

**WEST
BURLINGTON
JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL**

**STUDENT
HANDBOOK
2008-2009**



WEST BURLINGTON
ARNOLD JUNIOR/SENIOR
HIGH SCHOOL

2008 - 2009

West Burlington Arnold Senior
High School
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Technology Coordinator	David Roed	319-754-4195
Superintendent	Jim Sleister	319-752-8747

This Handbook belongs to:

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY/TOWN _____ ZIP CODE _____

PHONE _____

STUDENT NO. _____

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2008-2009 SCHOOL CALENDAR

August

- 19 Open House 4 -6:30 P.M.
- 21 First day of school - In –Service (early dismissal 1:30)

September

- 1 Labor Day - No School
- 10 Staff Development Day - No School
- 24 Staff Development Day - No School

October

- 8 Staff Development (early dismissal 1:30 PM)
- 23 End 1st Quarter (45 days)
- 24 Work Day / Staff Development - No School
- 27 TQ Professional Development Day - No School

November

- 4 Parent-Teacher Conferences (K-12) 5:00 – 8:00 PM
- 6 Parent-Teacher Conferences (K-12) 5:00 – 8:00 PM
- 7 Vacation Day - No School
- 19 Staff Development (early dismissal at 1:30 PM)
- 26 Thanksgiving Break (November 26-28) No School

December

- 10 Staff Development (early dismissal at 1:30 PM)
- 22 Winter Break (December 22-January 2) No School

January

- 5 Classes Resume
- 14 Staff Development (early dismissal at 1:30 PM)
- 16 End 2nd Quarter (46 days) 1st Semester (91 days)
- 19 Staff Work Day (Option II) No School
- 20 Staff Development Day - No School
- 28 Staff Development (early dismissal at 1:30 PM)

February

- 11 Staff Development (early dismissal at 1:30 PM)
- 16 President's Day - No School
- 25 Staff Development (early dismissal at 1:30 PM)
- 26 Parent-Teacher Conferences (K-8) 5:00 – 8:00 PM
9-12 Staff Development 5:00 – 8:00 PM

March

- 3 Parent-Teacher Conferences (K-8) 5:00 – 8:00 PM
9-12 Staff Development 5:00 – 8:00 PM
- 11 Staff Development (early dismissal at 1:30 PM)
- 24 End 3rd Quarter (44 days)

- 25 Work Day / Staff Development - No School
- 26 Spring Break (March 26 – March 29) No School

- April
- 8 Staff Development (early dismissal at 1:30 PM)
- 10 Vacation (April 10 – April 13) No School
- 22 Staff Development (early dismissal at 1:30 PM)

- May
- 6 Staff Development (early dismissal at 1:30 PM)
- 20 Staff Development (early dismissal at 1:30 PM)
- 25 Memorial Day – No School
- 27 Seniors' Last Day
- 31 Graduation 3:00 PM

- June
- 3 End 4th Quarter (45 days) 2nd Semester (89 days)
Staff Development (early dismissal at 2:30 PM)

Missed School Make-up Days will be at the end of the year

2008-2009 MIDTERM & QUARTER DATES

- September 17 Mid-term ends (reports due in office on September 22)
- October 22 1st Quarter ends (grades due in the office on October 29)
- November 25 Mid-term ends (reports due in office on December 1)
- January 16 1st Semester ends (grades due in the office January 20)
- February 19 Mid-term ends (grades due in office on February 23)
- March 24 3rd Quarter ends (grades are due in the office on March 30)
- April 23 Mid-term ends (grades are due in office on April 27)
- May 27 Senior grades due in the office 4 p.m.
- June 3 FINAL GRADES DUE IN THE OFFICE

WELCOME

All students, both new and returning, are welcomed to West Burlington Arnold Junior and Senior High School. This handbook is provided to help you know what is expected of W.B.A.S.H.S. students. As a student here, you have both rights and responsibilities.

BOARD APPROVAL

The contents of this administrative policy book have been reviewed and approved as official policies of West Burlington Arnold Junior/Senior High School by the Board of Education of the Independent School District of West Burlington on May 15, 2006. We support the enforcement of the rules and procedures within this policy book; furthermore, the Board will hold the staff accountable for following and enforcing procedures.

EQUAL EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITY

The school district does not discriminate in its education programs or educational activities on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, creed, age, gender, disability, or marital status. Students are educated in programs, which foster knowledge of, and respect and appreciation for, the historical and contemporary contributions of diverse cultural groups, as well as men and women, to society. Students who feel they have been discriminated against are encouraged to report it to the school district Affirmative Action Coordinator. The Affirmative Action Coordinator is Jim Sleister and can be reached at 211 Ramsey Street, West Burlington, IA 52655, (319) 752-8747. Inquires may also be directed in writing to the Director of the Region VII Office of Civil Rights, U.S. Department of Education, 310 W. Wisconsin Avenue, Suite 800, Milwaukee, WI 53203-2292, (414) 291-1111, or the Iowa Department of Education, Grimes State Office Building, Des Moines, IA 50319-0146, (515) 281-5294.

JUDISDICTIONAL STATEMENT

This handbook is an extension of board policy and is a reflection of the goals and objectives of the board. The board, administration and employees expect students to conduct themselves in a manner fitting to their age level and maturity and with respect and consideration for the rights of others.

This handbook and school district policies, rules and regulations are in effect while students are on school grounds, on school district property or on property within the jurisdiction of the school district; while on school-owned and/or school-operated buses or vehicles or chartered buses; while attending or engaged in school activities; and while away from school grounds if the misconduct directly affects the good order, efficient management and welfare of the school district or involves students or staff. School district policies, rules and regulations are in effect 12 months a year. A violation of a school district policy, rule or regulation may result in disciplinary action and may affect a student's eligibility to participate in extracurricular activities whether the violation occurred while school was in session or while school was not in session. Students are expected to comply with and abide by the school district's policies, rules and regulations. Students who fail to do so may be disciplined for conduct which disrupts or interferes with the education program; conduct which disrupts the orderly and efficient operation of the school district or school activity; conduct which disrupts the rights of other students to obtain their education or to participate in school activities; or conduct which interrupts the maintenance of a disciplined atmosphere. Disciplinary measures include, but are not limited to, removal from the classroom, detention, suspension, probation and expulsion. Discipline can also include prohibition from participating in extracurricular activities, including athletics. The discipline imposed is based upon the facts and circumstances surrounding the incident and the student's record.

The school reserves and retains the right to modify, eliminate or establish school district policies, rules and regulations as circumstances warrant, including those contained in the handbook. Students are expected to know the contents of the handbook and comply with it. Students or parents with questions or concerns may contact the Principal at 752-7138 for information about the current enforcement of the policies, rules or regulations of the school district.

DEFINITIONS

In this handbook, the word “parent” also means “guardian” unless otherwise stated. An administrator’s title, such as superintendent or principal, also means that individual’s designee unless otherwise stated. The term “school grounds” includes the school district facilities, school district property, property within the jurisdiction of the school district or school district premises, school-owned or school-operated buses or vehicles and chartered buses. The term “school facilities” includes school district buildings. The term “school activities” means all school activities in which students are involved whether they are school-sponsored or school-approved, whether they are an event or an activity, or whether they are held on or off school grounds. The term “extracurricular” refers to all activities outside the regular 8:30 to 3:30 school day.

GREAT PRAIRIE AEA

Great Prairie AEA staff will be available to partner with West Burlington School District staff to provide the best education possible for your child. The Great Prairie AEA staff includes (but is not limited to) : audiologists, consultants, teachers for hearing impaired and visually impaired, occupational therapists, physical therapists, school psychologists, school social workers, and speech-language pathologists. Your child’s teacher or administrator may contact AEA staff for consultation or interaction with your child. If you do not want any of the above services, please notify the school **IN WRITING**.

INTERNET/NETWORK ACCESS PERMISSION LETTER TO PARENTS

Your child has access to electronic communication known as the Internet, as well as the District’s internal network system. The Internet is a computer information system interconnected with thousands of computer networks. The vast domain of information contained within Internet’s libraries can provide unlimited opportunities to students

Students will be expected to abide by the following network etiquette:

The use of the District’s network is a privilege and may be taken away for violation of Board policy or regulations. As a user of the Internet, students may be allowed access to other networks. Each network may have its own set of policies and procedures. Students will abide by the policies and procedures of these other networks.

- Students will not reveal their own personal (home) address or phone number or those of students or colleagues or any other personal information.
- Students will only remain on the system long enough to get needed information.
- Students will apply the same privacy, ethical and educational considerations utilized in other forms of communication.

- Students will not use on-line or network access in such a way that you would disrupt other users.
- Students will respect intellectual property of others by crediting sources and respecting all copyright laws. Users are responsible for following copyright laws.
- Students may not subscribe to services or make purchases through on-line or network connections without the explicit written permission of their parents (or guardians) and their teacher.
- Students will not access other student or staff files.
- Personal passwords shall not be shared.
- Students will not use instant messaging or other messaging programs, do any peer-to-peer programs, visit chat rooms or any other unauthorized sites, or visit inappropriate sites that have visual obscenity, child pornography, or are harmful to minors..

This system is for the use of authorized users only. Individuals using The West Burlington School District Computer Network System without authority, or in excess of their authority, are subject to having all of their activities on this system monitored and recorded by system personnel. In the course of monitoring individuals improperly using this system, or in the course of system maintenance, the activities of authorized users may also be monitored. Anyone using this system expressly consents to such monitoring and is advised that if such monitoring reveals possible evidence of criminal activity, system personnel may provide the evidence of such monitoring to law enforcement officials.

Internet Safety Policy

This policy places the Independent School District of West Burlington in compliance with the Federal Children's Internet Protection Act. It is the policy of the Independent School District of West Burlington to:

- (a) Prevent user access over its computer network to, or transmission of, inappropriate material via Internet, electronic mail, or other forms of direct electronic communications.
- (b) Prevent unauthorized access and other unlawful online activity.
- (c) Prevent unauthorized online disclosure, use, or dissemination of personal identification information of minors.
- (d) Comply with the Children's Internet Protection Act Pub. L. No. 106-554 and USC 254(h).

ATTENDANCE

The Independent School District of West Burlington is committed to ensuring that every reasonable attempt be made to secure the attendance in school of all children enrolled in the District, and particularly those of compulsory attendance age. To that end, the superintendent, in conjunction with building principals, is directed to cooperate with the county attorney, officials of private schools in the district, and other relevant agencies, to enforce the state law of compulsory attendance.

Children between the ages of six and sixteen, as of September 15, residing in the Independent School District of West Burlington are required to be enrolled in and attending an Iowa accredited public or private school, or receiving competent private instruction pursuant to state law. **By West Burlington School Board policy, children of compulsory attendance age who are enrolled in the Independent School District shall attend school for at least 175 days.**

The West Burlington Junior High School absence policy is as follows:

1. Students who know they will be absent must notify the office prior to the absence. Absence is defined as “missing more than 5 minutes of class”. If advance notification is not possible, parents should notify the office at 754-6567 on the day of the absence prior to 9:00am to make sure the absence is not truancy or the school may contact a parent seeking verification. If phone contact is not made, upon returning the student should bring a note signed by the student’s parents/guardian to the office explaining the reason for the absence. Should a student return to school without verification of his/her absence, such absence(s) must be verified within 2 school days or they become unexcused absences and will remain that way even if they had been for an excusable reason originally.
2. **The school determines whether an absence is excused, unexcused, or truant.** Excused absences include, but are not limited to illness, family emergency, recognized religious observances, prearranged/verified college visits (limited to juniors and seniors), prearranged family vacations, funerals, legal obligations and school activities. Such school activities are usually known about in advance, so students should expect to make up work as directed by the teacher. The teacher may request that the student not be allowed to participate in the school activity. **Students with excessive excused absences (approx. 10%) will be required to provide professional verification.**
3. Unexcused absences include, but are not limited to, tardiness, shopping, hunting, fishing, concerts, oversleeping, grooming, recreation, senior pictures, non-prearranged vacations, non-family vacations, class skip days, babysitting, driver’s license renewals/applications, preparation or participation in parties or other celebrations, employment, and unverified absences. The consequence for an unexcused absence is the student will not be allowed any credit for the class on that day. The student will not be allowed to turn in any late or makeup work for that day.
4. Any compulsory age student who has unexcused absences of more than 5 days per semester will be considered truant. The consequence for being truant is the same as for an unexcused absence along with the County Attorney being notified.

5. Teachers have the option of enhancing the attendance policy through their classroom policies. Such “participation point” policies after having been approved by the administration should be presented to the students at the start of each semester both orally and in writing.
6. Students who need to leave school during the school day must receive permission from the office and have a note signed by the student’s parents, have their parents telephone the office or notify the office when they pick them up. Leaving school during the day without office notification may be treated as a truant absence. Students who return to class or arrive after the school day has begun should present a signed note from their parents to the office, if telephone verification has not occurred. Students are not released to anyone other than their parents during the school day unless the office has a note signed by the student’s parents.
7. Students participating in after-school non-graded activities (including practices) or appearing as a spectator must be in class the final half day for high school (periods 5-8) on the day of the event in order to participate. Only in extraordinary circumstances may the principal waive this rule.
8. Unexcused absences will be monitored by the Junior High Principal. All absences must be verified within 2 school days or they become unexcused absences. The students will not receive any credit for the class on that day, and will not be allowed to turn in any late or makeup work for that day. Teachers may require students to receive instructional time after school on an hour per hour basis for unexcused absences.
9. COMPULSORY STUDENTS that lose credit in class for 3 unexcused absences will have their parents notified by the classroom teacher(s). For all students, after the 5th unexcused absence per semester in addition to losing credit in class for the day, a parent & At-Risk team meeting will be arranged with the At-Risk team and the high school principal.
10. At the 4th unexcused absence for a Compulsory Student (children between the ages of six and sixteen, as of September 15), the County Attorney’s Truancy Task Force is notified. No credit will be given on any days absent after the county attorney’s mediation hearing.
11. Tardiness is defined as arrival to class after the beginning of class without a staff signature for admission to class. All tardy consequences will be handled by the individual classroom teacher.
12. There is no Open Campus lunch for junior high students. If parents will be taking their child from school during the school day for any reason, including lunch, the parent must stop in the office and sign the student out.

STUDENTS HEALTH, WELL-BEING AND SAFETY

ABUSE AND HARASSMENT

Physical abuse is a non-accidental physical injury that leaves a mark at least 24 hours after the incident. While employees cannot use physical force to discipline a student, there are times when the use of physical force is appropriate. The times when physical force is appropriate include, but are not limited to, times when it is necessary to stop a disturbance, to obtain a weapon or other dangerous object, for purposes of self-

defense or to protect the safety of others, to remove a disruptive student, to protect others from harm, for the protection of property or to protect a student from self-infliction of harm.

Sexual abuse includes, but is not limited to, sexual acts involving a student and intentional sexual behavior as well as sexual harassment. Sexual harassment is unwelcome sexual advances, requests for sexual favors or other verbal or physical conduct of a sexual nature when submission to such conduct is made either implicitly or explicitly a term or condition of the student's education or benefits; submission to or rejection of the conduct is used as the basis for academic decisions affecting that student; or the conduct has the purpose or effect of substantially interfering with a student's academic performance by creating an intimidating, hostile or offensive educational environment. Verbal abuse includes, but is not limited to, unwelcome written or spoken comments that are considered inappropriate, threatening or harassing in nature.

The school district does not tolerate employees physically or sexually abusing or harassing students. Students who are physically or sexually abused or harassed by an employee should notify their parents, teacher, principal or another employee. The Iowa Department of Education has established a procedure for investigating allegations of physical or sexual abuse of students by employees. That procedure requires the school district to follow due process and designate an independent investigator to look into the allegations. The school district has designated Jim Sleister at 752-8747 as its Level I investigator. Barb Carter may also be contacted directly at 754-6567.

Harassment, bullying and abuse are violations of school district policies, rules and regulations and, in some cases, may also be a violation of criminal or other laws. This covers student-by-student and employee by student violations. Students whose behavior is found to be in violation of this policy after an investigation will be subject to discipline, up to and including, suspension and expulsion. The school district has the authority to report students violating this rule to law enforcement officials.

Students who feel that they have been harassed or bullied should:

- Communicate to the harasser or bully that the student expects the behavior to stop, if the student is comfortable doing so. If the student needs assistance communicating with the harasser or bully, the student should ask a teacher, counselor or principal to help.
- If the harassment or bullying does not stop, or the student does not feel comfortable confronting the harasser or bully, the student should:
 - ✓ tell a teacher, counselor or principal; and
 - ✓ write down exactly what happened, keep a copy and give another copy to the teacher, counselor or principal including;
 - what, when and where it happened;
 - who was involved;
 - exactly what was said or what the harasser or bully did;
 - witnesses to the harassment or bullying;
 - what the student said or did, either at the time or later;
 - how the student felt; and
 - how the harasser or bullying responded.

Sexual harassment may include unwelcome sexual advances, requests for sexual favors and other verbal or physical conduct of a sexual nature. Harassment or bullying on the basis of age, color, creed, national origin, race, religion, marital status, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, physical attributes, physical or mental ability or disability, ancestry, political party preference, political belief, socioeconomic status or familial

status includes conduct of a verbal or physical nature that is designed to embarrass, distress, agitate, disturb or trouble persons when:

- places the student in reasonable fear of harm to the student's person or property;
- has a substantially detrimental effect on the student's physical or mental health;
- has the effect of substantially interfering with the student's academic performance; or
- has the effect of substantially interfering with the student's ability to participate in or benefit from the services, activities, or privileges provided by a school.

Sexual harassment includes, but is not limited to:

- verbal, physical or written harassment or abuse;
- pressure for sexual activity;
- repeated remarks to a person with sexual or demeaning implications; and
- suggesting or demanding sexual involvement, accompanied by implied or explicit threats.

Harassment or bullying based upon factors other than sex includes, but is not limited to:

- verbal, physical, or written harassment or abuse;
- repeated remarks of a demeaning nature;
- implied or explicit threats concerning one's grades, job, etc; and
- demeaning jokes, stories or activities.]

The West Burlington School District has established the following harassment plan to investigate such allegations:

HARASSMENT PLAN

A. 1st Offense

- a) Referral to the Principal
- b) Conference with principal, counselor, or police officer. Appropriate warning or consequences may result.

B. 2nd and Subsequent Offenses

- a) School consequences assigned by principal depending on severity of harassment, from assigning of demerits, suspension, or expulsion.

ADMINISTRATION OF MEDICATION

Students may need to take prescription or non-prescription medication during school hours. The school must know the medication a student is taking in the event the student has a reaction or illness. Students must provide written instructions for administration of the medication as well as parental authorization to administer the medication. Medication is held in a locked cabinet and distributed by any employee certified to do so. Medication must be in the original container with the following information either on the container, in the instruction sheet or in the parental authorization: name of the student; name of the medication; directions for use including dosage, times and duration; name, phone number and address of the pharmacy (if applicable); date of the prescription (if applicable); name of the physician (if applicable); potential side effects; and emergency number for parents.

ARRIVAL/SCHOOL DAY

The regular school hours for students are from 8:30 AM to 3:30 PM. Students should not be present more than 30 minutes before or 30 minutes after the regular school day due to supervision concerns. If school is dismissed early, students are expected to leave the school grounds within 30 minutes of dismissal. On days of a late start students are not to be at school more than 30 minutes before the start of the school day.

ASBESTOS NOTIFICATION

The West Burlington Arnold Junior/Senior High School building does contain some asbestos. This possible carcinogen is found in small amounts in some low traffic areas of the school. Inspection and treatment according to EPA regulations has been done. Refer any questions in regards to this matter to the school administration.

COMMUNICABLE & INFECTIOUS DISEASES

Students who have an infectious or communicable disease are allowed to attend school as long as they are able to do so and their presence does not pose an unreasonable risk or harm to themselves and do not create a substantial risk of illness or transmission to other students or employees. The school nurse will determine the level of risk. If there is a question about whether a student should continue to attend classes, the student shall not attend class or participate in school activities without their personal physician's approval. Infectious or communicable diseases include, but are not limited to, mumps, measles chicken pox and whooping cough.

EMERGENCY DRILLS

Periodically the school holds emergency fire, and tornado drills. At the beginning of each semester, teachers notify students of the procedures to follow in the event of a drill. Emergency procedures and proper exit areas are posted in all rooms. Students are expected to remain quiet and orderly during a drill or an emergency. Students who pull the fire alarm or call in false alarms, in addition to being disciplined under the school district's policies, rules and regulations, will be reported to law enforcement officials.

HEALTH AND ACCIDENT INSURANCE

Student health and accident insurance is available to students at the beginning of the school year. Parents may purchase insurance for their children at their discretion. Parents who would like more information about student health and accident insurance should contact the office. Student athletes must have health and accident insurance in order to participate in intramural or extracurricular athletics. Students must provide written proof of insurance prior to the start of the athletic activity.

HEALTH SCREENING

Throughout the year, the school district sponsors health screening for vision, hearing, scoliosis, and height and weight measurements. Students are automatically screened unless the parent submits a note asking the student be excused from the screening. The grade levels included in the screening are determined annually. Parents are notified prior to the health screening. However, upon a teacher's recommendation and with parental permission, students not scheduled for screening may also be screened.

HOMELESS

Any school age youth, who lacks a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence is considered homeless. Such identified youth need to be reported to the Homeless Liaison Officer for the Independent School District of West Burlington, Bruce Snodgrass at 752-7138.

IMMUNIZATIONS

Prior to starting school or when transferring into the school district, students must present an approved Iowa Department of Public Health immunization certificate signed by a health care provider stating that the student has received the immunizations required by law. Students without the proper certificate are not allowed to attend school until they receive the immunizations or the student provides a valid Iowa State Department of Health Certificate of Immunization Exemption to be exempt from this requirement. Only for specific medical or religious purposes are students exempted from the immunization requirements. Students may also be required to pass a TB test prior to attending school. Parents who have questions should contact the office.

INJURY OR ILLNESS

A student who becomes ill or is injured at school must notify his or her teacher or another employee as soon as possible. In the case of a serious illness or injury, the school shall attempt to notify the parents according to the information on the emergency form. If the student is too ill to remain in school, the student is released to the student's parents or, with parental permission, to another person directed by the parents. While the school district is not responsible for treating medical emergencies, employees may administer emergency or minor first aid if possible. The school contacts emergency medical personnel if necessary and attempts to notify the parents where the student has been transported for treatment.

PHYSICAL EXAMINATIONS

Parents are encouraged to have their children receive periodic physical examinations. Students participating in athletics are required to provide a school district physical examination form signed by the student's doctor (or chiropractor) stating the student is physically fit to perform in athletics prior to the start of the sport. Failure to provide proof of a physical examination makes the student ineligible. Students who cannot afford the cost of the physical examination should contact the coach of their sport. Physical examinations are good for one calendar year only.

STUDENT ACTIVITIES

ACTIVITY BUS

The school district may sponsor an activity bus to transport students to school activities. A fee may be charged to students riding the activity bus. Riding on the activity bus is a privilege that can be taken away. Students who ride an activity bus must ride to and from the event on the bus unless prior arrangements have been made with the principal, teacher, sponsor or coach. Students will not be allowed to ride to and from a school-sponsored activity with anyone except parents unless written verification from parents is received. Students will be released to adults only. Students will not be allowed to drive themselves when they are participating in an activity.

ACTIVITY TICKETS

Students may purchase an activity ticket for admission to certain school district activities. Students not wishing to purchase an activity ticket must pay regular prices to attend school district activities. Students who cannot afford an activity ticket should contact the superintendent.

ASSEMBLIES/ATHLETIC CONTESTS/SPECIAL EVENTS

Throughout the year the school district may sponsor activities. Attendance at these activities is a privilege.

Students will be expected to sit where assigned and show courtesy and proper attention to all speakers and/or participants. Students who do not follow these guidelines will be asked to leave the event and be referred to the principal, athletic director or event supervisor. The student may be suspended from the next event as well. Students who have violated the Good Conduct Policy, regardless if they are an athlete or not, are ineligible to participate in events outside the regular school day. It shall be the duty of the administration to exclude the student from participating or attending any extracurricular activities until the suspension has been served.

DANCES

The principal must approve all school-sponsored dances at least one week prior to dance. Guests must be signed in at the office prior to the dance they will attend. Students and guests who leave a dance are not allowed to re-enter the dance. School district policies, rules and regulations apply to students as well as guests at school dances. Student and guests violating school district policies, rules or regulations will be asked to leave the dance and school grounds. Only high school students may attend high school dances, and only junior high age students may attend junior high dances. Any student may bring only 1 guest per dance when guests are permitted. All guests must be currently enrolled students. The school district reserves the right with reasonable suspicion to search students and apply breathalyzers and other drug tests. To attend the dance students must have taken care of all financial obligations to the district and all school obligations like study table and detentions.

FAMILY NIGHT

Wednesday night is designated as family night. No school functions, practices, or games will be allowed after 6:00 p.m. on this night. The only exception would be if an agency or group outside of the school schedules tournaments, activities, or meetings on this night.

FIELD TRIPS

Field trips may be taken as an extension of classroom activities. If a field trip is required for a course, students are expected to attend, unless they are not meeting academic standards in other classes. Absences in other classes or activities due to such field trips are considered excused absences. While on field trips students are considered representatives of the district and as a result will be expected to follow all district behavior guidelines. Prior to the field trip, students may be asked to return a permission form signed by the student's parents. Required fees must accompany the permission form. Students unable to afford the cost of the field trip should contact their teacher or the principal.

FUNDS AND FUND RAISING

Students may raise funds for school activities upon approval of the principal and superintendent. Funds raised remain in the control of the school district and board. Such organizations must have the approval of the principal and superintendent prior to spending the money raised.

SCHOOL PICTURES

Parents are notified as to when school pictures will be taken, usually sometime in the fall, and what the costs will be. School pictures must be paid for before packets will be made up. No one is required to purchase the pictures that are taken.

SCHOOL-SPONSORED STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS

School-sponsored student organizations are those which are recognized by the school district and board. For a list of current high school clubs and organizations refer to the Curriculum Information Booklet.

Participation in such organizations is a privilege. Individual sponsors or coaches may impose rules in addition to those contained in this handbook. The privilege of participation may be suspended or canceled for violating an individual coach or sponsor's rules as well as for violation of school district policies, rules or regulations.

SENIOR TRIP

The West Burlington Arnold High School sponsors a senior trip at the end of the school year. In order to be eligible to attend this function, seniors must: be currently enrolled, have all course work completed, not be under any type of suspension, have all detention time completed, have fees paid and cannot have more than 6 demerits for the year. The deadline for eligibility is the senior's last day of school prior to the trip. Any senior not meeting these eligibility requirements would forfeit any trip fees paid prior to this time.

SPORTSMANSHIP

According to Iowa Code § 716.7: Individuals disrupting school district activities will be asked to stop the disruption and may be asked to leave the school district grounds, temporarily or permanently. Violations should be reported to the principal or designated authority.

USE OF SCHOOL DISTRICT FACILITIES BY STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS

School district facilities are available during non-school hours to school-sponsored student organizations for the purpose of meetings or activities. Students wishing to use the school district facilities should contact their sponsor or the principal to reserve a room. School district policies, rules and regulations are in effect during these meetings.

STUDENT RECORDS

EDUCATIONAL RECORDS

Student records containing personally identifiable information, except for directory information, are confidential. For a complete copy of the school district's policy on student records or the procedure for filing a complaint, contact the board secretary.

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

1. The right to inspect and review the student's education records within 45 days of the day the district receives a request for access. Parents or eligible students should submit to the school principal (or appropriate school official) a written request that identifies the record(s) they wish to inspect. The principal will make arrangements for access and notify the parent or eligible student of the time and place where the records may be inspected.
2. The right to request the amendment of the student's education records that the parent or eligible student believes are inaccurate or misleading or in violation of the student's privacy rights. Parents or eligible students may ask the school district to amend a record that they believe is inaccurate or misleading. They should write the school principal, clearly identify the part of the record they want changed, and specify why it is inaccurate or misleading. If the district decides not to amend the record as requested by the parent or eligible student, the district will notify the parent or eligible student of the decision and advise them of their right to a hearing regarding the request for amendment. Additional information

regarding the hearing procedures will be provided to the parent and eligible student when notified of the right to a hearing.

3. The right to consent to disclosures of personally identifiable information contained in the student's education records, except to the extent that FERPA authorizes disclosure without consent. One exception, which permits disclosure without consent, is disclosure to school officials with legitimate education interests. A school official is a person employed by the district as an administrator, supervisor, instructor, or support staff member (including health or medical staff and law enforcement unit personnel); a person serving on the school board; a person or company with whom the district has contracted to perform a special task (such as an attorney, auditor, AEA employees, medical consultant, or therapist); or a parent or student serving on an official committee, such as a disciplinary or grievance committee or student assistance team, or assisting another school official in performing his or her tasks. A school official has a legitimate educational interest if the official needs to review an education record in order to fulfill his or her professional responsibility. (Upon request, the district discloses education records without consent to officials of another school district in which a student seeks or intends to enroll.)
4. The right to inform the school district that the parent does not want directory information as defined

5. below to be released. Any student over the age of eighteen or parent not wanting this information released to the public must make objection in writing to the principal by September 10th, or within 15 days of enrollment (should enrollment occur after that date). It is desirable to renew this objection at the beginning of each school year. Biometric fingerprint readings are not part of the student's directory information. They are used exclusively in the food service and library programs.

NAME, ADDRESS, TELEPHONE LISTING, DATE AND PLACE OF BIRTH, MAJOR FIELD OF STUDY, PARTICIPATION IN OFFICIALLY RECOGNIZED ACTIVITIES AND SPORTS, WEIGHT AND HEIGHT OF MEMBERS OF ATHLETIC TEAMS, DATES OF ATTENDANCE, DEGREES AND AWARDS RECEIVED, THE MOST RECENT PREVIOUS SCHOOL OR INSTITUTION ATTENDED BY THE STUDENT, PHOTOGRAPH AND LIKENESS AND OTHER SIMILAR INFORMATION.

6. The right to file a complaint with the U.S. Department of Education concerning alleged failures by the district to comply with the requirements of FERPA. The name and address of the office that administers FERPA is:

Family Policy Compliance Office
U.S. Department of Education
400 Maryland Ave. SW
Washington, D.C. 20202-4605

STUDENT RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES

BEHAVIOR EXPECTATIONS

Students are to show their best behavior during the regular school day, as well as during activities before and after school. Disciplinary consequences used for student infractions of district policies, rules, and regulations may include verbal warnings, demerits, written office referrals, detention, in-school suspension, out-of-school suspension, expulsion, and alternative disciplinary consequences such as “Seeds Amongst the Stones” peer mediation. The severity of the infraction and the students’ discipline files will be used to determine the appropriate consequences, including notification of law enforcement.

Inappropriate behavior includes but may not be limited to:

- Unacceptable language and gestures in the classroom or school setting
- Cheating/plagiarism (includes copying from other sources)
- Gambling
- Public Display of Affection
- Failure to attend assigned detention
- Insubordination--failure to respond appropriately to a person of authority
- Excessive noise in hallways
- Possession of food/drink/candy outside the cafeteria
- Fighting
- Vandalism
- Stealing
- Loitering
- Unlawful assembly
- Disturbing public assembly
- Setting false fire alarms
- Larceny/theft
- Malicious use of the telephone
- Throwing snowballs
- Any behavior that interferes with the learning environment
- Harassment/assault/intimidations/threats/bullying
- Extortion (using threats or force to take property or money)
- Arson/setting of fires

Consequences for violations of classroom or school rules or policies fall into one of the following categories.

Warning – A staff member may give a warning to a student whose behavior is inappropriate. The student may or may not be given a consequence for this warning.

Teacher Assigned Detention or Consequence – Teachers may assign detentions or consequences for inappropriate student conduct that did not cause material disruption of the learning environment. These do not apply to the demerit system unless the student has an excessive amount of detentions or consequences. At or before the time when the student receives his/her fifth teacher assigned detentions or consequences the parent will be notified by the teacher of the misbehaviors. At the time of the tenth teacher assigned detention or consequence the teacher, the parent, the student and the Administration will meet to discuss what improvements need to be made in the student’s behavior and to notify the student and his/her parent that future misbehaviors of this nature will result in a demerit instead of just the teacher assigned detention.

DEMERIT – A demerit may be given for a relatively minor or non-serious violation of classroom or school rules/policies. A warning may or may not be given prior to the assigning of a demerit. If a demerit is assigned, the student will be assigned a detention with the staff member assigning the detention and the detention must be served by the end of the next school day unless different arrangements are made with the staff member. The student will receive a copy of the demerit and the parent will be notified. Substitutes may issue 1 demerit per individual student per class period. Another infraction would result in the student being sent to the office. The student then will have to serve two additional 30 minute detentions with the regular classroom teacher upon his/her return.

OFFICE REFERRAL – An office referral will be given to a student who was sent to the office because of his/her inappropriate behavior. The student will be assigned a demerit by the staff member sending the student to the office. The student will be assigned a detention with that staff member and the detention must be served by the end of the next school day unless different arrangements are made with the staff member. The student will conference with the Administration, the student's parents will be notified of the incident, and the student must apologize to the staff member for his/her inappropriate behavior. Depending upon the seriousness of the inappropriate behavior that resulted in the office referral the student may also be subject to suspension or expulsion.

IN-SCHOOL SUSPENSION – A student may be assigned an in-school suspension from one to three days in length for an accumulation of demerits or office referrals or for an act of misbehavior of moderate seriousness. The serving of an in-school suspension does not replace any demerits or detention time the student received.

OUT-OF-SCHOOL SUSPENSION – A student may be assigned an out-of-school suspension from one to ten days in length for an accumulation of demerits or office referrals as well as for serious or repeated act of misbehavior.

EXPULSION – A student may be expelled from school by the school board for actions that are not only against school rules but require expulsion under state or federal regulations as well as for serious or repetitive acts of misbehavior.

Failure to serve assigned teacher or demerit detentions in the time frame given may result in the consequence being doubled. Continued failure to serve may result in an out of school suspension.

DEMERIT ADMINISTRATION (by semester)

The demerit supervisors will record demerits earned. The following actions will take place based on the number of demerits:

Demerit #1 and #2 will result in a notification of the parent(s) by phone and written (mail/email) form.

Demerit #3 will result in a meeting between the student and the junior high team and a phone call home.

Demerit #4 will result in a notification of the parent(s) by phone and written (mail/email) form.

Demerit # 5 will result in a meeting between the parent, the student, and the junior high team.

Demerit #6 and #7 will each result in a day of in-school suspension. A meeting with the parent, the student, and / or the junior high team/ junior high principal will be held prior to the student being admitted back into classes.

Demerit #8 per semester may result in an alternative educational setting to be determined by the junior high team.

If multiple demerits are earned the same day the student may appeal to the junior high team to have them counted as only one demerit after having served the consequences for receiving the demerits.

A demerit may be appealed within 3 days of the infraction. The appeal process begins by the student respectfully discussing the demerit with the staff member who assigned it. If there is no resolve, the student will request the staff member to initial the Demerit Appeal Form. The student will then take the initialed document to the junior high team. The junior high team will explain the procedure and set the appeal process in motion. A committee decision on whether the appeal was upheld will be given along with supporting reasons.

BICYCLES/MOPEDS/SKATEBOARDS/ROLLER-SKATES OR BLADES

The City of West Burlington requires that all bicycles be licensed. For your own protection, you should have your bicycle registered with the West Burlington Police Department. Bicycles and mopeds are to be used only as transportation to and from school. Skateboards, roller-skates, rollerblades, scooters, and heeled shoes (wheeled shoes) are prohibited on school property. The Principal will handle all safety violations. The students will be asked to correct the violation or privileges may be revoked. Taking another student's transportation equipment without permission will be considered stealing and the proper authorities will be notified. Bicycles and mopeds are to be parked in the spaces provided.

CARE OF SCHOOL PROPERTY

Students are expected to take care of school property, including desks, chairs, books, lockers, and school equipment. Vandalism is not tolerated. Students found to have destroyed or otherwise harmed school property will be required to reimburse the school district. Depending upon the severity of the vandalism, the student may be subject to the Good Conduct Rule as well as other behavioral consequences. Student may be reported to the police.

CORRIDOR CONDUCT

The conduct of the students in the corridors is sometimes the basis used by visitors in the building for evaluating the entire school. Running and boisterous behavior are considered out of order. Center square, just outside the cafeteria, is a non-loitering area. Students are not permitted to block access to lockers, nor are they to congregate in groups that block hallways or doors as this hinders traffic. Students are to keep conversations appropriate for school. Inappropriate language and harassment of others will not be allowed. While at school, affectionate displays between couples will not be tolerated. School is neither the time nor the place for the display of affections.

DRESS CODE

Students are expected to dress in a fashion that does not disrupt the orderly, disciplined atmosphere of the school or the classroom-learning environment. The following is a list of **EXAMPLES OF attire CONSIDERED INAPPROPRIATE** for an educational environment:

- Hats, caps, HOODS, and other headgear
- Attire which is considered too revealing or distracting such as: tube tops, halter-style tops, single strap or strapless tops, and tops that show bare shoulders or cleavage.

- Pants must not reveal undergarments or be revealing (LOW SLUNG OR SAGGING OR EXCESSIVE HOLES)
- Attire promoting products illegal for use by minors (alcohol, drugs, tobacco)
- Attire which contains reference to subversion or which promote subversive activity
- Shoes with cleats, bedroom slippers, roller blades, and roller shoes. Students are required to wear shoes or sandals
- Clothing that displays obscenity, profanity, vulgarity, racial remarks, or sexual remarks including, but not limited to: Co-ed Naked, Big Johnson, or Hooters.
- Visible chains
- Books bags/backpacks/fanny packs/purses. Students will be allowed to carry these items into school, but must be left in their locker during the school day.
- Coats/jackets. These items are to be left in the student's locker during the school day. They may be worn in classrooms at the individual discretion of the teacher.
- Sunglasses

Students will be asked to make corrections in their dress in order to be appropriate for an educational environment. Students who violate this policy may be subject to disciplinary measures.

FREEDOM OF EXPRESSION

Under the U.S. Constitution, all individuals have the right of freedom of expression. Since, however, student expression made on school premises or as a part of a school-sponsored activity may be attributed to the school, such expression must be appropriate to the activity. Students will be allowed freedom of expression of their viewpoints and opinions as long as the expression shall not, in the judgment of the administration, encourage the breaking of laws, cause defamation of persons, or contain obscenity, or indecency. The administration has the right to determine the time, place, and manner in which the expression is to be allowed so as not to disrupt the educational program of the district. Students who violate this policy may be subject to disciplinary measures.

HALL PASSES

Students must have hall passes (Handbook/Planners) or be accompanied by a school staff member to be in the halls during class periods. Students out of class without written permission are subject to receiving a demerit. Hall privileges can be revoked by any staff members.

ILLEGAL ITEMS FOUND IN SCHOOL OR ON SCHOOL PROPERTY

Students are prohibited from possessing, selling, distributing, concealing, or being under the influence of alcohol, drugs or look-a-like substances; possessing drug paraphernalia; and possessing or using tobacco, tobacco products or look-a-like substances. Students are prohibited from using, possessing, carrying, or manufacturing dangerous or potentially dangerous objects such as: knives, razor blades, matches, and lighters. Weapons or look-a-likes are not allowed on school grounds or at school activities with the exception of weapons in the control of law enforcement officials or those being used for educational purposes and approved by the principal. Concealment of illegal activities can carry the same penalty as the activity. Consequences for student misconduct may range from a verbal warning through expulsion. Students bringing firearms to school or possessing firearms at school will be expelled for not less than one year. Parents of students found in violation of this policy will be contacted. The severity of the infraction and the students' discipline files will be used to determine the appropriate consequences, including notification of law enforcement.

INTERROGATION BY OUTSIDE AGENCY

As a general rule, individuals from outside of the school district may not interrogate students. If an individual, such as a law enforcement officer wishes to interrogate a student, the request must come through the administrative office. Such a request will be granted only when, in the discretion of the administration, such action is in the best interest of the student's welfare, when a child abuse investigator, or when such interrogation request is supported by a court order makes the request. Prior to allowing the interrogation, the administrator shall attempt to contact the parent or guardian of the child and inform them of the request and ask if they wish to be present (except in cases of child abuse).

LOCKERS AND DESKS

Student lockers and desks are the property of the school district. Students shall use the lockers and desks assigned to them for storing their school materials and personal items necessary for attendance at school. It shall be the responsibility of each student to keep the student's assigned locker and desk clean and undamaged. The expenses to repair damage done to a student's locker and desk are charged to the student.

Although school lockers, desks and other spaces are temporarily assigned to individual students, they remain the property of the school district at all times. The school district has reasonable and valid interest in insuring the lockers, desks, and other spaces are properly maintained. For this reason, lockers, desks, and other spaces are subject to unannounced inspections and students have no legitimate expectations of privacy in the locker, desk, or other space. School officials in the presence of the student or other individual may conduct periodic inspections of all or a random selection of lockers, desks, or other spaces. Any contraband discovered during such searches shall be confiscated by school officials and may be turned over to law enforcement officials.

The contents of a student's locker, desk, or other space (coat, backpack, purse, etc.) may be searched when a school official has reasonable and articulable suspicion that the contents contains illegal or contraband items or evidence of a violation of law or school policy or rule. Such searches should be conducted in the presence of another adult witness when feasible.

NETWORK USE AND ADMINISTRATION

Students, who have a signed Acceptable Use Policy on file, will be issued an account with a user name, a password, and a student folder on the school server for secure storage of student computer files. The following rules apply to the use of the school network system:

- ◆ Accounts will be monitored randomly on a regular basis.
- ◆ Student files will be password protected to assure protection of student work; however, the network is the sole property of the school and school personnel may monitor all files and activity.
- ◆ Users should be aware that the school cannot absolutely guarantee the confidentiality of a user's files or communications. Extremely sensitive material should not be on the network system.
- ◆ The school is not responsible for the loss of data due to network system failure either of hardware or software.
- ◆ Any known abuse of the network system should be reported to school personnel.
- ◆ All files on the network system may be viewed, executed, deleted, copied, restricted or compressed by school personnel.
- ◆ The school has the right to grant or deny access to network system computer resources depending on network system requirements, memory space needed, school policy, and history of past activities by the user.

There may be a storage quota imposed on an account. It is the responsibility of the user to know and maintain the limit.

PARENTAL/STUDENT CONCERNS/GRIEVANCES

If you have a concern or problem with a school employee in relationship to the performance of his/her duties, with school rules or policies, or with any aspect of the everyday operation of the school, we encourage you to talk with us. This will help to either clarify what has occurred and allow appropriate changes to be made or help you better understand what has taken place and why.

Please take your concern or problem to the person that is directly involved first. If no mutual understanding can be reached, then go to that person's supervisor. **EXAMPLES:** If your concern is with a teacher or coach, talk with that teacher or coach first and then with the principal if necessary. If your concern is with the rules or policies, talk to the principal first, and then with the superintendent if necessary.

PERSONAL ELECTRONIC EQUIPMENT

Students must keep items such as, but not limited to, cell phones, cameras, laser pointers, headphones, video games, personal music players and other electronic devices out of sight in purses, backpacks or other types of equipment cases. Use of this type of equipment in school from 8:00-3:30 is prohibited.

Cell Phones: Cell phones should be turned off and stored when a student enters the building. Any use of cell phones including, but not limited to, phone calls, text messaging, games, and taking pictures will be an infraction and will be handled as follows:

1st offense in a year: phone confiscated and turned in to the office to be returned to student at end of the school day. One demerit issued by the principal. Letter sent to parent.

2nd offense in a year: phone confiscated and turned in to the office to be returned to parent at the end of the school day. One demerit issued.

3rd offense in a year: phone confiscated and turned in to the office to be returned to a parent at the end of the school day. Parent is notified the student is no longer allowed to have the phone inside the building. One day in-school suspension issued.

Other Electronic Equipment: Other electronic equipment such as cameras, personal music players, and electronic games should be turned off and stored when a student enters the building:

1st offense in a year: item confiscated and turned in to the office to be returned to student at end of the school day. One demerit issued by the principal. Letter sent to parent.

2nd offense in a year: item confiscated and turned in to the office to be returned to a parent at the end of the day. One demerit issued.

3rd offense in a year: item confiscated and turned in to the office to be returned to a parent at the end of the day. Parent is notified the student is no longer allowed to have the item inside the building. One day of in-school suspension issued.

Camera Cell Phones or Cameras: Use of any electronic equipment that can make images of others is prohibited, especially in rest rooms or locker rooms where supervision is not always available. Use may result in suspension and referral to police.

POSTING OF INFORMATION

Students who wish to post or distribute information must receive permission from the principal prior to the posting or distribution. This applies whether the information deals with school sponsored or non-school sponsored activities. (The principal has a signature stamp that is put on anything posted in the school)

PUBLICATIONS

Students shall be free to express themselves in school-sponsored publications except for the following restrictions:

- ◆ Students shall not publish or distribute materials that are obscene, libelous, slanderous, or infringe on the rights of others.
- ◆ Students shall not publish or distribute materials that encourage students to commit unlawful acts, violate lawful school regulations, or cause material and/or substantial disruption of the orderly operation of the school. Within these guidelines, advisors and student- staff members shall maintain professional standards of English and journalism when choosing which information to publish in school-sponsored publications.

STUDENT SEARCHES

In order to protect the health and safety of students, employees, and visitors to the school district and for the protection of the school district facilities, students and their belongings and school-owned lockers and desks may be searched or inspected. A search of a student will be justified when there are reasonable grounds for the suspicion that the search will turn up evidence that the student has violated or is violating the law or school district policy, rules, or regulations affecting school order.

Considering factors such as the following may form reasonable suspicion:

1. Eyewitness observations by employees;
2. Information received from reliable sources;
3. Suspicious behavior by the student; or,
4. The student's past history and school record although this factor alone is not sufficient to provide the basis for reasonable suspicion.

A search will be permissible in its scope or intrusiveness when the measures adopted are reasonably related to the objectives of the search. Reasonableness of scope or intrusiveness may be based on factors such as the following:

- The age of the student;
- The sex of the student;
- The nature of the infraction; and
- The urgency of the situation.

A student's body and/or personal effects (e.g. purse, backpack, etc.) may be searched when a school official has reasonable suspicion to believe the student is in possession of illegal or contraband items or has violated school district policies, rules, regulations, or the law affecting school order.

Personally intrusive searches will require more compelling circumstances to be considered reasonable. If a pat-down search or a search of a student's garments (such as jackets, socks, pockets, etc.) is conducted, it will be conducted in private by a school official of the same sex as the student and with another adult witness of the same sex present, when feasible. A more intrusive search, short of a strip search, of the student's body, handbags, book bags, etc., is permissible in emergency situations when the health and safety of students, employees, or visitors are threatened. Such a search may only be conducted in private by a school official of the same sex as the student, with an adult of the same sex present unless the health or safety of students will be endangered by the delay which may be caused by following these procedures.

Students are permitted to park on school premises as a matter of privilege, not of right. The school retains authority to conduct routine patrols of the student parking lots. The interior of a student's automobile on the school premises may be searched if the school official has reasonable and articulable suspicion to believe that illegal, unauthorized or contraband items are contained inside.

DUE PROCESS

To ensure that the students receive fair treatment consistent with the fundamental requirements of due process (regardless of race, gender, or special education) student suspensions or recommendations for expulsions must be made in accordance with the following:

A student may be suspended for up to ten school days by an administrator for a commission of serious or repeated infractions of school rules, or when the presence of the student will cause substantial interference with the maintenance of the educational environment of the normal operation of the school. The administrator shall conduct an informal investigation of the charges against the student, giving the student:

- Oral or written notice of the allegations against the student.
- The basis in fact for the charges.
- The opportunity to respond to those charges.
- The right to appeal.

Appeal Provision:

Any student or parent who believes that the actions of a teacher or other school official were unfair or unreasonable under the circumstances or in violation of these rules or board policy may request an informal hearing before the teacher or official's supervisor. The following chain of command is to be followed:

1. From a teacher's actions -- Following an attempt to resolve the situation with the teacher, contact the principal.
2. From a principal's decision -- Contact the superintendent.
3. From the superintendent's decision -- Go to the Board of Directors of the West Burlington Schools.
4. From the Board decision -- To the State Board of Education.

STUDENT SCHOLASTIC ACHIEVEMENT

ACADEMIC STANDARDS

West Burlington Junior/Senior High School's grade marking system is as follows:

- A = 4.00
- B = 3.00
- C = 2.00
- D = 1.00
- F = 0
- I = Incomplete

Each teacher establishes his/her own academic criteria to determine letter grades.

A student's grade classification will depend upon the following criteria:

- Junior High: Promotion from grade-to-grade in Junior High is based upon core course credits and exploratory credits. The Junior High School Principal will determine, in the best interest of the student, based on grades, assessments, and input from the junior high staff, those students who will not be awarded promotion to the next grade level.

Semester tests or an appropriate alternative assessment will be given to all High School students in all classes designated academic solids. Semester tests may be given in those classes not designated academic solids. Semester tests may be administered to Junior High students at the discretion of the teacher.

ADDING/DROPPING COURSES

Students who have signed up for band and/or chorus will not be allowed to drop the course until the end of the semester with parent

EARLY GRADUATION

Students may graduate from West Burlington Arnold High School if they meet the following conditions:

1. Successful completion of all graduation requirements listed in the administrative guidelines for the Board Policy titled "Graduation Requirements".
2. The student must complete the application for early graduation and hold a conference with the principal and school counselor to discuss the pros and cons of early graduation by October 1st. Students under age 18 will be required to have the parent attend the conference and sign the application.
3. Students who graduate early become alumni of the school district and are not allowed to participate in school activities, including senior activities, except for graduation.

ELIGIBILITY FOR ACTIVITIES

Students may participate in interscholastic athletics, music, extracurricular drama or speech, and other contests or events approved by the administration subject to the conditions listed below:

1. No student shall participate in athletic/cheerleading practices or events without filing a doctor's certificate of good health and an insurance note with the school office.
2. Any student whose conduct and/or habits while at school, on school grounds, at school sponsored activities or riding in school transportation are such as to make him/her unworthy to represent the ideals, principles, and standards of the school shall be declared ineligible. Any student shall also be

declared ineligible if conduct away from the school setting results in the school being officially notified by a law enforcement agency. It shall be the duty of the superintendent or his delegated principal to exclude the student from participating in any of the extracurricular activities until reinstated by the school administration for inappropriate conduct or habits away from the school setting.

3. Academic eligibility for participation in extracurricular activities at West Burlington Junior High School is based on the following language for the new No Pass/No Play Rule of Iowa Code 36.15

(2) Scholarship Rules:

- a. All contestants must be enrolled and in good standing in a school that is a member or associate member in good standing of the organization sponsoring the event.
- b. All contestants must be under 20 years of age.
- c. All contestants shall be enrolled students of the school in good standing. They shall receive credit in at least four subjects, each of one period or "hour" or the equivalent thereof, at all times.
- d. All contestants must maintain membership in all classes in which they were enrolled. Modification of the student school day will result in the student being ineligible.

To qualify under this rule, a "subject must meet the requirement of 281- Chapter 12. Coursework taken under the provisions of Iowa Code chapter 261C, postsecondary enrollment options, for which a school district or accredited nonpublic school grants academic credit toward high school graduation shall be used in determining eligibility. No student shall be denied ineligibility if the student's school deviates from the traditional two-semester school year.

- (1) Each contestant shall be passing all coursework for which credit is given and shall be making adequate progress toward graduation requirements at the end of each grading period. Grading period, graduation requirements, and any interim periods of ineligibility are determined by local policy. For purposes of the sub-rule, "grading period" shall mean the period of time at the end of which a student in grades 7 and 8 receives a final grade and course credit is awarded for passing grades.
- (2) Subject to the provision below regarding contestants in interscholastic baseball or softball, if at the end of any grading period a contestant is given a failing grade in any course for which credit is awarded, the contestant is ineligible to dress for and compete in the next occurring interscholastic athletic contests and competitions for 15 calendar days.
 - a. A student with a disability who has an individualized education program shall not be denied eligibility on the basis of scholarship if the student is making adequate progress, as determined by school officials, towards the goals and objectives on the student's individualized education program.
 - b. A student who meets all other qualifications may be eligible to participate in interscholastic athletics for a maximum of eight consecutive semesters upon entering the ninth grade for the first time. However, a student who engages in athletics during the summer following eighth grade is also eligible to compete during the summer following twelfth grade. Extenuating circumstances, such as health, may be the basis for an appeal to the executive board which may extend the eligibility of a student when the executive board finds that the interests of a student and interscholastic athletics will be benefited.

4. Fine Arts eligibility: A student that does not pass all credit earning coursework at the end of a semester will have a 15 calendar day period of ineligibility to begin the school day following the day grades are issued by the district.
5. Students with Disabilities: A student with a disability will be eligible if the student is making adequate progress toward the goals and objectives on the student's IEP.
6. Study Table participation: As a proactive means to help students keep from failing course work the district will have mandatory study tables. Students are to be recommended by teachers on the basis of failing grades or in the need of additional help in a guided study hall. The students will be notified by their teachers on Thursday or Friday of each week. Each teacher must have a list of notified students with signatures for accountability purposes. The teachers will notify parents of those students that have been placed on Study Table using the JMC Gradebook. These names will be posted on the spreadsheet so the students know which Study Table to report to. Those parents who did not receive the email will receive a letter indicating their student is on Study Table. Students will serve three days starting on Monday through Friday of the following week. Students remain on Study Table until their teacher takes them off and removes their name from the spreadsheet. Students that have not completed their required Study Table periods by the end of the following week shall be ineligible for extra-curricular and social activities the next week. Students that do NOT attend two weeks of Study Table will be required to have a parental conference at which time an academic contract will be signed by the parent indicating they are aware of their child's failure and are refusing academic assistance. Students will remain ineligible until time has been made up or the contract is signed. Students who have morning extra-curricular activities or other required activities will be allowed to serve after school for the same time period. The building principal may excuse a participant from making up the missed session on a case by case basis. any day at study table that the participant exhibits unacceptable behavior, attitude, work habits or is more that 5 minutes late, the participant will have to make up that study table. Late time up to 5 minutes will be made up on a minute for minute basis on the same day the student is late.

WEST BURLINGTON GOOD CONDUCT RULE

The objective of the Good Conduct Rule is to establish and provide for the enforcement of specific standards for all students attending West Burlington Junior High School and not just those who are involved in extra-curricular (athletics, etc.) co-curricular activities (band, vocal music, etc.) and school sponsored clubs or organizations. This does not include activities that are not sponsored by the school district. This rule shall govern any and all school sponsored activities/clubs.

It is the philosophy of the West Burlington Independent School District that participation in extra-curricular and/or co-curricular activities is a privilege to be earned by not only demonstrating a particular talent or ability, but also by demonstrating lawful and reasonable conduct. It is also believed that the attitude and conduct of all students and not just those involved in school activities has an impact on the attitude and conduct of others. This policy shall be in effect the entire calendar year, both during the regular school year as well as all vacation periods.

The Administration may declare a student ineligible whose conduct is contrary to and in violation of the rules and regulations established and made known by the school administration or whose conduct is contrary to or in violation of this policy or any other board policy.

The following behaviors or actions by a student may be determined to be in violation of the Good Conduct Rule upon notification by law enforcement of the infraction, by observation of the infraction by school personnel, by student admission of the infraction, or by parental report of the infraction by their student and subsequent investigation by the Administration:

- Possessing, using, selling, or distributing any tobacco product.
- Possessing, using, selling, manufacturing, distributing, or being under the influence of any alcoholic beverage.
- Possessing, using, selling, manufacturing, distributing, or being under the influence of any controlled substance, or a “look-alike” substance unless such substance was prescribed for that student by a valid prescription or order of a licensed medical practitioner while acting in the course of his or her duties.
- Possessing, using, selling, manufacturing, distributing, any drug paraphernalia or apparatus used to allow the person using it to be involved with a controlled substance.
- Engaging in any act that would be grounds for arrest or citation in the criminal or juvenile court system (excluding curfew, traffic, hunting or fishing offenses) regardless of whether the student was cited, arrested, convicted or adjudicated for the act(s). Effective September 1, 2007, this includes shoplifting in those acts that would be grounds for arrest or citation.
- Inappropriate or offensive conduct such as fighting, gross insubordination, hazing, or harassment of others including school staff.

If a student transfers in from another Iowa school or school district and the student had not completed a period of ineligibility of a Good Conduct Rule in the previous school, the student shall be ineligible until the terms of the ineligibility imposed by the previous school are met.

First Offense

A student violating the Good Conduct Rule shall be ineligible to participate in 1/5 of the total number of dates scheduled for competition or performance for all activities that the student is engaged in at the time of the infraction. If the student is not engaged in an activity at that time, it will be enforced for the next activity in which the student is engaged. Students engaged in school clubs as well as athletic or co-curricular activities will be ineligible for club activities during this same time frame. Students that do not participate in athletic or co-curricular activities but are in school clubs will be ineligible for club activities for 45 days or a minimum of one activity (whichever is a longer period of time). Students not engaged in athletics, co-curricular activities, or in school clubs will be ineligible for participation in school social functions (dances) for 45 days or a minimum of one activity (whichever is a longer period of time). To complete the restriction for this policy, an ineligible student shall attend all practices / rehearsals but may not “suit-up” or perform/participate and must be under the direct supervision of the coach or sponsor during the suspension. If these conditions are not met, the 45 day or minimum of one activity will go into effect.

Second Offense

A student violating the Good Conduct Rule again within one calendar year of the first offense shall be ineligible to participate in 1/2 of the total number of dates scheduled for competition or performance for all activities that the student is engaged in at the time of the infraction. If the student is not engaged in an activity at that time, it will be enforced for the next activity in which the student is engaged. Students engaged in school clubs as well as athletic or co-curricular activities will be ineligible for club activities during this same time frame. Students that do not participate in athletic or co-curricular activities but are in school clubs will be ineligible for club activities for 90 days or a minimum of two activities (whichever is a longer period of time). Students not engaged in athletics, co-curricular activities, or in school clubs will be ineligible for participation in school social functions (dances) for 90 days or a minimum of two activities (whichever is a longer period of time) and perform 20 hours of community service for the school in order to retain eligibility.

Third Offense

A student violating the Good Conduct Rule again within one calendar year of the second offense shall be ineligible to participate in extracurricular, co-curricular, and school club or organization activities as well as

school social functions for one calendar year if any of those offenses were for drugs, alcohol, tobacco, a serious or aggravated misdemeanor or a felony. If none of the violations were for the above, the period of ineligibility will be 6 months.

Reduction in Penalty:

1. Evaluation and treatment: A student who has a second violation of the alcohol or drug provision of the Good Conduct Rule may elect to seek an evaluation and, if recommended, treatment from a recognized substance abuse facility at the student's or student's family expense. If the student seeks the evaluation and agrees to waive confidentiality to allow the evaluating facility to report back to the administration regarding recommendations for treatment or follow-up care, the student's penalty for the second offense may be reduced by one half. This reduction is not available for first or third violations.

2. Admission prior to determination: If a student comes forward to a coach, administrator, or activity sponsor by 8:00am on the next school day following the violation of the Good Conduct Rule during the school year or within 48 hours during vacation times to admit (self-report) a violation of the Good Conduct Rule, the student's penalty may be reduced by one third for a first violation, one fourth for a second violation, or three months for a third violation within the student's high school career.

3. Items 1 and 2 above may not be combined.

4. A student who has been found to have violated one or both of the provisions described above prohibiting conduct that would be grounds for arrest or citation, or conduct that is inappropriate or offensive, may seek to reduce the penalty by entering into a Behavior Agreement. The Agreement shall be in writing and shall include, but not limited to, an oral apology for the student's behavior to affected parties, restitution where appropriate, and a possible presentation before students in the elementary or junior high school regarding the inappropriateness of the student's behavior and the lesson he/she learned from the incident. The degree of reduction of the penalty in such situations shall rest with the administrator, but in no event shall the reduction exceed one-half of the penalty for 1st or 2nd offenses or one-third of the penalty for a 3rd offense.

Violations Occurring During Ineligibility:

If a student is already ineligible at the time of a violation of the Good Conduct Rule, the penalty for the violation will not begin until the student regains eligibility. Example: If a student who is academically ineligible is found to have been in possession of tobacco which is a Good Conduct Rule violation will have the penalty attach when the student is again academically eligible. Example: A student violates the Good Conduct Rule and is ruled ineligible for three games. While ineligible, the student again violates the rule. The second penalty attaches when the first penalty is completed.

Appeal Process:

There will be one type of appeal. The first is the appeal of the determination of the ineligibility. The second is the appeal to have the violation expunged (available only to students in grades 9-12).

- Appeal of Determination of the Ineligibility: Any student found to be in violation of the Good Conduct Rule may appeal to the junior high principal either orally or in writing within 3 days of the finding by the high school administration. The student will need to state why the decision shouldn't apply in the sense that the student did not violate the Good Conduct Rule, the student wasn't given due process in the determination of the violation, or the Good Conduct Rule was not applied correctly. The penalty remains on hold pending the Principal's decision which must be made within 5 days. If the student is still dissatisfied, the student may appeal to the Board of Education by filing

a written appeal with the Board Secretary at least 24 hours prior to the next board meeting. The review will be in closed session unless the student's parent (or the student if age 18) requests an open session. The grounds for the appeal are limited to the ones listed above for the appeal to the Principal. If the Board of Education reverses the decision of the administration, the student will have any record of the ineligibility period and violation deleted from the student's record. If the decision is upheld, the ineligibility period begins immediately as outlined in the process.

To Regain Eligibility:

For First and Second Offense violations, the student must attend all practices and/or rehearsals during the ineligibility period and remain out for the activity the entire length of the activity. The student must be under direct supervision of the coach/sponsor during this period of ineligibility. The student may not "suit up" or perform or participate in any contests or games during the ineligibility period. Any school assigned community or school service must be completed in the time frame established by the school in conjunction with the parent(s). If the student does not complete the terms of the ineligibility it will start over at the start of the next activity the student seeks to participate in.]

GRADE REPORTS

Progress reports are available on-line through the JMC student management system. To access these reports, parents must register their email address and receive a user name and password from the school office. Mid-term reports are mailed home at the middle of each quarter, though parents may request them at any time. Students making poor progress are given this information so they can improve their work before the end of the quarter.

Report cards are issued at the end of each quarter and semester.

Students who receive incomplete grades must have all work completed 10 school days after the end of the first and third quarters. At the end of the second and fourth quarters, incomplete work must be completed at the end of the last exam day. Failure to complete make-up work in the allotted time may result in a failing grade. At mid-quarter make up work must be completed 5 days after progress reports are due in the office.

HOMEWORK/MAKE-UP ASSIGNMENTS

Teachers assign homework for extra class activities, to share and discuss ideas, to review materials, to become acquainted with resources, to organize thoughts, to prepare for classroom activities or to make up incomplete class work. Students are expected to complete homework on time. Failure to complete homework may result in loss of class credit and a failing grade in the class.

Students are responsible for obtaining assignments after being absent from school for any reason. Make-up assignments must be turned in three days after the students return to school. Any variance from these rules will be by teacher approval. Students who are planning to be absent from school for family trips are required to obtain a pre-arranged absence form from the office. The form is to be signed by the teachers of the classes that the student will be missing.

Make-up work for unexcused absences will be denied. This will include failure to properly pre-arrange absences that are known in advance.

HONOR ROLL AND ACADEMIC HONORS

West Burlington Junior High School students must receive a G.P.A. of 3.0 on a 4.0 grade scale to achieve

semester/quarterly academic honor roll.

HUMAN GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT

The school district provides students with instruction in human growth and development. Parents may review this curriculum prior to its use and have their child excused from this instruction. Parents should contact the principal if they wish to review the curriculum or to excuse their child from human growth and development instruction.

OPEN ENROLLMENT/TRANSFER STUDENTS

Iowa's open enrollment law allows students residing in one school district to request transfer to another school district upon the parents' request. Students who leave the district and who wish to continue their educational program at West Burlington may do so by completing the open enrollment form and requesting continuation of program. Students interested in open enrolling out of the school district must contact the Superintendent for information, time-lines, and forms.

Students who transfer into the district must meet the same requirements as those students who initially enroll in the district. This includes age and immunization requirements. If possible, the student must provide the district with proof of the student's grade level or permanent records. In the case of a homeless student, the superintendent will make the grade level determination. For students wishing to transfer out of the district before graduation, the student's parents should notify the administration in writing as soon as possible. The written notice should include the anticipated last date of attendance and the name and address of the school district to which the parent would like to have the student's records sent. After such notice is received, the student will receive instructions regarding the return of textbooks, library books, locker equipment, hot lunch tickets, etc. No refunds will be made until all fee or fines have been paid.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

All students will be required to take physical education unless excused by the administration for reasons consistent with those permitted by State law. Students will be allowed six "no dresses" of non-participation per quarter. A subsequent 4th or 7th "no-dress" will result in a failing grade. An unexcused absence will be recorded as a "no dress". Students will be expected to actively participate in physical education activities. Every failing student from excused absences will be allowed to make-up P.E. time by contacting the teacher to raise that grade. Overly aggressive behavior leading to unsafe playing will not be allowed. The school will not be responsible for valuables taken into the locker rooms. Students are to leave any valuables in the school office or with the P.E. instructor.

STANDARDIZED TESTS

Students are given standardized tests annually. These tests are used to determine academic progress for individual students, for groups of students and for the school district. Students are tested unless the principal excuses them.

<u>TEST</u>	<u>GRADES</u>
ITBS	7 - 8
ICAM	8

MISCELLANEOUS

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Students are responsible for knowing the content of daily announcements. Students who wish to have an item included in the daily announcements must have permission from the principal. They must be turned into the office by 4:30 p.m. to be included in the following day's announcements. Announcements are posted on the bulletin board in the entry area near the office, run through the school television broadcast system throughout the day, and posted on the school website.

CAFETERIA EXPECTATIONS

The school district operates breakfast and lunch programs. Breakfast is served from 8:00 AM to 8:23 AM and sold as a whole. Lunch is served at designated times. Students may either bring their own lunches to school or purchase a lunch and other items, including milk. Students cannot share their food with any other students. No food from an outside restaurant or non-nutritional beverage such as pop shall be brought into the cafeteria and consumed during the breakfast or lunch. No food or drink can be consumed outside the cafeteria. The district's behavior expectations will be in force at all times in the cafeteria. Misconduct consequences may range from a verbal warning to loss of cafeteria privileges.

DISTRICT TRANSPORTATION

Students who ride the bus and other school district vehicles to and from classes, extra-curricular activities, or any other destination must comply with school district policies, rules, and regulations. Students are responsible to the driver and/or aide while riding in the district transportation. The driver or aide has the ability to discipline a student and may notify the principal of a student's inappropriate conduct. Inappropriate conduct consequences may range from a verbal warning to suspension.

FEES

The school district charges fees for certain items, such as field trips, class dues, and class materials, which may include vocational materials, disks, and student handbooks/planners. Students can qualify for free or reduced rate textbooks based on the reduced rate school lunch program economic guideline.

GUIDANCE PROGRAM

There are three major areas of counseling services available for students. Students are encouraged to take advantage of these counseling services. The three areas of service are listed below:

1. Understanding of Self--The student who understands why he or she feels and behaves in certain ways (personal emotions and actions) becomes a happier and more effective individual due to an increasing ability to adjust to the world in which he or she lives. Individual and group counseling can provide greater understanding of self and aid in the development of personal coping skills.
2. Personal/Social Development--Learning how to relate better with friends, teachers, parents, and people in general can also contribute to a happier and more effective life. Counseling can assist students in gaining a fuller understanding of themselves in relation to others and in developing interpersonal relationship skills.
3. Future Life Plans--High school years are a preparation period for either further education or employment. As such, they are very important years during which students need to give serious thought to educational and career opportunities that they will need to plan for and work toward. Counseling services provide individualized assistance in career exploration and educational planning.

Students are encouraged to set an appointment with the counselor to take advantage of the above services whenever they feel a need exists. Parents and staff are encouraged to direct students to the counselor for individualized attention whenever in their judgment a student can benefit from counseling. Parents and staff are also encouraged to use the counselor's expertise on a consultant basis to obtain advice on how to best meet the needs of their child or their student.

INCLEMENT WEATHER

When the school day is cancelled or changed because of inclement weather students and parents are notified over KBUR 1490 AM, KGRS 107.3 FM, KDMG 103.1 FM, KKMI 93.5 FM, KCPS 11.50 AM, KBKB 13.60 AM, KBKB 107.7 FM radio stations, and www.kbur.com/cancel.html or our school web site www.w-burlington.k12.ia.us. The missed day may have to be made up at a later time.

INSPECTION OF EDUCATIONAL MATERIALS

Parents and other members of the school district community may view the instructional materials used by students in the office. Copies may be obtained according to board policy. Tests and assessment materials are only available for inspection with the consent of the superintendent. Anyone wishing to view instructional materials or express concerns about instructional materials may contact the building principal.

MEDIA CENTER

The library media center is available for use to all students who respect the value of materials therein and who observe the right of other students and staff to a quiet and orderly place in which to study, do research, or read. Students will be expected to follow the posted media center rules. Students who fail to follow the rules may lose their media center privileges.

OPEN GYM DURING NON-SCHOOL HOURS

The West Burlington Junior High and Senior High School gyms may be open during non-school hours only when supervised by a school employee. Permission will be granted by the athletic director and approval posted. Open gyms are open only to students who attend West Burlington High School or Junior High, and for activities approved by the supervisor.

STUDENT ASSISTANCE TEAM

The Independent School District of West Burlington, in its educational program, has a process to assist students experiencing behavior and learning difficulties. The Student Assistance Team is responsible for this process. Representatives from the Area Education Agency may also assist the school in this process. Parents wanting access to this process should contact the Junior/Senior High School Office at 754-6567.

TELEPHONE USE DURING THE SCHOOL DAY

Generally, students receiving telephone calls during school hours are not called to the telephone. The office will take a message and forward it to the student. Only in emergency situations are students removed from class or another school activity to receive a telephone call. The school office phone is to be used for school business and student emergencies when approved by the principal or an office secretary. Students may only use classroom phones if given permission by the teacher. Students wishing to make personal phone calls outside of class time are to use the school phone outside the office.

VENDING MACHINES

There is one vending machine available to students and it is located in the cafeteria. The juice, water, and Gatorade machine is on throughout the day. Students are not allowed to bring outside food or drink into the

school during school supervision hours. Food or drink is not allowed in lockers, as this is a sanitation concern. Bottled water will be allowed by permission of the individual classroom teacher. Any violations will result in confiscation. Insubordination of not following a staff member's instruction regarding the food or drink will result in a demerit as well as confiscation.

VISITORS / GUESTS / RECRUITERS / EMPLOYERS / WORKERS

Visitors to the school must check in at the Principal's office and be given a badge to wear. Students are generally discouraged from bringing guests from outside of our school during the regular school day. Possible exceptions to this policy must be arranged ahead of time with the principal, and will be granted only for special circumstances. Visitors or guests are expected to conduct themselves in an orderly, disciplined, and respectful manner. Name calling, profanity, obscene gestures, or racial slurs will not be tolerated. Recruiters and/or employers must check in at the office and will be given limited access in a pre-determined area. Guests seen without a badge should be reported to the office immediately.

SCHOOL COLORS, SCHOOL MASCOT AND SCHOOL SONG

The school colors are green and white and the mascot is the FALCON. The school song is as follows:

On West Burlington, On West Burlington

Best team on the field

We will win, Oh yes we will

Like we have done before

Ra, Yea, Team

On West Burlington, On West Burlington

Charge right through that line

Fight fellows, fight, fight, fight

To win this time

W.B.J.H.S. - WBJHS Fight, Falcons, Fight

