

SAFETY PROGRAMS

I. STUDENT SAFETY

A. SCHOOL BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS

The superintendent or designee will establish procedures that promote protection and safety of students, employees, visitors, and others present on school property or at school-related events.

The practice of safety shall be taught in educational programs in traffic and pedestrian safety, driver education, fire prevention, emergency procedures, and disaster preparedness and shall be appropriately geared to students in different grade levels. Areas of emphasis shall include, but not be limited to, in-service training, accident record keeping, physical plant inspection, driver and vehicle safety programs, fire prevention, and emergency procedures in traffic safety problems relevant to students, employees, and the community.

The school principal shall have a current disaster plan and conduct regular safety drills. Each school in the district presently has a weather radio. Fully charged and recently inspected fire extinguishers of the appropriate type shall be accessible every 75 feet and also located in the cafeteria, hallways, heater/boiler room, science labs and shops.

The school principal shall develop contingency plans for the operation of his or her school. These policies and procedures for dealing with routine and emergency situations, ill or injured students or staff shall be posted in a well-known, readily accessible location in the school.

The school principal shall develop a weekly schedule of inspection to ensure that the building and grounds are safe, clean and orderly and promptly notify appropriate school personnel of any dangerous condition of the board's property.

Any activity taking place in the school building or on the school grounds shall be adequately supervised.

B. TRANSPORTATION OF STUDENTS

The private vehicle of a student shall not be used by the student or by another student to run errands, transport students to school sponsored activities, field trips or for any other purpose other than the personal transportation of the student to and from school. The parent reassumes control over the student at the time the student leaves the school premises.

Students who are to be players, participants, or performers in school-sponsored activities shall be transported to all such activities in school district owned or leased vehicles. Such vehicles shall meet the standards set by the National Transportation Safety Board. Students, as members of clubs, teams, groups, etc. who are to be players, participants, or performers are expected and shall travel to and from school-sponsored activities as a group.

All school buses shall meet minimum specifications approved by the State Board of Education and shall be well maintained. Each bus driver shall have a valid bus driver's certificate and a commercial driver's license and shall operate the bus according to all specified safety procedures to ensure optimal safety of passengers. Each school bus shall be systematically inspected for maintenance problems on a quarterly basis.

C. SCHOOL-SPONSORED CLUBS / EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

For any school-sponsored activity for which there is a reasonable risk of injury or death to the student, each participant shall be required to furnish to the sponsor the required form(s) signed by parent/guardian, prior to being allowed to participate. Said form(s) shall include a notice to parent/guardian of risk of injury or death, waiver of liability in the event of injury or death and acceptance by parent/guardian of responsibility for health care due to injury or death. There shall be stand-by medical assistance and an ambulance at any and all varsity football games; home or away.

All practices and rehearsals for any school-sponsored activity shall take place in a school or on the school grounds under the supervision of school personnel. There shall be no practices or rehearsals for school-sponsored activities in private homes or public businesses.

The school district shall furnish and each sponsor/director shall require the use at each practice, performance or event, each and every kind of safety equipment, device, mat, pad, net and like kind of implement generally recognized by the sport or activity as being necessary to provide adequate security and protection to the participants.

There shall be no school-sponsored performance or competition by school students in places where alcoholic beverages are being served. No school principal shall offer or promote any activity not appropriate to the age and maturity of the student.

Student club members/athletes who have competed through school-sponsored activities for state or national honors and who are eligible and elect to attend a final event which takes place after the regular school term shall, should such a trip be approved by the principal, be accompanied by the appropriate competent adult to such an event which shall also be considered a school-sponsored activity. Sponsors/directors of clubs/extra-curricular activities shall not allow student participants or chaperones to smoke or otherwise use tobacco products while involved in such activities.

D. SUPERVISION OF STUDENTS K-12

The school principal shall provide for adequate supervision of students while in the school building or on the school grounds, before, during and after school. Students shall not be permitted to arrive more than 30 minutes prior to the beginning of the school day and are expected to leave school promptly at the end of the school day unless staying in or participating in a school sponsored and supervised activity.

Classroom teachers, club sponsors and sponsors/directors of extracurricular activities, including sports shall never leave those in their charge unsupervised and unattended whether at school, away from school, during school hours or after school hours. This includes field trips, club trips and sports events. All supervision of school students shall be conducted by a competent adult regular staff member except where competent adult chaperones have been selected and assigned by the school principal. The school principal shall determine the fitness of a chaperone to supervise. A chaperone shall not be allowed to supervise any school-sponsored activity wherein there lies a reasonable risk of injury or death to the student (some sports, labs, shops, etc.).

The Director of Transportation shall provide for adequate supervision of students using the pupil transportation system in compliance with all laws, rules and regulations of the State Board of Education which governs pupil transportation.

E. STUDENT MEDICAL CARE

School district employees shall not render medical care to students except for first aid. Parents/guardians shall be notified immediately by school authorities should a student become ill or injured at school or school-sponsored activity so parent/guardian may reassume control over the student. In the event of serious illness or injury and parent/guardian cannot be contacted, school authorities shall seek immediate professional medical care. Such care shall be at the expense of parent/guardian.

F. STUDENT MEDICATION

School personnel may not exceed the practice of first aid in dealing with pupil injuries and sickness, and only qualified personnel shall administer first aid to pupils.

Medication shall not be provided or administered by the school or its employees. Parents/guardians may come to the school and administer medication to their child. Students may self-administer medications according to the self-administration of medicine policy.

G. RELEASE OF STUDENTS

No student shall be suspended from school or school-sponsored activity prior to scheduled release time without first notifying parent/guardian. No student shall be released to the custody of an individual other than parent/guardian/ or person designated in the student's records. No student shall be allowed to withdraw from school or school-sponsored activity prior to scheduled release time. Students shall not be allowed to leave and return to school or to a school-sponsored activity to run personal errands, purchase supplies, parts or food. No student shall be released at the conclusion of any out-of-town school-sponsored activity to return home via alternate means. No student shall be abandoned by a sponsor/director/chaperone at the completion of a school-sponsored activity to wait for a ride or to walk home.

SOURCE: Jackson Public School District, Jackson, Mississippi;
Miss. School Boards Association; Miss. Public School
Accountability Standards 29-31

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