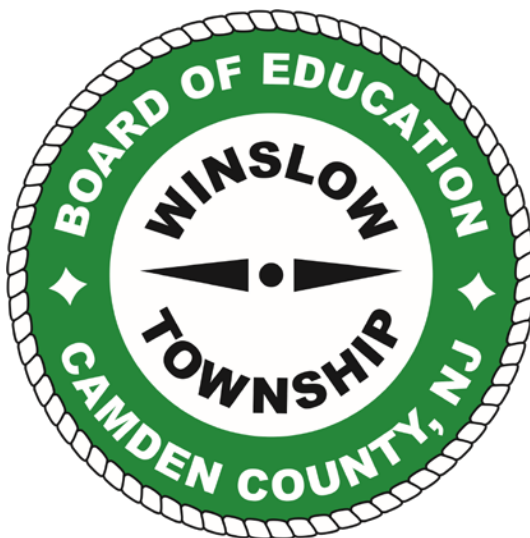


WINSLOW TOWNSHIP SCHOOL DISTRICT

Grades PK - 6

STUDENT HANDBOOK



2024-2025

***Preparing Our Students for Tomorrow . . .
Today!***

WINSLOW TOWNSHIP SCHOOL DISTRICT GRADES PK-6 TIME SCHEDULE

REGULAR SESSION

Pre-K -3rd	9:15 am - 3:30 pm
4th - 6th	8:45 am - 3:00 pm

DELAYED OPENINGS

Pre-K -3rd	11:15 am - 3:30 pm
4th - 6th	10:45 am - 3:00 pm

EARLY DISMISSAL

Pre-K -3rd	9:15 am - 1:15 pm
4th - 6th	8:45 am - 12:45 pm

SCHOOL CLOSING NUMBER: 572

Radio: KYWAM 1060

TV Channel: 3, 6, 10, & Fox

Please be sure that the school has up-to-date emergency contacts and telephone numbers. The school **must** be notified in writing when phone and contact information changes.

District Affirmative Action Statement

In accordance with the requirements of Title VI of The Civil Rights Act of 1964 (Title VI); Title IX of Education Amendments of 1973 (Title IX); Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act (Section 504); the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (the ADA); or the Age Discrimination Act of 1975 (the Age Discrimination Act), the Winslow Township School District does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, gender, sexual orientation, disability, or age in its educational programs and activities.

If you have questions regarding the district's responsibilities under these regulations, if you wish to make a complaint, or if you require services related to a disability pursuant to Section 504 and the ADA, please contact the following individual(s) designated to coordinate the district's efforts to comply with Title IX, which prohibits discrimination based on sex, Section 504 and the ADA, which prohibit discrimination based on disability, and the Age Discrimination Act, which prohibits discrimination based on age:

Affirmative Action Officer
Mr. Dion Davis

District 504 Officer
Dr. Dorothy Carcamo

Winslow Township Board of Education
40 Cooper Folly Road
Atco, NJ 08004
856-767-2850

For further information, contact:

United States Department of Education
Office for Civil Rights
New York Office
32 Old Slip, 25th Floor,
New York, New York 10005-2500
Phone: 646.428.3900; Fax: 646.428.3843
E-mail address: OCRNewYork@ed.gov.

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WINSLOW TOWNSHIP BOARD OF EDUCATION

40 Cooper Folly Road, Atco, New Jersey 08004

(856) 767-2850 (Main Number)

Website: www.winslow-schools.com

ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF

Dr. H. Major Poteat, Superintendent

Dr. Dorothy Carcamo, Assistant Superintendent

Ms. Tyra McCoy Boyle, Business Administrator

Ms. Sheresa Clement, Director of Curriculum and Instruction

Ms. Tammy Wall, Director of Transportation

Dr. Robert Riccardi, Director of Student Support Services

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413 Inskip Road, Blue Anchor, NJ 08037

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Alexandra Gonzalez, Assistant Principal

WINSLOW TOWNSHIP ELEMENTARY NO. 4

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Lori Kelly, Principal (856) 728-2440

Jamil McEnnis, Assistant Principal

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WINSLOW TOWNSHIP ELEMENTARY NO. 3

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Alexandra Gonzalez, Assistant Principal

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617 Sickler Avenue, Sicklerville, NJ 08081

Glen M. Jackson, Sr. Principal (856) 875-4110

Jamil McEnnis, Assistant Principal

WINSLOW TOWNSHIP SCHOOL DISTRICT MISSION STATEMENT

The Mission of the Winslow Township School District, a large, diverse and growing community, is to educate all students to become independent, life-long learners, critical thinkers, and caring, confident members of their community. The district, in partnership with the community, and in a climate of cooperation and mutual respect, will provide an academic environment which values excellence and diversity, encourages students to strive for personal excellence, and assists them in acquiring the knowledge, skills and attitudes necessary to contribute positively to a rapidly changing world.

This Student and Parent Handbook is designed to prepare students and their families for success in school and to assist school staff in maintaining open communication with parents. Our goal is to provide each child with every opportunity to be successful and be in a supportive school environment. We invite all parents/guardians to join us in this endeavor.

EMERGENCY CLOSING/ DELAYED OPENING

In the event that there is a need to close schools or to delay the start time, parents will receive a district phone broadcast, as well as notifications placed on the district and school websites. Additionally, local television stations will be made aware of school closings.

EARLY DISMISSAL

A sudden emergency may make it necessary to dismiss school early. An excessive accumulation of snow, a lack of heat, or an inadequate water supply could cause such action. Please make sure you have made arrangements for your child for an early dismissal.

HOME AND SCHOOL PARTNERSHIPS

The staff of the Winslow Township School District fosters close communication and cooperation between the home and school. The Home School Associations (HSA) help build our school community. Parents are encouraged to become involved with the HSA, and to support the many activities that they provide for the students.

STUDENTS' ATTENDANCE

The Board of Education requires that the pupils enrolled in the schools of this district attend regularly in accordance with the laws of the state. The educational program offered by this district is predicated on the presence of the pupil and requires continuity of instruction and classroom participation. Pupils absent from school for any reason are responsible for the completion of the assignments missed because of their absence. **Unverified absences** from school or from class within the school day constitute truanancies and shall be subject to the disciplinary rules of the Board.

Verified absences/tardiness include the following: religious observance; suspension; court attendance; death or serious illness in the family; necessary and unavoidable medical or dental appointments.

Absence from school is **NOT excused** for any of the following: performance of household or baby-sitting duties; vacation, and hunting.

Excessive absences and/or lateness may result in retention in grade, and possible referral to the court system.

Board of Education policy #5410 requires that a student must have been in attendance at least one hundred sixty-four days (164) during the school year to be considered for promotion to the next grade.

The above warning does not necessarily apply to students who have documented extended illnesses and who have received homebound instruction covering these periods. It refers to students with a total of more than 16 days of absence during the school year. When exceptional circumstances pertain and when retention is imminent, the parent may make an appeal to the Building Principal or Superintendent of Schools.

GENERAL ATTENDANCE GUIDELINES

1. Students must be present at least four hours to be marked present for the day.
2. In order to participate in an after-school activity, a student must be present in school the day of the activity. If a student is absent from school, he/she will not be permitted to participate in any after school activities for that day.
3. For purposes of student safety, parents who know in advance that their child will be absent from school, will arrive late, or will require early dismissal, must notify the

Main Office by telephone and submit a written note of explanation. In the event that a parent does not call, the school may contact the parent to verify the child's absence.

4. Parents/guardians must accompany their children when arriving late or signing out early. The school will seek assurance that the parents or guardians are aware of the child's absence from school.

5. Students returning from an absence must present a note to the school with an explanation signed by the parent or guardian. If the absence is greater than 5 days, a physician's statement, citing the date(s) and reason for the absence, and medical clearance is required upon the student's return to school.

6. A student with twenty (20) consecutive unexcused absences will be dropped from roll.

7. Back dated notes/verification of absences will not be accepted.

Reminder: All documentation of verified absences must be submitted within 5 school days of the student's return to school.

TRANSFER OF STUDENTS

To transfer a student out of the Winslow Township School District, the parent/guardian is requested to:

1. Advise the school principal that the student will no longer attend school in Winslow Township. Notify the school at least 5 days prior to the student's transfer.
2. Return all textbooks, library books and any other school property.

PUNCTUALITY

Punctuality is of the utmost importance. Student tardiness interrupts the education process. The parent is required to present a note of explanation for late arrivals. Parents must come to the office to "sign-in" late arriving students.

CLASSROOM VISITS

Parents are invited to visit classrooms and to confer with teachers and principals when classes are not in session. **Parents must first report to the principal's office and obtain a visitor's pass, as well as be escorted to the classroom. Siblings or other children are not permitted during the visit.**

FINES/ FINANCIAL OBLIGATIONS

Parents/Guardian will be held responsible for all fines accrued with the Winslow Township School District. All fines and financial obligations must be resolved before a student is permitted participation in extracurricular activities.

FIELD TRIPS

Students participating in field trips must have a permission slip signed by the parents/guardians, and must travel to and from the field trip location with their group.

ATTENDANCE OFFICER/TRUANCY

A Board appointed School Attendance Officer will check prolonged absence, frequent absence, frequent tardiness, or non-documented absences. Parents may be required to appear before a judge for the student's excessive absences.

STUDENT RESIDENCY

The Board of Education recognizes its responsibility to provide a free public education to all school age children domiciled or lawfully resident with the school district. To that end, the Board reserves the right to verify the residency or domicile of any applicant for admission to or currently enrolled student in the schools of the district.

Any student enrolled in the district schools who becomes a non-resident of the district on or after April 1st of any school year, may continue to attend the school provided the parent submits a written letter to the Superintendent of Schools, requesting permission for the student's continued enrollment for the remainder of the school year. If permission is granted, the parent will be responsible for transporting the student to and from school.

Parents/guardians who misrepresent that they are legal residents of Winslow Township, in order to send their children to schools, will be held financially responsible for tuition as permitted by law.

STUDENT REGISTRATION

Pre-K and KINDERGARTEN ENROLLMENT

Registration for incoming pre-k and kindergarten children is conducted each spring. Eligibility requirements for enrollment are:

Kindergarten – The child's fifth birthday must fall on or before October 1st of the school year.

Pre-K – The child's birthday must fall on or before October 1st of the school year.

REQUIRED CERTIFICATES/DOCUMENTS:

1. PROOF OF RESIDENCE

- Mortgage or settlement papers;
- Lease agreement; Real Estate Tax documents or Title documents

2. ORIGINAL BIRTH CERTIFICATE and/or legal proof of guardianship.

3. IMMUNIZATION RECORD

a. Preschool

- i. DPaT – minimum of 4 doses
- ii. Polio – minimum of 3 doses
- iii. MMR (1) must have been given on/after 1st birthday.
- iv. Haemophilus influenzae type b (Hib) series mandated by all children enrolled in preschool programs after 1st birthday.
- v. Hepatitis B series started
- vi. Varicella (chicken pox) (1) must have been given on/after 1st birthday or proof of disease written by doctor.
- vii. PCV-must have been given on/after 1st birthday.
- viii. Influenza – Yearly
- ix. Physical exam

b. Kindergarten

- I. Minimum of 4 doses plus booster after 4th birthday
- ii. Polio – minimum of 4 doses plus booster after 4th birthday
- iii. MMR 1 & MMR 2 vaccine
- iv. Hepatitis B series of 3 for pupils entering kindergarten
- v. Varicella (chicken pox) given after 1st birthday.
- vi. Mantoux Test, if transferring from out-of-state or country.
- vii. Physical exam

CONTACT YOUR SCHOOL NURSE OR THE CAMDEN COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT FOR INFORMATION ABOUT FREE IMMUNIZATIONS.

(856-364-6000 or 1-800-999-9045)

STUDENTS EXEMPT FROM IMMUNIZATION

1. Students are exempt who have a written statement from a physician that a specific immunization is medically contraindicated for a specified period of time, with reasons for the medical contraindication.
2. A written statement signed by the parent/guardian that the proposed immunization interferes with the free exercise of the pupil's religious rights is also cause for exemption.
3. General philosophical or moral objection to immunization shall not be sufficient for an exemption on religious grounds.

Please note: Children who do not fulfill the immunization requirements for registration before the first day of school, shall not be permitted to attend until such time as the requirements are met.

LEGAL CUSTODY AND ACCESS TO NON-CUSTODIAL PARENTS

A copy of legal custodial documents/agreements which restrict a parents'/guardians' right to access a student must be presented to the district at the time the document is placed in effect. This documentation will be placed in the student's cumulative file and on the emergency card. It is the custodial parent's responsibility to see that these legal documents are available to school officials, and up to date.

CELL PHONES AND ELECTRONIC DEVICES

The Winslow Township School District is not responsible for lost or stolen items. Therefore, students bring these items into school at their own risk. Electrical or battery-operated devices, cell phones and other nuisance devices that cause a distraction, or a danger to students and staff, are not permitted in class or on the bus. Cellular telephone and or any electronic device(s) that are used in violation of this policy will be subject to the following disciplinary action(s):

1st offense and 2nd offense: The electronic device(s) must be given to the Principal or Assistant Principal and the parent will be notified to pick up the device(s). Refusal to give the device(s) to the administrator for parent pick-up will result in an automatic 1 day out of school suspension.

3rd offense: The electronic device(s) must be given to the Principal or Assistant Principal and the parent will be notified to pick up the device(s). Refusal to give the device(s) to give the device to the administrator for parent pick up will result in an automatic 1 day out of school suspension.

A third offense will also result in a one day out of school suspension, the loss of privilege to use cell phone on school premises for the remainder of the school year and student will lose the privilege of participating in extra-curricular activities; Such as prom, athletics and graduation.

Students who need to contact parents during the school day may use a phone in the main office. Parents who need to contact students may call the school and leave a message with the main office or a grade level office. Any and all video and/or audio recordings of school activities or staff members before, during, and/or after school are not permitted without the written authorization of the school administration.

INTERVENTION AND REFERRAL SERVICES

When a student is identified as having difficulty within the standard curriculum, he/she may be referred to the Intervention and Referral Services (I & RS) team for consultation. The team is made up of staff members, including teachers, counselor, administrators, and Child Study Team personnel, who convene to assist with developing a plan to help the student excel.

CHILD STUDY TEAM

The Winslow Township School District has a Child Study Team to service each of its schools. The Child Study Team consists of psychologists, social worker and learning disability specialists. Other professionals may become a part of the team. A teacher and/or parent/guardian may refer a student to the Child Study team when there is evidence of learning, emotional, or physical difficulties. Within 20 calendar days (excluding school holidays) of the time of referral, the parent/guardian will be invited to meet with the Child Study Team to determine whether their child is eligible for an evaluation and, if so, to cooperatively develop the evaluation process. The full evaluation process will be completed within ninety days. If the student is found eligible for special education services, the Child Study Team will develop an appropriate educational program for the student.

HOMEWORK/MAKEUP WORK

The Board of Education believes that homework, which is relevant to material presented in class, provides an opportunity to broaden, deepen, or reinforce the pupil's knowledge. Teachers assign homework to assist them in learning the subject matter. The type, frequency, and/or quantity of homework assigned is determined by the needs of the individual student or class and should not require additional initial learning beyond that provided in the classroom. Homework should reinforce and extend the lessons learned in school.

Teachers should observe the following guidelines for the introduction and assignment of homework. Students in grades PK & K should be provided with developmentally appropriate activities consistent with the Early Childhood Curriculum Frameworks. Homework for students in Grades 1 & 2, should be 10-20 minutes. The suggested amount of time allocated to homework should increase from Grade 3 to Grade 5 as follows: Grade 3 (30 minutes); Grade 4 (40 minutes); Grade 5 (50 minutes), and Grade 6 (60 minutes).

A pupil who has been absent from school will be given an opportunity to make up homework assignments, provided the assignments are completed during a period equal to the length of the absence. However, the student should be afforded sufficient opportunity to receive the appropriate instruction in order to master the concepts and/or skills necessary to complete the homework assignment missed during the period of absence. That period

may be extended for the completion of long-term assignments. The parent/ legal guardian may also request homework assignments to be completed during an extended absence.

PROGRESS REPORTS

Report cards provide quarterly updates of pupil progress to parents/guardians; the interim progress reports (between report cards) and individual contacts or conferences with teachers or administrators are additional tools of parental communication. Report cards are sent home four times a year. Progress reports are sent at least twice per year. Parent conferences are scheduled once in the fall and once in the spring. Additional conferences may be scheduled by the parent by contacting the school.

HONORING PUPIL ACHIEVEMENT

The Winslow Township School District Upper Elementary School (grades 4-6) Honor Roll has been implemented to motivate students to learn and to recognize academic achievement and good citizenship. The objective is to promote improvement in academic achievement, attendance and to establish in students a sense of self-worth and pride in learning. A certificate of honor will be given to each student who earns the honor roll.

LUNCH PROGRAMS

Breakfast and lunch are served in all elementary schools. Children may either buy a lunch or bring lunch from home.

A meal prepayment plan is available in all schools. Information regarding this program is available in all schools. Information regarding this program is sent home every school year. A menu is also sent home each month.

The following food items may not be served, sold or given out as free promotion anywhere on school property at any time before the end of the school day:

- Foods of minimal nutritional value as defined by U.S. Department of Agriculture regulations.

- All food and beverage items listing sugar, in any form, as the first ingredient and all forms of candy.

STAYING INSIDE AT LUNCHTIME

A parent's note requesting that, for health reasons, the student remain inside following lunch, will be honored for one (1) day only. If it is necessary that a student have no outside activity for a prolonged period (more than 1 day), a doctor's note is required stating the reason(s) and the length of time.

FAMILY LIFE PROGRAM

This program supports and supplements the parent's/guardian's efforts in the area of family life education by offering students factual information primarily in Grades 3-6. Our Family Life Curriculum follows Administrative Code (6:29-7.1) and is infused across the school curricula.

During each school year parents/guardians receive a letter regarding this curriculum with an outline of the guide for your child's grade level. Any parent who wishes to review the full curriculum and/or supplementary materials will be provided the opportunity to do so. Parent/guardians who find the curriculum to be conflicted with their sincerely held moral or religious beliefs, may request that their child be excluded from Family Life instruction. A written request to the school principal is required within 10 days of receiving the course outline.

SUBSTANCE AWARENESS

An overview of policy regarding alcohol and other drugs, disciplinary consequences, and the process of evaluation, intervention, and treatment, shall be made available to all school staff, pupils and parents/guardians.

HEALTH PROGRAM

The school nurse conducts height, weight, blood pressure, vision, and hearing screening tests, as well as growth surveys yearly. The State of New Jersey requires each student between the ages of 10 and 18 years old to be examined for possible spinal curvature (scoliosis) at its earliest stages. This primarily involves students in Grade 5. Parents/guardians are informed of any problems detected. Parents/guardians may elect to have the medical exam completed (at their own cost) by their family physician. The school provides a form for the family physician to complete and return to school. First aid is

provided by a teacher or nurse of minor injuries that may occur at school. Any abnormal symptoms observed in a child are reported to the parents/guardians. A school nurse is on call for any injury or illness that may require special attention while a child is in school.

COMMUNICABLE DISEASES

When a child is ill, parents/guardians are often uncertain as to whether or not to send the child to school. To prevent the spread of communicable diseases and to ensure rapid recovery with a minimum of after-effects, a child should stay at home if he/she has a sore throat, earache, enlarged glands, fever or chills, running nose, an unexplained rash or skin eruption, stomach pain, diarrhea, red or oozing eyes; is acting listless or drowsy; has a headache, a flushed face, a lack of appetite; is vomiting; or displays any unusual behavior. A child sent home from school with a fever, vomiting or diarrhea, may not return for at least 24 hours. A child sent home for a rash/skin alteration must have a doctor's note to return to school. A child sent home for head lice/nits must be examined and deemed nit free by the school nurse before being permitted to return to school.

Please be sure the school has current telephone numbers and emergency information at all times.

HOMEBOUND INSTRUCTION

In the event of an extended **medical** absence (more than two weeks) homebound instruction can be requested, with no cost to the family. Parents/guardians are asked to comply with the following guidelines should their child require the service:

1. Contact the child's school counselor to apprise him/her of the child's status.
2. Submit a note to the Principal's Secretary stating that the child is in need of Home Bound Instruction.
3. Complete the home-bound instruction and medical release forms.
4. The parent/guardian and the child's physician must complete the required information. The form may be picked up or downloaded from the school's website, and returned to the Main Office.
5. The home-bound instruction application will be forwarded to the district physician for review.
6. Written notification of approval or denial will be provided to the parent.

ADMINISTERING MEDICATIONS

The Board of Education shall not be responsible for the diagnosis and treatment of pupil illness. The administration of prescribed medication to a pupil during school hours will be permitted only when failure to take such medicine would jeopardize the health of the student or the student would not be able to attend school if the medicine were not made available during school hours. For purposes of this policy, “medication” shall include all medicines prescribed by a physician for a particular student, including emergency medication in the event of bee stings, asthma, etc.

Before any medications, including over the counter medications, may be administered to a student during school hours, the Board requires:

A written order by the physician for the particular student which shall include:

- The purpose of the medication, the dosage;
- The time at which or the special circumstances under which the medication shall be administered;
- The length of time for which the medication is prescribed;
- The possible side effects of the medication, and
- A written request of the parent/guardian which shall give permission for such administration and relieve the Board and its employees of liability for administration of medication.

The school district physician shall develop procedures for the administration of medication provided that:

1. All medications, whether prescribed or over the counter shall be administered by the school nurse or the pupil himself/herself (with parental permission and the school nurse present).
 - Medications shall be securely stored in the original labeled container.
 - All medications shall be brought to school by a parent/guardian or adult pupil, and shall be picked up at the end of the school year or the end of the period of medication, whichever is earlier.
 - All medications should be placed in the original pharmacist package or vial.

SELF-ADMINISTRATION OF EMERGENCY MEDICATION

1. The Board of Education will permit self-administration of medications by a student for asthma or other life-threatening illnesses under the following provisions:

- ❖ In emergency situations, students may be permitted to self-administer medication when the nurse or parent/guardian is not present, provided a physician authorizes such self-medication for life threatening illnesses only.

The physician must also certify that the student is capable of self-administration, and the parents/guardians must release the school district of all liability. Self-administration of medicine shall also apply to students who participate in any off-site or after school activity under the same conditions.

- ❖ Medications shall be securely stored and kept in the original labeled container.
- ❖ The school nurse shall maintain a record of the name of the student who is certified to self-administer, the prescribing physician, the dosage and timing of the medication and a notation of each instance of administration. In addition, the nurse shall retain an identical copy of any inhaler, epi pen or emergency medications that a student may be permitted to use.

2. Before any student shall be authorized to carry and/or use an inhaler, epi pen, or other emergency medication on school premises or at school functions off school property, the following must be provided to the school by the parent/guardian:

- ❖ A certification of a licensed physician that the student suffers from a potentially life-threatening condition which requires immediate use of an inhaler, epi pen or other emergency medication. The physician shall also certify that the student is trained in the use of the inhaler, epi pen, or other emergency medication and is capable of self-administration of the medication.
- ❖ **The parent or guardian must provide an additional inhaler, epi pen or other emergency medication identical to the one the student is authorized to carry, which shall be retained by the school nurse.**
- ❖ The parent/guardian of any such child shall make a written request of the school district for permission to have the child carry and use an inhaler, epi pen or other emergency medication. Said request shall also include a statement in form and substance acceptable to the Board which shall release, indemnify and hold harmless the Board and its employees against any and all liability for damage or injury.

3. The permission shall be effective for the school year for which it is granted, and shall be renewed for each subsequent school year upon the fulfillment of the requirements outlined above.

SCHOOL SECURITY DRILLS

Safety and security drills are conducted routinely to make sure that students and staff are prepared in the event of an emergency. During a drill or an actual emergency, parents are not permitted to enter or call the school. Our primary and immediate focus is keeping students and staff safe. We are committed to open and transparent communication; therefore, we will communicate with parents via text and our parent communication system so that you have the correct information. Please do not text or call your child. Use of cell phones during an emergency, can interfere with ensuring the safety of all. Parents will receive notification of monthly emergency drills.

CARE OF SCHOOL PROPERTY

The school buildings, grounds, and other facilities for the children's education are paid for by general tax funds. Marking, or in any way destroying such property is not only inexcusable, but offenders are subject to fines and punishment, as well as providing restitution for all damages. Textbooks and library books are school property which are to be returned in good condition when requested. Failure to do so will require restitution.

INSURANCE

The Board of Education makes available to every student a voluntary insurance policy that covers a child on a 24-hour basis. This policy may be purchased by the parent/guardians. Literature is sent home early in September explaining the coverage.

LOST AND FOUND ARTICLES

All articles found in school will be placed in the lost and found area in the school building. It is important that coats, hats, sweater, etc., are labeled with the child's name.

MEDIA/LIBRARY MATERIALS POLICY

The Board of Education recognizes that our community represents a diverse variety of personal, moral and religious points of view. It also recognizes the right of an individual parent/guardian to request that his/her child not be assigned to read a given book, excluding textbooks, and that the child not be exposed to reading material in the library/media center program that the parent/guardian finds objectionable. To achieve this goal, a cooperative effort will be maintained between the parent/guardians and the librarian using the following procedures:

1. Upon request, the school will send a form to a parent describing a mechanism to limit access to certain library materials by working directly with the librarian and the classroom teacher.
2. Parents/guardians may identify topics that they do not want their child exposed to in the library/media center.
3. The librarian will work with the parent/guardian to prevent the child from checking out books that deal with topics that the parents find inappropriate for their child, and the librarian will work with the child to select more appropriate materials from the remaining collection.

POLICY ON USE OF THE INTERNET

Network resources, including internet access, are now available to qualifying students in our schools. To qualify, students and parents/guardians must read the Internet Acceptable Use Policy, and then sign and return a consent form annually.

Every effort will be made to provide quality educational experiences to students using technology resources. Inappropriate and/or illegal interaction with any information service is strictly prohibited.

Only after a student and the parents/guardians have read, signed and returned the consent form will he/she be permitted access to these services. Parents/guardians may also deny their child access to the Internet through the consent form. The policy and consent form will be distributed to all parents in September. If a student violates the provisions detailed in Board Policy governing use of technology, he/she may be denied access to the Internet services.

STUDENT CONDUCT

The Board of Education expects students to conduct themselves in a manner that properly respects the rights and welfare of other students, the educational purpose underlying all school activities, and the care of school of facilities and equipment.

The Board of Education believes that standards of student behavior must be set cooperatively by interaction among the students, parents/guardians, staff and community.

The best discipline is self-imposed, and students must learn to assume responsibility for their own behavior and accept the consequences of their misbehavior. Staff members who interact with students shall use preventive disciplinary action and place emphasis on the student's need to develop self-discipline.

HARRASSMENT, INTIMIDATION and BULLYING

The Winslow Township Board of Education prohibits acts of harassment, intimidation and bullying of a pupil. A safe and civil environment in school is necessary for pupils to learn and achieve high academic standards. Harassment, intimidation, or bullying, like other disruptive or violent behaviors, is conduct that disrupts both a pupil's ability to learn and a school's ability to educate its pupils in a safe and disciplined environment.

DISTRICT PHILOSOPHY OF DISCIPLINE

Winslow Township faculty, staff and school administration are dedicated to providing the children of Winslow Township with a learning environment based on mutual respect and responsibility.

It is expected that all children will conduct themselves in a manner that will foster a positive learning environment. Any conduct or behavior that interferes with the common good of the school community, disrupts the education of others, creates a safety hazard, or imperils the security or welfare of other children will likely result in disciplinary action.

THE STUDENT AND DISCIPLINE

All teachers, assistants/aides, and other staff have the authority to enforce rules and regulations. This authority is not in any way limited to the classroom or particular students.

Students are accountable for their behavior during the entire school day, beginning at the bus stop, riding to and from school on the bus, during lunchroom and playground activities, assemblies and programs, and after-school activities.

THE CLASSROOM TEACHER AND DISCIPLINE

The teacher bears the primary responsibility for maintaining proper control and discipline in the classroom and in his/her immediate presence.

THE BUILDING ADMINISTRATOR AND DISCIPLINE

The Building Administrator is directly responsible for student discipline after the teacher has exhausted all possible avenues for behavior changes, including the possibility of peer mediation. A student referred to the administrative level has resisted all efforts to improve and persists in maintaining a pattern of unacceptable behavior.

GRADES PK-6 DISCIPLINE MANAGEMENT PLAN

In grades PK-6, offenses can be viewed broadly as being minor (Level One), moderate (Level Two), or severe (Level Three). The categories are not as distinct as they might be for students in the Middle and High Schools, given that the maturity level of the students in grades PK-6 is not as advanced. Thus, the Principal is extended wider latitude in most cases in determining whether any given offenses should be viewed as minor, moderate, or severe. There are limits to this discretion, however, especially with behaviors that are not only violations of school policy, but are violations of the law as well. In some instances, education statutes require a strong disciplinary response, and the principal is not permitted to exercise significant discretion.

Additionally, a student who is suspended four (4) times during the school year will be excluded from participating in school activities (i.e., field trips, field day, and moving up activities).

STUDENT RESPONSIBILITY AND CONDUCT GUIDE

INITIAL SEQUENCE OF INTERVENTIONS:

Parent Contact

Conference

Teacher/Student/Parent Conference

Intervention & Referral Services

DISCIPLINARY ACTIONS:

Suspension from Co-Curricular Activities (e.g., Clubs, etc.)

In-School Suspension w/Student and Parent Conference

Out-of-School Suspension

Principal's Hearing with Student and Parent

Bus Privilege Suspension

Recess Detention – Grade appropriate

LEVEL ONE

Level One behaviors are those that impede the orderly operation of the classroom, school, playground, halls or other school activity areas. These offenses usually can be handled by an individual staff member who may be a teacher, a bus driver or an adult who is assigned to oversee students. Occasionally, Level One behaviors require the intervention of other personnel.

Level One – Management Interventions

Staff may implement these or other strategies to address Level One behaviors:

1. Phone contact with parent(s)/Conference
2. Recess Detention-Grade appropriate

3. Out of school suspension

The objective is to empower the student to change his/her behavior utilizing positive proactive strategies.

LEVEL 1 BEHAVIORS

Student Misconduct (minor)

Profanity Projected in Public: verbal/physical

Non-compliance with Adult Direction(s)

Theft or Possession of Property without Permission or Knowledge of Owner

Tampering with School Equipment or Another Person's Possessions

Dress Code Violation

Cell Phone Violation

Eating/Drinking Outside Assigned Areas

Unsafe Conduct

Forgery

Gambling/Participating in Games of Chance/Betting Pools, etc., and

Possession of Water Pistol/Toy Weapon

LEVEL TWO

Level Two behaviors are frequent or serious enough to disrupt the learning climate of the school, endanger the well-being of others, or damage the health and safety of others.

Their consequences are serious enough to require corrective action by the principal or another building administrator.

Level Two – Management Intervention

When students are referred to administration for Level Two behaviors, the following guidelines will be followed:

1. The staff member will complete a written discipline report form for Level two issues.
2. The administrator and the referring staff member will communicate with each other concerning the issue.
3. The administrator may interview the student(s) involved.
4. A variety of interventions are options at this level. These may include, but are not limited to:
 - a. Parent/Staff/Administrative conference(s)
 - b. Loss of privileges
 - c. Recess detention- Grade appropriate
 - d. Suspension – In or Out-of-School
 - e. Referral to counseling
 - f. Police notification

LEVEL 2 BEHAVIORS

Classroom Disruption (major)
Profanity Projected in Public: verbal/physical
Insubordination/Confrontation Behavior Directed Toward a Staff Member
Insubordination/During Emergency Situation
Obstructing Administration of Law or Government
Willful Destruction of School or Personal Property
Tampering with School Equipment or Another Person's Possessions
Possession or Use of Fireworks/Incendiary Materials/Chemical Devices
Unsafe Conduct
Reckless Endangerment
Gang Activity
Lewdness/Sexually Explicit Action/Indecent Exposure
Violation of Suspension Policy
Forgery
Gambling/Participation in Games or Chance/Betting Pools, etc.
Harassment
Sexual Harassment
Racial or Ethnic Slurs/Gender Related Bias or Inflammatory Statement
Assault (verbal threats)
Assault on Student
Incitement/Instigation
Fighting
Verbal Assault of Staff Member
Possession of Dangerous Object
Possession of Water Pistol/Toy Weapon
Possession of Imitation Weapon/Look Alike Firearm
Possession of Tobacco Products on School Property, Buses, and/or Activities
Cutting Class
In Unauthorized Area without Permission or Supervision
Loitering Between Classes or Before/After School
Willful Failure to Report to the Office when Directed to Do So
Truancy
Leaving School Building or Grounds without Permission
Leaving Classroom without Permission

Bus Misconduct

Disciplinary action:

1. Warning, driver report form, parent contact
2. Bus suspension 1-3 days
3. Bus suspension 1-10 days
4. Bus suspension 5-10 days; principal's hearing

LEVEL THREE

Level Three misconduct is so serious that it requires administrative action and results in removing the student, at least temporarily, from the classroom. The involvement of law enforcement authorities and action by the school Board is frequently required.

Level Three – Management Intervention:

In Level Three offenses the Building Administration in concert with the Superintendent, will make the determination as to the appropriate disciplinary actions based on the severity of the infraction and the circumstances involved.

(*) Parents are automatically contacted by telephone and by mail for any Level Three offense.

LEVEL 3 BEHAVIORS

Profanity Directed Toward Staff: verbal/physical

Bomb Threat/Unauthorized Generation of False Alarm/Terrorist Threats

Reckless Endangerment

Arson

Harassment

Sexual Harassment

Racial or Ethnic Slurs/Gender Related Bias or Inflammatory Statements

Assault on Student

Fighting

Physical Attack on Staff

Verbal Assault of Staff Member

Use /Possession of a Weapon

Use, abuse, or acting under the influence of intoxicants, narcotics or a controlled dangerous substance on school property or during a school activity.

Possession of a paraphernalia associated with controlled dangerous substances on school property or during a school activity

Possession of intoxicants, narcotics, or controlled dangerous substances, in a quantity determined by police to be below the threshold for sale or distribution

Cheating, plagiarism or participating in cheating situations

Possession or use of paging device in school

Multiple or severe offenders

Other actions by a student that is deemed inappropriate

STUDENT RIGHTS

The general approach to discipline shall be a positive one. This shall include attempting to identify the social, emotional, and academic problems that underlie a student's poor attitude or misconduct and strive to meet his/her social, emotional and academic needs.

In counseling a student for conduct or attitude and in taking disciplinary action, teachers and administration will attempt to show that it is the behavior that is unacceptable, not the student.

- Equal opportunity and equal treatment are provided every student without discrimination.
- All students will be treated in a fair and reasonable manner.
- All students' legal due process rights will be respected.

DRESS CODE

The following dress code has been developed in accordance with Policy No. 5511.

A. General Rules

1. Pupils are expected to be clean and well-groomed in their appearance.
2. Pupils are expected to avoid dress and grooming that is likely to create a material and substantial disruption to the school environment.
3. Dress or grooming that jeopardizes the health or safety of the pupil or of other pupils or is injurious to school property will not be tolerated.

B. Pupil Dress Code Regulations

1. Pupil attire shall be neat and clean. Torn, cut and ripped clothing is not permitted.
2. Apparel shall not be so tight-fitting, sheer, transparent, brief, low-cut or revealing above or below the waist to be indecent, distracting or disruptive to the school environment.
3. In all grades, dresses, skirts and acceptable shorts shall not be more than 4 inches

above the knee.

4. Sleeveless tops or blouses are permitted provided that the width of the material passing over the shoulders (strap) is a minimum of two inches in width. Thin spaghetti straps tops are not permitted. Sweat-shirts, warm-ups, and T-shirts are permitted if they are not torn or not cut or tied to expose the midriff.
5. Footwear is required. Plastic beach thongs and excessively high heels or platform shoes are not permitted because they pose a safety hazard to the wearer when walking quickly. Slippers of any type are not permitted. All sandals must have a heel strap attached and worn appropriately, at all times.
6. Dress shall not present inappropriate pictures, slogans, emblems or any type of symbols that may be provocative or inciting. This includes liquor, tobacco or other substances that may be detrimental to health.
7. "Quasi-attire", such as armbands, buttons, pins or other methods of symbolic expression are permitted as long as it cannot potentially be expected to actually cause disruption, disorder or present a clear danger and is not associated with a gang or secret society.
8. Pupils attending any school functions (field trips, dances, activities during school hours) will not be permitted to participate unless they are attired in accordance with this dress code; however, certain physical education activities and field trips may require modification of these regulations. Decisions will be made by the principal considering the circumstances and requirements of the activity.
9. Hairstyles shall be clean and well-groomed.
10. Hats and coats may not be worn in the building except in extenuating circumstances at the discretion of the principal. "Hats" shall not include head wear of religious significance.
11. Hoodies (head covering) are not permitted.

C. Physical Education

Proper dress for physical education classes should be designed to allow for maximum participation in activities consistent with the approved curriculum and course of study. Appropriate dress for grades 7-12 will be T-shirts, athletic shorts, or sweatsuits (as appropriate) in green, navy or grey. Sneakers and athletic socks are also required.

It should be noted that, with the exception of sneakers, clothing used for participation in physical education activities may not be those worn to school for

any other purpose.

D. Enforcement

1. Pupils not conforming to the dress code shall be disciplined by the principal in accordance with Board policies.
2. Teaching staff members will report perceived violations of the dress code to the Building Principal, who will interpret and apply the code.
3. Pupils who publicly represent the school or a school organization at an activity away from the school district are required to dress in full accordance with the reasonable expectations of the staff member in charge of the activity. Pupils unwilling to comply with this requirement will disqualify themselves from participation.
4. Pupils will not be permitted to attend a school-related function, such as a field trip, after-school activity unless they are attired and groomed in accordance with this dress code.
5. The principal may waive application of the dress code on a day especially scheduled for pupils' free expression in dress and grooming.
6. A pupil whose dress or grooming has been found by the principal to violate this regulation may appeal the principal's determination to the Superintendent/designee, whose decision will be final.

BUS REGULATIONS

The school district is responsible for students from the time children are at the bus stop in the morning until they are dropped off in the afternoon. Therefore, all provisions of the Code of Conduct will be enforced accordingly.

1. The rules for student behavior apply at the bus stop and on the bus, as well as in the classroom.
2. Observe good rules of safety when walking to and from the bus stop.
3. Be at your bus stop five (5) minutes early and behave yourself while waiting for the bus to arrive.
4. Respect private property at the bus stop location.
5. Do not stand in the road while waiting for the bus.
6. Stay in place until the bus stops and board in single file. Running or pushing is prohibited.
7. Obey the bus driver. The driver is in charge of you and must be respected at all times.

8. Bus drivers are authorized to assign students to a specific seat.
9. Seat belts must be worn when available.
10. Do not distract the bus driver while the bus is moving.
 - a. Sit in your assigned seat.
 - b. Do not stand or change seats.
 - c. Avoid shouting, whistling or unacceptable language.
 - d. Unnecessary conversation with the bus driver is prohibited.
 - e. No “rough-housing,” pushing, slapping, fighting, throwing things, etc.
11. Do not open or close windows without the driver’s permission.
12. Keep all parts of the body inside the bus.
13. Do not place your books, coat, boots, etc., in the aisle.
14. Do not leave waste paper or trash on the bus, or throw anything out of the windows.
15. Do not eat on the bus.
16. Remain seated until the bus stops.
17. Leave the bus in an orderly and quiet manner. Be sure to look both ways before crossing the street.
18. All bus students must ride the bus to and from school.

Students who violate the rules for safe transportation, as described above, may be subject to suspension of bus-riding privileges in accordance with the Code of Conduct contained in this document. Students and parents should be aware that most buses are equipped with video camera equipment.

BUS PROCEDURES

1. Students will be transported only from the child’s home.
2. Parents of pre-school through 3rd grade children are required to be at the bus stop at least five (5) minutes before their child is dropped off. This will alleviate the burden of having to bring children back and forth to parents’ or guardians’ homes when there is no one at the bus stop.
3. If a child misses a bus, it will be the responsibility of the parents or guardians to arrange transportation to the school. If a child is sick during the day, and the illness requires the child to leave school, it will be the responsibility of the parent/guardian to pick up the child.
4. The Winslow Township School District will try to accommodate parents by creating bus stops as close as possible to child’s home. This task can be extremely difficult and we ask for parents’ cooperation and understanding when we establish bus stops. Children may have to walk one or three blocks especially when riding after-school activity buses.
5. If it becomes necessary during the school day to request a change in your child’s transportation/after school care arrangements, this change must be presented to the school

office in writing. For example, if your child takes a bus home and you will be picking him/her up, or if your child must take their regularly assigned bus home and will not be attending the after-school program, these changes must be in writing. Last minute changes by telephone will not be permitted.

Remember, that if you pick your child up at any time during or after the school day, it is necessary to show proper identification to the school office.

STUDENT DISMISSAL PROCEDURES

According to Board of Education Policy No. 3280, no pupil may leave school before the end of the school day without permission from the building principal. Pupils leaving before regular dismissal, must be met in the school office and be signed out by parent/guardian or a person authorized to act in behalf of a parent/guardian. Parents must provide the following information, in writing, to the school office:

- The means by which a pupil is to be transported to and from school (e.g., school bus, family vehicle, or walk)
 - Bus only stops at place of residence
 - The name, address and telephone number of any individual who is authorized to pick up the child from school or accompany a child from school to their after-school destination.
- Any request for changes to the dismissal conditions, outlined above, must be communicated, in writing, and in advance, to the building principal.

Parents are requested not to ask that children be excused early except when an emergency makes early dismissal unavoidable. Such requests should be submitted in writing, giving the reason for the request, and presented to the principal at the beginning of the school day.

AFFIRMATIVE ACTION/SEXUAL HARASSMENT

The Board of Education maintains an instructional and working environment that is free from discrimination and harassment of any kind. All administrators, supervisors, staff, students and vendors are advised that discrimination and harassment is prohibited. Sexual harassment and discrimination of staff or children interferes with the learning process and will not be tolerated in the Winslow Township Schools. Any child or staff member who has knowledge of or feels that he/she is being sexually harassed or discriminated against is encouraged to report the matter to the building principal, teacher or the district Affirmative Action Officer. A copy of Board policy on this issue is on file in each principal's office and in the Board of Education Office.

Sexual Harassment is one of the most complex and difficult issues that schools face. Comments, jokes, gestures, notes and even graffiti may be acts of verbal sexual harassment, if these acts have a sexual content. Schools must be able to distinguish the difference between conduct that is sexually harassing, and that which is “teasing.” The Office of Civil Rights (OCR), the government agency charged with the oversight of the Title IX, the law that governs the schools, has made distinctions that should assist schools in determining whether or not a particular behavior is sexual harassment. OCR states that there must be a pattern for such a behavior before it rises to the level of sexual harassment and that the behavior/conduct must be persistent, severe, or pervasive.

The Winslow Township Board of Education wants all administrators, teachers, staff members, students and parent/guardians to be well informed about their rights and responsibilities regarding harassment and discriminatory actions. The Board has appointed an Affirmative Action Officer who has the responsibility to monitor the district’s compliance with policies and procedures that prohibit discrimination and harassment.

District Affirmative Action Officer
Mr. Dion Davis
(856) 767-2860 EXT. 7521

PARENT ASSURANCE OF THE BEHAVIORAL CODE

This certificate assures the Winslow Township Elementary School Administration that I have read, understood, and discussed with my child the school's expectations for student behavior while in school, at the bus stop, on the bus and at school functions as outlined in the Student/Parent Handbook. It is understood that student behavior should support student learning and maintain a peaceful and congenial atmosphere in the school.

I also understand that misbehavior, disruption to the school day or harm to others will result in consequences. The consequences will be in line with the misdeed to encourage more responsible conduct and behavior by the student in the future.

Parent/Guardian's Signature _____

Date _____

Home Phone: _____

Cell Phone: _____

Student's Name _____

Student's Signature _____ Date _____

Homeroom No. _____

NOTE: A DUPLICATE OF THIS FORM WILL BE DISTRIBUTED DURING HOMEROOM – PLEASE SIGN AND RETURN.