessments may qualify a student to receive a performance acknowledgment on his or her transcript under the foundation graduation program and may qualify as a substitute for an end-of-course testing requirement in certain circumstances. A

student's performance at a certain level on the SAT or ACT also makes the student eligible for automatic admission to a Texas public institution of higher education.

TSI (Texas Success Initiative) Assessment

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

STAAR (State of Texas Assessments of Academic Readiness)

High School Courses—End-of-Course (EOC) Assessments

STAAR end-of-course (EOC) assessments are administered for the following courses:

- Algebra I
- English I and English II
- Biology
- U.S. History

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

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

STAAR A will be available for an eligible student with a Section 504 accommodation plan who has been identified with dyslexia or a related disorder, as well as for a student receiving special education services, if the student meets state-established criteria and requires certain instructional and assessment accommodations on a routine basis.

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

An ARD committee for a student receiving special education services will determine whether successful performance on the EOC assessments will be required for graduation within the parameters identified in state rules and the student's personal graduation plan.

STAAR L, which is a linguistically accommodated assessment, will be available for English language learners who require this type of testing accommodation.

[Also see **Graduation** on page 53 for additional information.]

STEROIDS

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

Body building, muscle enhancement, or the increase of muscle bulk or strength through the use of an anabolic steroid or human growth hormone by a healthy student is not a valid medical use and is a criminal offense.

STUDENT IDENTIFICATION CARDS

Students will be required to have student identification cards at all times. The student ID card must be shown in order to check out books in the library and to eat in the cafeteria. Student ID cards may also be asked for in the halls and in the lunchroom. The first card will be issued at no charge. Replacement cost will be \$5.00.

STUDENTS IN FOSTER CARE

In an effort to provide educational stability, the district strives to assist any student who is currently placed or newly placed in foster care (temporary or permanent custody of the state, sometimes referred to as substitute care) with the enrollment and registration process, as well as other educational services throughout the student's enrollment in the district.

Please contact the Assistant Superintendent, who has been designated as the district's foster care liaison, at 254-697-3512 with any questions.

[See also **Students in the Conservatorship of the State** on page 13 for more information.]

STUDENT OFFICERS/REPRESENTATIVES and STUCO OFFICER and ELECTIONS

The following general regulations apply to **Student Council Officers and Representatives, Class Officers, and Officers of all school organizations.**

Requirements for a student to become a candidate for election or to be selected by judges:

1. Students must have the proper grade classification.
2. Students must have had NO disciplinary infractions (for the school year when elections or tryouts are held) which result in the student being assigned one or more periods of ISS, DAEP, or out-of-school suspension, or prohibited from attending extracurricular activities, either for a temporary or permanent length of time. Any student who has been disciplined for more than one infraction during the school year when elections or tryouts are held is ineligible.
3. Students must have an 80 or higher average for all high school work at the time of filing for the position.
4. Students must have attended a school in the Cameron ISD for one full six-week period immediately prior to the time of filing.
5. Students must meet other requirements as established by the organization.

Restrictions

1. A student who falls below the required grade average of 80 for any six-week period shall be placed on probation for one six-weeks grading period. If the student fails to raise his or her average to an 80 during that period of time, then he or she shall forfeit that position.
2. A student who has been assigned one or more disciplinary penalties, as listed below, shall forfeit the position.
 - Corporal Punishment
 - Placement in ISS (one or more periods)
 - Suspension
 - Placement in AEP
 - Prohibition from attending extracurricular activities because of misbehavior.
3. A student who fails a course for any six weeks period becomes ineligible to participate in any extracurricular activities according to the rules of the TEA for the No Pass-No Play legislation.

Student Council Officers

Candidates file for position for the following year during the spring semester of the current year at a designated time. Students in grades 9-11 shall elect the officers by secret ballot. A student must receive a majority of the votes or else a run-off will be held between the two students who received the most votes. There will be only 2 candidates in a run-off unless there is a tie between the 2nd and 3rd candidates.

The Student Council Officer positions are: **President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, Parliamentarian, and Historian.**

The student who receives the second-highest number of votes for President will be declared the Vice-President.

The elected Officers will serve for the following school year. Elected officers are in charge of the Yoe Day ceremonies for the current school year.

Student Council Representatives

Students may file for a position as Student Council Representative during the spring of the preceding year at a designated time. Each Class will elect, by secret ballot, three (3) Student Council Representatives. There will be no run-off except for the 12th position. Students should not run for Student Council positions unless they are sincere about serving and willing to attend all meetings and participate actively in all projects and activities. Students who do not demonstrate responsibility and dedication to the Student Council will be dismissed.

Class Officers

Class Officers are automatically members of the Student Council. Because unsuccessful candidates for Class Officers may also want to run for a Student Council Representative position, the Class Officer election will be held prior to Student Council Representative filing and elections. Elections will be held in the spring of the current school year at a designated time.

Voting will be by Class and secret ballot. There will be no run-off unless there is a tie. Students elected as Class Officers will begin their term of office the following school year. The Class Officer positions are:

- 9th and 10th grade: **President and Vice-President** (Students file only for the position of President; the candidate receiving the second-highest number of votes will be declared the Vice-President.)

11th and 12th grade: **President, Vice-President, Secretary, and Treasurer.** (As above, students file only for the position of President; the candidate receiving the second-highest number of votes will be declared the Vice-President.)

STUDENT SPEAKERS

The district provides students the opportunity to introduce the following school events: Graduation, Yoe Day Ceremonies, etc. If a student meets the eligibility criteria and wishes to introduce one of the school events listed above, the student should submit his or her name in accordance with policy FNA(LOCAL).

[See policy FNA(LOCAL) regarding other speaking opportunities and **Graduation** on page 53 for information related to student speakers at graduation ceremonies.]

SUBSTANCE ABUSE PREVENTION AND INTERVENTION

If you are worried that your child may be using or is in danger of experimenting, using, or abusing illegal drugs or other prohibited substances, please contact the school counselor. The school counselor can provide you with a list of community resources that may be of assistance to you. The Texas Department of State Health Services (TDSHS) maintains information regarding children's mental health and substance abuse intervention services on its website: <http://www.dshs.state.tx.us/mhsa-child-adolescent-services/>.

SUICIDE AWARENESS

The district is committed to partnering with parents to support the healthy mental, emotional, and behavioral development of its students. If you are concerned about your child, please access <http://www.texasuicideprevention.org> or contact the school counselor for more information related to suicide prevention services available in your area.

SUMMER SCHOOL

Students needing to earn credit due to attendance exceeding the required limit allowed by TEA, may complete projects during the allotted summer school time or any other time designated by the principal.

Students needing to earn credits due to the loss of credit in any core area will be required to use the a credit recovery system in summer school.

Yoe High School offers summer school **remedial** classes as needed to meet the needs of students, and also depending upon the availability of Certified Teachers. These classes are for high school credit, but only for students who have failed a course. Summer school classes are offered free to Cameron I.S.D. students.

Summer school classes are scheduled for 3 weeks in June. Students cannot be absent more than one day or high school credits cannot be earned

TARDIES

Repeated instances of tardiness will result in more severe disciplinary action, in accordance with the Student Code of Conduct.

TEXTBOOKS, ELECTRONIC TEXTBOOKS, TECHNOLOGICAL EQUIPMENT, AND OTHER INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS

Textbooks and other district-approved instructional materials are provided to students free of charge for each subject or class. Any books must be covered by the student, as directed by the teacher, and treated with care. Electronic textbooks and technological equipment may also be provided to students, depending on the course and course objectives. A student who is issued a damaged item should report the damage to the teacher. Any student failing to return an item in acceptable condition loses the right to free textbooks and technological equipment until the item is returned or the damage paid for by the parent; however, the student will be provided the necessary instructional resources and equipment for use at school during the school day.

TRANSFERS

The principal is authorized to transfer a student from one classroom to another.

TRANSFER HONOR STUDENTS

Transfer students may receive Premium Points (5 points/semester) **ONLY** if the same courses are identified as Premium Point courses at Yoe High School. However, in order to receive Premium Points, the transcript from the sending school must clearly state the courses are Advanced Sections or Honors Courses. **In order to be ranked, a senior must attend Yoe High School for at least the 2nd semester of his/her senior year.**

Semester grades for all courses **EXCEPT THOSE LISTED BELOW** will be used to calculate grade point averages for Class Ranking and Academic Honors:

- ALL concurrent enrollment courses
- Athletics
- Band and Jazz Band
- Athletic Training
- Physical Education
- Student Aide
- TAKS Classes
- Yearbook
- SAT/ACT
- Journalism/Newspaper

- Study Skills

Premium Point Courses

The following courses offer Premium Points:

- All courses designated as Honors (previously referred to as Pre-AP or AP)
- Anatomy and Physiology
- Calculus
- Pre-Calculus
- Spanish III
- Spanish IV

Premium Points are used to calculate grades for Class Ranking and Academic Honors. Five (5) points are added to semester grades for Premium Point courses. Premium Points do not appear on Report Cards or permanent records.

[See **Safety Transfers/Assignments** on page 12, **Bullying** on page 21, and **Students Who Have Learning Difficulties or Who Need Special Education Services** on page 12, for other transfer options.]

TRANSPORTATION

School-Sponsored Trips

Students who participate in school-sponsored trips are required to use transportation provided by the school to and from the event. As approved by the principal, a coach or sponsor of an extracurricular activity may establish procedures related to making an exception to this requirement when a parent requests that the student be released to the parent or to another adult designated by the parent.

Buses and Other School Vehicles

The district makes school bus transportation available to all students living two or more miles from school. This service is provided at no cost to students.

Bus routes and stops will be designated annually, and any subsequent changes will be posted at the school and on the district's website. For the safety of the operator of the vehicle and all passengers, students must board buses or other vehicles only at authorized stops, and drivers must unload passengers only at authorized stops.

A parent may also designate a child-care facility or grandparent's residence as the regular pickup and drop-off location for his or her child. The designated facility or residence must be on an approved stop on an approved route. For information on bus routes and stops or to designate an alternate pickup or drop-off location, you may contact Donald Sheppard 254-697-2482.

[See the Student Code of Conduct for provisions regarding transportation to the DAEP.]

Students are expected to assist district staff in ensuring that buses and other district vehicles remain in good condition and that transportation is provided safely. When riding in district

vehicles, including buses, students are held to behavioral standards established in this handbook and the Student Code of Conduct. Students must:

- Follow the driver's directions at all times.
- Enter and leave the vehicle in an orderly manner at the designated stop.
- Keep feet, books, instrument cases, and other objects out of the aisle.
- Not deface the vehicle or its equipment.
- Not put head, hands, arms, or legs out of the window, hold any object out of the window, or throw objects within or out of the vehicle.
- Not possess or use any form of tobacco or e-cigarettes in any district vehicle.
- Observe all usual classroom rules.
- Be seated while the vehicle is moving.
- Fasten their seat belts, if available.
- Wait for the driver's signal upon leaving the vehicle and before crossing in front of the vehicle.
- Follow any other rules established by the operator of the vehicle.

Misconduct will be punished in accordance with the Student Code of Conduct; the privilege to ride in a district vehicle, including a school bus, may be suspended or revoked.

VIOLATION OF SCHOOL BUS RULES

Cameron I.S.D. schools will be consistent across the district with enforcement of school bus safety procedures and consequences for major and minor safety violations.

MINOR OFFENSE: An infraction of the following rules. Students will not engage in the following:

- 1) Excessive loud talking, yelling, or disturbing others.
- 2) Failure to stay in assigned seat while bus is in motion.
- 3) Throwing objects on the bus.
- 4) Arms, head, hands, out of the bus window.
- 5) Leaving paper or other debris on the school bus
- 6) Pushing, tripping, hitting other students
- 7) Not following the driver's instructions.
- 8) Keeping feet or backpacks, etc in the bus aisle.
- 9) Failure to board and exit the bus in an orderly and safe manner

MINIMUM CONSEQUENCES FOR MINOR OFFENSE CITATIONS:

1. 1st referral - School administrator will conference with student, bus referral mailed to parents, phone contact made with parent
2. 2nd referral - Student is off the bus for 3 school days, bus referral mailed to parent, phone contact made with parent
3. 3rd referral - Student is off the bus for 10 school days, bus referral mailed to parent, phone contact made with parent
4. 4th referral - Student is off the bus 20 school days, bus referral mailed, phone contact made with parent
5. 5th referral - Student is off the bus for the balance of the school year, bus referral mailed to parent, phone contact made with the parent

MAJOR OFFENSE: Any infraction of the following rules

- 1) Making offensive remarks toward the driver or other passengers
- 2) Distracting drivers attention from the safe operation of the vehicle
- 3) Fighting
- 4) Smoking
- 5) Causing damage to the bus
- 6) Throwing objects out of the window
- 7) Sexual, racial or gang related items or language
- 8) Possessing prohibited weapons, tobacco products, alcoholic beverages, harmful drugs or chemicals

CONSEQUENCES FOR MAJOR OFFENSE CITATIONS:

NO WARNING NOTICE FOR MAJOR OFFENSE

1st referral - Student is off the school bus for 3 days, bus referral to parents, phone contact made with parents

2nd referral - Student is off school bus for 10 school days, bus referral mailed to parents, phone contact made with parent

3rd referral - Student is off the school bus for 20 school days or balance of semester, bus referral mailed to parents, phone contact made with parents

4th referral - Student is off the school bus for the balance of school year, bus referral mailed to parents, phone contact made with parents

If the student's first offense is a major offense any future infraction (major or minor) during the school year would start with a minimum three day suspension

VANDALISM

The taxpayers of the community have made a sustained financial commitment for the construction and upkeep of school facilities. To ensure that school facilities can serve those for whom they are intended—both this year and for years to come—littering, defacing, or damaging school property is not tolerated. Students will be required to pay for damages they cause and will be subject to criminal proceedings as well as disciplinary consequences in accordance with the Student Code of Conduct.

VIDEO CAMERAS

For safety purposes, video and audio recording equipment is used to monitor student behavior, including on buses and in common areas on campus. Students will not be told when the equipment is being used.

The principal will review the video and audio recordings routinely and document student misconduct. Discipline will be in accordance with the Student Code of Conduct.

Upon request of a parent of a student who receives special education services, a staff member, or a board member, state law requires the district to place video and audio recording equipment in a classroom in which the student spends at least 50 percent of his or her instructional day, referred to in the law as a self-contained classroom. The majority of students in this type of classroom must also be students who receive special education services. Before the district places a video camera in a classroom or other setting in which your child receives special education services, the district will provide notice to you. Please speak directly with the principal for further information or to request the installation and operation of this equipment.

VISITORS TO THE SCHOOL

General Visitors

Parents and others are welcome to visit district schools. For the safety of those within the school and to avoid disruption of instructional time, all visitors must first report to the main office and must comply with all applicable district policies and procedures. When arriving on campus, all parents and other visitors should be prepared to show identification.

Visits to individual classrooms during instructional time are permitted only with approval of the principal and teacher and only so long as their duration or frequency does not interfere with the delivery of instruction or disrupt the normal school environment. Even if the visit is approved prior to the visitor's arrival, the individual must check in at the main office first.

C. H. Yoe High School is a closed campus. Visitors will be required to present a government issued photo identification (valid driver's license) that will be scanned through the a Security System. A photo visitor's pass will be produced and must be worn while on campus and returned to the welcome desk before leaving. Students may not bring friends or relatives to school during school hours or after school practices. Food being brought in by parents needs to be checked in at the front desk and should be on a limited basis.

All visitors are expected to demonstrate the highest standards of courtesy and conduct; disruptive behavior will not be permitted.

GIFTS/FLOWERS/MESSAGES

No gifts or flowers will be delivered to classrooms nor will students be notified of their arrival. Students may pick up deliveries after school. Only emergency messages will be delivered to students. Classes will not be interrupted for delivery of non-emergency information.

VOLUNTEERS

We appreciate so much the efforts of parent and grandparent volunteers that are willing to serve our district and students. If you are interested in volunteering, please contact Melissa Shelton for more information and to complete an application.

VOTER REGISTRATION

A student who is eligible to vote in any local, state, or federal election may obtain a voter registration application at the main campus office.

WITHDRAWING FROM SCHOOL

A student under age 18 may be withdrawn from school only by a parent. The school requests notice from the parent at least three days in advance so that records and documents may be prepared. The parent may obtain a withdrawal form from the principal's office.

On the student's last day, the withdrawal form must be presented to each teacher for current grade averages and book and equipment clearance; to the librarian to ensure a clear library record; to the clinic for health records; to the school counselor for the last report card and course clearance; and finally, to the principal. A copy of the withdrawal form will be given to the student, and a copy will be placed in the student's permanent record.

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

Y-Award

Student involvement is a key factor in developing students as active citizens within our community. The development of active involvement is recognized as the Y-Award. To qualify for the Y-Award a student must be active in at least 4 school sponsored clubs or activities. Only one activity per semester will be allowed from athletics and band. Perfect attendance and the honor roll may also qualify each as an activity. Students are to have a clean discipline record (No ISS, Suspensions, or DAEP) and have less than 9 absences for the school year in each class their enrolled including full day medical.

Yoe Day Ceremony

On the second Thursday of each May studies will be suspended for the day and students will gather in honor of Mr. and Mrs. Yoe at the Oak Hill Cemetery in Cameron to honor the Yoe family for their contribution to the students of Cameron ISD. The activities will be directed by the YHS Student Council. All organization and class officers should attend the ceremony

Glossary

Accelerated instruction is an intensive supplemental program designed to address the needs of an individual student in acquiring the knowledge and skills required at his or her grade level and/or as a result of a student not meeting the passing standard on a state-mandated assessment.

ACT-Aspire refers to an assessment that took the place of ACT-Plan and is designed as a preparatory and readiness assessment for the ACT. This is usually taken by students in grade 10.

ACT refers to one of the two most frequently used college or university admissions exams: the American College Test. The test may be a requirement for admission to certain colleges or universities.

ARD is the admission, review, and dismissal committee convened for each student who is identified as needing a full and individual evaluation for special education services. The eligible student and his or her parents are members of the committee.

Attendance review committee is responsible for reviewing a student's absences when the student's attendance drops below 90 percent, or in some cases 75 percent, of the days the class is offered. Under guidelines adopted by the board, the committee will determine whether there were extenuating circumstances for the absences and whether the student needs to complete certain conditions to master the course and regain credit or a final grade lost because of absences.

DAEP stands for disciplinary alternative education program, a placement for students who have violated certain provisions of the Student Code of Conduct.

EOC assessments are end-of-course tests, which are state-mandated, and are part of the STAAR program. Successful performance on EOC assessments are required for graduation. These exams will be given in English I, English II, Algebra I, Biology, and U.S. History.

ESSA is the Every Student Succeeds Act passed by the federal government in December 2015.

FERPA refers to the federal Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act that grants specific privacy protections to student records. The law contains certain exceptions, such as for directory information, unless a student's parent or a student 18 or older directs the school not to release directory information.

IEP is the written record of the individualized education program prepared by the ARD committee for a student with disabilities who is eligible for special education services. The IEP contains several parts, such as a statement of the student's present educational performance; a statement of measurable annual goals, with short-term objectives; the special education and related services and supplemental aids and services to be provided, and program modifications or support by school personnel; a statement regarding how the student's progress will be measured and how the parents will be kept informed; accommodations for state or districtwide tests; whether successful completion of state-mandated assessments is required for graduation, etc.

IGC is the individual graduation committee, formed in accordance with state law, to determine a student's eligibility to graduate when the student has failed to demonstrate satisfactory performance on no more than two of the required state assessments.

ISS refers to in-school suspension, a disciplinary technique for misconduct found in the Student Code of Conduct. Although different from out-of-school suspension and placement in a DAEP, ISS removes the student from the regular classroom.

PGP stands for Personal Graduation Plan, which is required for high school students beginning with ninth graders in the 2014–15 school year, and for any student in middle school who fails a section on a state-mandated test or is identified by the district as not likely to earn a high school diploma before the fifth school year after he or she begins grade 9.

PSAT is the preparatory and readiness assessment for the SAT.

SAT refers to one of the two most frequently used college or university admissions exams: the Scholastic Aptitude Test. The test may be a requirement for admissions to certain colleges or universities.

SHAC stands for School Health Advisory Council, a group of at least five members, a majority of whom must be parents, appointed by the school board to assist the district in ensuring that local community values and health issues are reflected in the district’s health education instruction, along with providing assistance with other student and employee wellness issues.

Section 504 is the federal law that prohibits discrimination against a student with a disability, requiring schools to provide opportunities for equal services, programs, and participation in activities. Unless the student is determined to be eligible for special education services under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), general education with appropriate instructional accommodations will be provided.

STAAR is the State of Texas Assessments of Academic Readiness, the state’s system of standardized academic achievement assessments, effective beginning with certain students for the 2011–2012 school year.

STAARA is an accommodated version of the STAAR that is available for certain students who receive special education services or students who have been identified as dyslexic.

STAAR Alternate 2 is an alternative state-mandated assessment designed for students with severe cognitive disabilities receiving special education services who meet the participation requirements, as determined by the student’s ARD committee.

STAAR Linguistically Accommodated (STAAR L) is an alternative state-mandated assessment with linguistic accommodations designed for certain recent immigrant English language learners.

State-mandated assessments are required of students at certain grade levels and in specified subjects. Successful performance sometimes is a condition of promotion, and passing the STAAR EOC assessments is a condition of graduation. Students have multiple opportunities to take the tests if necessary for promotion or graduation.

Student Code of Conduct is developed with the advice of the district-level committee and adopted by the board and identifies the circumstances, consistent with law, when a student may be removed from a classroom, campus, or district vehicle. It also sets out the conditions that authorize or require the principal or another administrator to place the student in a DAEP. It outlines conditions for out-of-school suspension and for expulsion. The Student Code of Conduct also addresses notice to the parent regarding a student’s violation of one of its provisions.

TELPAS stands for the Texas English Language Proficiency Assessment System, which assesses the progress that English language learners make in learning the English language, and is administered for those who meet the participation requirements in kindergarten–grade 12.

TSI assessment is the Texas Success Initiative assessment designed to measure the reading, mathematics, and writing skills that entering college-level freshmen students should have if they are to be successful in undergraduate programs in Texas public colleges and universities.

TxVSN is the Texas Virtual School Network, which provides online courses for Texas students to supplement the instructional programs of public school districts. Courses are taught by qualified instructors, and courses are equivalent in rigor and scope to a course taught in a traditional classroom setting.

UIL refers to the University Interscholastic League, the statewide voluntary nonprofit organization that oversees educational extracurricular academic, athletic, and music contests.

APPENDIX I: Freedom from Bullying Policy

Note that school board policies may be revised at any time. For legal context and the most current copy of the local policy, visit <http://pol.tasb.org/Policy/Code/889?filter=FFI> . Below is the text of Cameron ISD’s policy FFI(LOCAL) as of the date that this handbook was finalized for this school year.

Note: This policy addresses bullying of District students. For provisions regarding discrimination and harassment involving District students, see FFH. Note that FFI shall be used in conjunction with FFH for certain prohibited conduct. For reporting requirements related to child abuse and neglect, see FFG.

BULLYING PROHIBITED DEFINITION	<p>The District prohibits bullying as defined by this policy. Retaliation against anyone involved in the complaint process is a violation of District policy and is prohibited.</p> <p>Bullying occurs when a student or group of students engages in written or verbal expression, expression through electronic means, or physical conduct that occurs on school property, at a school-sponsored or school-related activity, or in a vehicle operated by the District and that:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Has the effect or will have the effect of physically harming a student, damaging a student's property, or placing a student in reasonable fear of harm to the student’s person or of damage to the student’s property; or 2. Is sufficiently severe, persistent, and pervasive enough that the action or threat creates an intimidating, threatening, or abusive educational environment for a student. <p>This conduct is considered bullying if it:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Exploits an imbalance of power between the student perpetrator and the student victim through written or verbal expression or physical conduct; and 2. Interferes with a student’s education or substantially disrupts the operation of a school.
EXAMPLES	<p>Bullying of a student may include hazing, threats, taunting, teasing, confinement, assault, demands for money, destruction of property, theft of valued possessions, name calling, rumor spreading, or ostracism.</p>
RETALIATION	<p>The District prohibits retaliation by a student or District employee against any person who in good faith makes a report of bullying, serves as a witness, or participates in an investigation.</p>
EXAMPLES	<p>Examples of retaliation may include threats, rumor spreading, ostracism, assault, destruction of property, unjustified punishments, or unwarranted grade reductions. Unlawful retaliation does not include petty slights or annoyances.</p>
FALSE CLAIM	<p>A student who intentionally makes a false claim, offers false statements, or refuses to cooperate with a District investigation regarding bullying shall be subject to appropriate disciplinary action.</p>

TIMELY REPORTING	Reports of bullying shall be made as soon as possible after the alleged act or knowledge of the alleged act. A failure to immediately report may impair the
REPORTING PROCEDURES	District's ability to investigate and address the prohibited conduct.
STUDENT REPORT	To obtain assistance and intervention, any student who believes that he or she has experienced bullying or believes that another student has experienced bullying should immediately report the alleged acts to a teacher, counselor, principal, or other District employee.
EMPLOYEE REPORT	Any District employee who suspects or receives notice that a student or group of students has or may have experienced bullying shall immediately notify the principal or designee.
REPORT FORMAT	A report may be made orally or in writing. The principal or designee shall reduce any oral reports to written form.
PROHIBITED CONDUCT	The principal or designee shall determine whether the allegations in the report, if proven, would constitute prohibited conduct as defined by policy FFH, including dating violence and harassment or discrimination on the basis of race, color, religion, gender, national origin, or disability. If so, the District shall proceed under policy FFH. If the allegations could constitute both prohibited conduct and bullying, the investigation under FFH shall include a determination on each type of conduct.
INVESTIGATION OF REPORT	The principal or designee shall conduct an appropriate investigation based on the allegations in the report. The principal or designee shall promptly take interim action calculated to prevent bullying during the course of an investigation, if appropriate.
CONCLUDING THE INVESTIGATION	Absent extenuating circumstances, the investigation should be completed within ten District business days from the date of the initial report alleging bullying; however, the principal or designee shall take additional time if necessary to complete a thorough investigation.
NOTICE TO PARENTS	The principal or designee shall prepare a final, written report of the investigation. The report shall include a determination of whether bullying occurred, and if so, whether the victim used reasonable self-defense. A copy of the report shall be sent to the Superintendent or designee.
DISTRICT ACTION BULLYING	If an incident of bullying is confirmed, the principal or designee shall promptly notify the parents of the victim and of the student who engaged in bullying.
DISCIPLINE	If the results of an investigation indicate that bullying occurred, the District shall promptly respond by taking appropriate disciplinary action in accordance with the District's Student Code of Conduct and may take corrective action reasonably calculated to address the conduct.
	A student who is a victim of bullying and who used reasonable self-defense in response to the bullying shall not be subject to disciplinary action.
	The discipline of a student with a disability is subject to applicable state and federal law in addition to the Student Code of Conduct.

CORRECTIVE ACTION	Examples of corrective action may include a training program for the individuals involved in the complaint, a comprehensive education program for the school community, follow-up inquiries to determine if any new incidents or any instances of retaliation have occurred, involving parents and students in efforts to identify problems and improve the school climate, increasing staff monitoring of areas where bullying has occurred, and reaffirming the District's policy against bullying.
TRANSFERS	The principal or designee shall refer to FDB for transfer provisions.
COUNSELING	The principal or designee shall notify the victim, the student who engaged in bullying, and any students who witnessed the bullying of available counseling options.
IMPROPER CONDUCT	If the investigation reveals improper conduct that did not rise to the level of prohibited conduct or bullying, the District may take action in accordance with the Student Code of Conduct or any other appropriate corrective action.
CONFIDENTIALITY	To the greatest extent possible, the District shall respect the privacy of the complainant, persons against whom a report is filed, and witnesses. Limited disclosures may be necessary in order to conduct a thorough investigation.
APPEAL	A student who is dissatisfied with the outcome of the investigation may appeal through FNG(LOCAL), beginning at the appropriate level.
RECORDS RETENTION	Retention of records shall be in accordance with CPC(LOCAL).
ACCESS TO POLICY AND PROCEDURES	This policy and any accompanying procedures shall be distributed annually in the employee and student handbooks. Copies of the policy and procedures shall be posted on the District's Web site, to the extent practicable, and shall be readily available at each campus and the District's administrative offices.

STUDENT WELFARE: FREEDOM FROM BULLYING

FFI(LOCAL)

Adopted on 02/20/2012

