

# FAMILY DISTRICT HANDBOOK

2023-2024

Keokuk Community School District provides an educational foundation where students are active participants in becoming adaptable and critical thinkers along with achieving the skills necessary (academic/vocational) for lifetime success.

# **Board of Education**

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Kyler Barnes, Coordinator of Instructional Services
Natalie Ulloa, Coordinator of Instructional Services
Aaron Hinton, Director of Maintenance and Facilities
Dave Grogan, Director of Transportation and Grounds
Brent Haage, Director of Technology
Sarah Hackett, Director of Food Services

### **Mission**

Keokuk Community School District provides an educational foundation where students are active participants in becoming adaptable and critical thinkers along with achieving the skills necessary (academic/vocational) for lifetime success.

#### We believe

- child development and education are the highest priorities
- in students mastering basic academic skills in the early grades confirmed by comprehensive assessment
- in identifying proficiencies in all levels and content areas based on high standards and confirmed by comprehensive assessment
- in a secure and nurturing environment that builds self-esteem
- in a learning environment appropriate for the changing needs of our students and work world
- in clean and safe facilities
- in schools which value and understand each student's uniqueness and enable all students to reach their full potential in treating all students with respect
- in the development of social responsibility and citizenship
- schools should create opportunities for exploration and preparation for a diversity of careers
- in providing effective professional staff leadership
- that staff are more effective when supported by family and community
- that involvement by and communication among the community, family, staff and learners is vital to education at all levels, and
- in utilizing technology to improve student achievement.

# **Attendance Centers**

#### **Torrence School**

Prekindergarten Meghan Davis, Principal Francis Lapointe, Assistant Principal 1721 Fulton Street Keokuk, IA 52632 (319) 524-3665

### **Hawthorne Elementary School**

Kindergarten - Grade 3 Meghan Davis, Principal Francis Lapointe, Assistant Principal 2940 Decatur Street Keokuk, IA 52632 (319) 524-3503

### **George Washington School**

Grade 4 - Grade 5 Dawna Daily, Principal 116 North 8th Street Keokuk, IA 52632 (319) 524-1953

#### **Keokuk Middle School**

Grade 6 - Grade 8 Jim Short, Principal Amanda Mason, Assistant Principal 2002 Orleans Avenue Keokuk, IA 52632 (319) 524-3737

### **Keokuk High School**

Grade 9 - Grade 12 Nathan Harrison, Principal Jen Roderer, Assistant Principal 2285 Middle Road Keokuk, IA 52632 (319) 524-2542

# **Notice of Nondiscrimination**

Keokuk Community School District does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability, religion, creed, age (for employment), marital status (for programs), sexual orientation, gender identity and socioeconomic status (for programs) in its educational programs and its employment practices. The belief in equal educational opportunity serves as a guide for the board and employees in making decisions relating to school district facilities, employment, selection of educational materials, equipment, curriculum, and regulations affecting students. There is a grievance procedure for processing complaints of discrimination. If you have questions or a grievance related to this policy, please contact:

Kyler Barnes, Coordinator of Instructional Services 500 North 20th St, Keokuk, Iowa, 52632 (319) 524-1402 kyler.barnes@keokukschools.org

# **District Handbook**

This handbook is intended to provide all students, teachers, administrators, and families with access to and an understanding of Keokuk Community School District's expectations. It's the goal of Keokuk Community School District to provide an educational foundation where students are active participants in becoming adaptable and critical thinkers along with achieving the skills necessary (academic and vocational) for life-time success.

The Handbook is updated yearly, policy adoption and revisions may occur throughout the year. Changes in policy or other rules that affect the Handbook provisions will be made available to students and parents through newsletters, other communications or updates on this webpage. The district reserves the right to modify provisions of the Handbook at any time, whenever it is deemed necessary.

Keokuk Community School District Board Policy Manual is located on the District Website at www.keokukschools.org.

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# **Arrival and Dismissal**

Arrival and dismissal times vary by attendance center and are listed below.

Torrence School	
AM Arrival & Recess	7:45 am - 8:00 am
Half Day AM	8:00 am - 11:00 am
PM Arrival & Recess	11:45 am - 12:00 am
Half Day PM	12:00 am - 3:00 am
Full Day (TBD)	8:00 am - 3:00 am
Wednesday Schedule	No School (Pre-K Only)

Hawthorne School	
Bus Arrival & Breakfast	7:30 am - 8:00 am
Recess & Parent Drop-Off	7:45 am - 8:00 am
Student Day (Monday-Friday)	8:00 am - 3:10 pm
Wednesday Schedule	8:00 am - 1:00 pm

George Washington Elementary	
Bus Arrival & Breakfast	7:15 am
Recess & Parent Drop-Off	7:30 am - 7:45 am
Student Day (Monday-Friday)	7:45 am - 2:55 pm
Wednesday Schedule	7:45 am - 12:45 pm

Keokuk Middle School	
AM Arrival	7:30 am
Breakfast	7:30 am - 7:50 am
Student Day (Monday-Friday)	7:50 am - 3:00 pm
Wednesday Schedule	7:50 am - 12:50 pm

Keokuk High School	
AM Arrival	7:30 am
Breakfast	7:30 am - 7:50 am
Student Day (Monday-Friday)	7:50 am - 3:00 pm
Wednesday Schedule	7:50 am - 12:25 pm
Wednesday Lunch (optional)	12:25 pm - 12:50 pm

# **Attendance**

#### **Purpose**

The purpose of the attendance policy is to encourage regular and consistent attendance and punctuality in school by all students. There is a high correlation between good attendance, academic achievement, and successful everyday work experience. To foster positive work and study habits, Keokuk Community School District administration and faculty believe that students must be in class in order to fully maximize their educational opportunities.

#### **Definitions/Common Language for Attendance**

Absent	A student will be counted absent from class when the student has missed more than 10 minutes of a class period.
Reporting Absenteeism	Student attendance is the responsibility of the parent/guardian. Absenteeism may be reported by telephone, email, or written notice. Medical excuses will require a doctor's note that can be given to the attendance secretary or faxed to the school. All communication will be given to the building's attendance secretary.

#### **Attendance Expectations**

Keokuk Community School District has set a goal to be within 95% of compliance for student attendance for the year. We strive for excellence and student success in our district, and we want to help you with any resources that you might need. If the student has a medical condition or need that has led to absence from school it is important to reach out to the attending school to meet with the attendance staff to discuss and plan for future absences.

#### **Promoting Good Attendance**

Every student gets five excused absences at the discretion of their custodial guardian, after the five excused absences all absences are unexcused unless students have provided medical documentation or absences have been approved per administration at the attending school.

If a student is absent for three consecutive days with no communication from a custodial guardian or emergency contact, a home visit will be conducted.

If a student has five days of unexcused absences or accumulated class periods, a first attendance letter will be mailed home. A call will be made to the custodial parent or guardian to offer an attendance cooperation meeting. If a student has reached nine days of unexcused absences or accumulated class periods, a second attendance letter will be mailed to the custodial parent or guardian.

After a student has reached 10 days of unexcused absences or accumulated class periods, a parent meeting is required and an "Attendance Agreement" will be developed. Failure to meet the expectations set forth in the agreement and continued absenteeism may result in a referral for truancy to the Lee County Attorney per the Uniform Truancy Policy for Lee County, Iowa.

#### **Tardy**

Students are considered tardy when they come to school within ten minutes of the

beginning of school. If the student is more than ten minutes late, they will be considered absent. Example: If school begins at 8:00 am and a student arrives at 8:05 am, the student is marked as "tardy". If the student arrives at 8:12 am the student receives an "unexcused absence".

#### Tardy Process (Keokuk High School and Keokuk Middle School)

Four Tardies	A warning and meeting with the student.
Six Tardies	30 Minute Lunch Detention
Two additional tardies.	(2) 30 Minute Lunch Detentions for every two additional tardies

#### Tardy Process (Keokuk Elementary Schools)

At Keokuk Community School District, we strive for excellence and timeliness, a big part of reaching that excellence is through timeliness and good attendance. For every minute that your student is tardy to school it will be tracked and documented. Once a student is tardy to school in the accumulation of minutes equal to one full school day this will be documented as an unexcused absence. You will receive a warning letter when your child reaches a half of a day of unexcused absence due to tardiness to school.

# **Board of Education & Policies**

Keokuk Community School District is governed by a board of directors. They are responsible for determining policies, setting the budget, and maintaining standards of excellence in education on behalf of the community. Board members are elected by Keokuk voters for four-year terms. Because Keokuk board members are committed to their own lifelong learning, they are regular participants in training and board development opportunities through the Iowa Association of School Boards.

### **Board Meetings**

We encourage you to actively participate in the governing of our public schools. School board meetings are open to the entire community and are typically held on the second and fourth Mondays of each month. Meetings begin at 6:00 p.m. at varying locations throughout the district. Board meetings are conducted in the public, but are not public meetings. As such, while the Board welcomes attendance and public comments, board members are not able to engage in dialogue with members of the audience, but will direct administration to follow up and address any concerns or issues brought forth.

### **Board Policies**

Board policies are part of the planning, policy and management structure that will move a district toward accomplishing its goals. Written board policies inform the district and the community of the board's intent, goals, and objectives. It fosters stability and continuity when board members and school personnel change. The Iowa Code (274.7, 279.8) places the authority to develop and adopt policy for a school district in the hands of the school board. The state educational standards, which set the requirements for an accredited education program, require the board to adopt and maintain a board policy manual. They also require a school board to review its policies every five years.

Board directors set policies as a guiding framework for governing the district. Policies and procedures are updated regularly to stay in alignment with state laws and regulations.

Information related to board meetings, agenda, minutes and current board policies can be found on our district website, at "District" and "Board of Education".

# **Cell Phone & Telephone Calls**

#### Cell Phones

Cell phones are not a right at school but a privilege. In order to maintain a high level of academic engagement in the classroom, personal electronics (cellphones, smartwatches, tablets, headphones, and others not listed here) are to be turned off before the first bell, stay off until dismissal time, and stored in backpack/lockers. They may not be taken out, used for communication, videos, pictures, nor games without teacher permission. The only exception to this policy is students who must have a cell phone due to medical necessity (diabetes, seizure monitoring, etc.). The KCSD is not responsible for lost, damaged or stolen items.

### Cell Phone Policy

Violations of electronic device use will result in the following consequences:

- 1. First offense: staff will take the phone, bring it to the office and the student will pick it up at the end of the day
- 2. Second offense: staff will take the phone, bring it to the office and the student's parent will need to come and get the device
- 3. Third offense: staff will take the phone, bring it to the office and the student's parent will need to come and get the device and the student will not be allowed to have the device in the building for the rest of the year

### **Telephone Calls**

Students may use the school phone for emergency calls after first obtaining permission for any secretary, teacher or principal. Students receiving telephone calls from parents will have a message forwarded to the student. Only in an emergency will the student be called to the office.

# **Child Abuse Reporting**

To provide the greatest possible protection to victims or potential victims of child abuse, all school employees are required as Mandatory Reporters to report any suspected violations they note. This information is kept in highest confidence. When a mandatory reporter suspects a student is the victim of child abuse, a report shall be made to the Iowa Department of Human Services within 24 hours of becoming aware of the abusive incident. If the mandatory reporter believes the child is in immediate danger, the local law enforcement agency will also be notified.

# **Closures and Delays**

There are times when school is canceled due to inclement weather or other building problems. Information regarding school closings and delays will be distributed as early as possible should the need arise. When school is closed or dismissed announcements will be made through local news and radio stations, phone and text alerts, as well as social media such as Facebook and Twitter.

The District utilizes SwiftReach, an automated telephone notification service for announcements. Current home/cell numbers are required for this system. Please access your PowerSchool parent account and ensure this information is accurate and up to date.

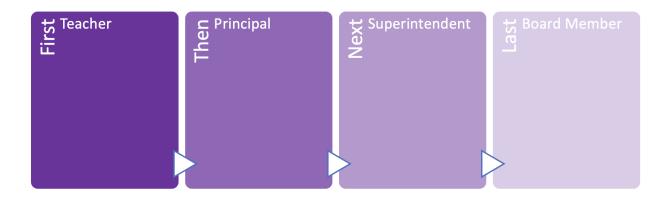
It's also important to discuss, in advance, with your child where they need to go in case of an early dismissal.

# **Communication**

Keokuk Community School District believes positive home/school relations are critical to the support and success of our schools. Our schools utilize a variety of tools to

communicate directly with students and parents, to ensure our messages are clear and our community is connected to the district.

Issues are best addressed by communicating with the people who are most directly involved with them. In order to address issues appropriately, parents are always advised to follow the correct communication sequence. Each situation should first be addressed at whatever level the initial action was taken. If the issue or concern has not been resolved satisfactorily, they may then choose to move on to the next person in the communication sequence. The easiest way to communicate is via email or phone call. However, making an appointment for a face-to-face meeting is always welcome. In addition to successfully resolving concerns and issues, parents and community members are also encouraged to reach out and share successes.



### **District Calendar**

Our school calendars are a wonderful and easy way to stay up to date on school and district events, teacher work days, holiday closures, early dismissals and more!

The Activities Calendar allows you to view specific events by using the view schedules option, selecting your club/sport, click view and then subscribe.

### Social Media

Keokuk Community School District utilizes several social media platforms as a means of enhancing communication and celebrating students, staff and school achievement. It also allows us to facilitate transparency, interactivity and collaboration with our students, staff, parents and community members. If you have an account on Facebook, Twitter, or Instagram, follow @keokukcsd to see what is going on around the district. We expect all interactions on our social media channels to promote mutual respect, civility and orderly conduct among district employees, parents, students and the public. District staff will treat students, parents and other members of the public with respect and expect the same in return.

In an emergency, Facebook and Twitter may be used to communicate with families and the community in addition to our routine communication tools.

### SwiftReach

Our district utilizes SwiftReach to deliver emails, text messages, and mobile calls straight to your phone or email with important information about events, school delays/closures, safety alerts, and more. You can check to see if your information is in the student information system by asking your school secretary or by checking the PowerSchool Parent Portal.

### Website

The public website is used to communicate district/school news, announcements, calendar events, key contact information, and general school information for current and prospective parents. The district site also includes information about the School Board, policies and department information for staff, parents, students, and the community. Visit www.keokukschools.org for more information.

# **Conduct and Student Expectations**

All buildings in the Keokuk School District are PBIS schools. Through collaboration within our building and our community, it is our mission to create a successful learning environment by rewarding positive behavior and re-teaching consistent expectations. The goal of PBIS is to proactively teach kids how to be respectful, responsible, and ready in all areas of the school including the bus and bus stops. Positive reinforcement lessens the number of discipline problems. PBIS also outlines the protocol children must follow when they have acted against school expectations. See Appendix A for the PBIS expectations of each building.

### **Student Conduct**

In order to ensure maximum education benefits for all students, each student is expected to follow all regulations of the school and conduct themselves in a manner fitting his/her ability, age, and maturity with respect and consideration for the rights of others while on school district property or on property within the jurisdiction of the school district; school owned and/or operated vehicles as well as chartered vehicles; attending or engaged in school activities, and while away from school grounds. Please see the Appendices for student behavior expectations for each attendance center.

Keokuk Community School District believes inappropriate student conduct causes disruption to the school environment, interferes with the rights of others, and presents a

threat to the health and safety of students, employees, and visitors on school premises.

Students who fail to abide by this policy, and the administrative regulations supporting it, may be disciplined for conduct which disrupts or interferes with the education program; operation of the school district or school activity; and/or conduct that is violent or destructive. Disciplinary measures include, but are not limited to, removal from the classroom, detention, suspension, probation, and expulsion. Students who receive any form of suspension and/or expulsion are prohibited from participating in any school-sponsored activities and being on school property.

Students who engage in disobedience and misconduct will receive disciplinary consequences. Continued and/or subsequent misconduct will result in escalating consequences.

Examples of disobedience and misconduct include, but are not limited to the following:

- 1. Threatening or actual infliction of bodily harm or physical violence upon the person of any student or employee of the district. The term "infliction of bodily harm" shall include fighting. In the case of fighting, all of the participants in the fight in question shall be liable for violation of this section. Self-protection shall not be a defense unless the student can show:
  - a. In the case of an unprovoked attack, the student first sought the assistance of school personnel and attempted to avoid or escape the confrontation; and
  - b. In the event assistance or escape were unavailable, the students used only such force as was necessary to prevent serious bodily harm.
- 2. Attempt to enter or unauthorized entry into the school building or any area.
- 3. Attempting to take or taking property from any student or employee of the district by the use of force, coercion, or threat of force.
- 4. The unauthorized taking, use, or possession of the property of another person. (Theft)
- 5. Possession or use of explosives, firearms, or other dangerous or offensive weapons or objects.
- 6. Intentionally damaging school property or private property which is lawfully on school premises.
- 7. Use or possession of controlled substances (including look alike drugs), chemicals, drug paraphernalia, prescription drugs not legally prescribed for the users or possessors, chemicals not put to safe or normal use or are in violation of Iowa law.
- 8. Sale, possession or being under the influence of any alcoholic beverage or of any beverage mixed or "spiked" with an alcoholic beverage. For purposes of this section; the term "alcoholic beverage" shall be defined as any beverage with any alcoholic content.
- 9. Use of vulgar or obscene language, either verbal or in writing.
- 10. Interference with school personnel in the performance of assigned and lawful duties.

- 11. Conduct which materially and substantially threatens to or actually disrupts the educational process or interferes with the rights of others, including intimidating statements or actions.
- 12. Refusal to comply with the reasonable and lawful instructions or orders of school personnel.
- 13. Lewd, lascivious, obscene conduct or behavior.
- 14. Excessive absences or tardiness.
- 15. Gambling.
- 16. Pupils may further be liable for suspension and expulsion for acts committed outside of school which constitute and demonstrate a clear, present, and compelling danger to the physical safety of pupils or school personnel while on campus or in transit to or from campus.
- 17. Harassment stemming from racial, ethnic, gender or disabling conditions; the use of name calling or slurs based on race, gender or disability.
- 18. Leaving the school building or a classroom without permission prior to the end of the school day or class period.
- 19. Refusal to present student identification.
- **20.** The use or possession of tobacco or smoking on or near school premises including parking lots.
- 21. Being in an off-limits area or being somewhere one should not be without proper permission.

Confiscation of weapons, dangerous objects, or firearms shall be reported to law enforcement officials. Parents of students found to possess a weapon or dangerous objects on school property shall be notified of the incident. The term "firearm" includes any weapon which is designed to expel a projectile by the action of an explosive, the frame or receiver of any such weapon, a muffler or silencer for such a weapon, or any explosive, incendiary or poison gas.

### Weapons

It is a violation of district policy and state law for any person to carry a firearm, knives, dangerous weapon, or object that may be used with intent to cause injury on school premises, school-provided transportation or areas of other facilities being used exclusively for school activities unless specifically authorized by state law.

Parents of students found to possess a weapon or dangerous objects on school property shall be notified of the incident. Confiscation of weapons or dangerous objects shall be reported to law enforcement officials, and the student will be subject to disciplinary action including suspension or expulsion. Students bringing a firearm to school shall be expelled for no less than twelve months. The superintendent shall have the authority to recommend this expulsion requirement be modified for a student on a case-by-case basis. For the purpose of this portion of this policy, the term "firearm" includes any weapon which is designed to expel a projectile by the action of an explosive, the frame or receiver of any such weapon, a muffler or silencer for such a weapon, or any explosive, incendiary or poison gas.

Weapons under the control of law enforcement officials shall be exempt from this policy. The principals may allow authorized persons to display weapons or dangerous objects for educational purposes. Such a display shall be exempt from this policy. It shall be the responsibility of the superintendent, in conjunction with the principal, to develop administrative regulations regarding this policy.

# Smoking, Drinking, Drugs and Delivery Devices

Keokuk Community School District prohibits the distribution, use, manufacturing, and/or possession of cigarettes, smokeless tobacco, alcohol, drugs, drug products, including look alike drugs at any time while on school grounds (including parking lots and outdoor play areas), school owned and/or operated vehicles, personal vehicles being used for the transportation of students while on field trips, and attending or engaged in school activities.

Any student who has tobacco, alcohol, look alike drugs or drug products in any form in his/her possession at school is subject to disciplinary action, up to and including suspension or expulsion. KCSD reserves the right to contact law enforcement for legal proceedings.

# **Dress Code**

The purpose of Keokuk Community School District's Student Dress Code Policy is to provide guidance to students and parents as to appropriate attire for school and school functions. It also establishes a school environment that supports a productive academic atmosphere and student learning.

Iowa Code 279.58 allows school districts the right to adopt for the district or for an individual school within the district, a dress code policy that prohibits students from wearing gang-related or other specific apparel if the board determines that the policy is necessary for the health, safety, or positive educational environment of students and staff in the school environment or for the appropriate discipline and operation of the school.

The following items of clothing/accessories are considered inappropriate and/or disruptive to the educational process and are unacceptable for school attire:

- Hats, hoods, or any form of headgear (scarves, rags, handkerchiefs, stocking, etc....) worn within the building during the school day or at concerts, plays, and programs
- Clothing that contains written or pictorial reference that is obscene, racist, and/or advertises or promotes alcohol, drugs, profanity, tobacco, sex, or violence, including clothing depicting a weapon or look alike weapon.

- Strapless, see-through, backless, or tops that expose undergarments or abdominal areas (midriffs/halter tops)
- Shorts/Skirts need to be an appropriate length for school
- Sunglasses should not be worn in the building unless prescribed by a doctor

Students not dressed appropriately will be required to comply with the school's rules for dress and be asked to change.

Keokuk Middle School students organized by "pods" within the building; are not required to travel throughout the entire building to attend classes; and are not to take gym bags/backpacks/book bags/fanny packs or other related items to class.

# **Driver Education**

Driver education sessions will include classroom hours each weekday via google classroom; equivalent to 30 hours of classroom work; some of the work will be done independently (teachers will assign work and assignments to be completed). Driving times will be arranged by the instructors on the first day of class. All efforts will be made to accommodate your busy schedule.

KCSD students who are eligible for free/reduced lunches are also eligible for free/reduced driver education and should indicate that on the bottom of the form you turn in. Any student who qualifies for free/reduced funding is only eligible to have their fees waived or reduced one time. If a student fails the class or fails to complete the course, they will be allowed to retake the class but will be charged the full amount. Deposits are refundable if notification is given prior to the start of driver education. Refunds of any kind will not be issued once driver education has been initiated. The balance of tuition will be collected on the first day of class (please plan accordingly). Please make checks payable to Triple R Driving School L.L.C. Students will not be allowed to begin or complete the driving requirements for the class until all financial obligations have been fulfilled. See Triple R Driving School's website for additional information www.rumpsroadrules.com.

### **Driver License and Withdrawal**

Iowa Law now requires school districts to notify the Iowa Department of Transportation when a student under the age of 18 voluntarily withdraws from school. Iowa Code 321.213B provides for the revocation of a juvenile's driver license if he/she has voluntarily dropped out of school.

# **Electronics and Internet Safety**

Keokuk Community School District is proud to offer our students 1:1 Chromebook devices for school use. The ability to provide students with these devices ensures increased creative outlets, access to knowledge, and preparation for the future. To maximize learning in the classroom, electronic devices should be brought to school each day and be fully charged.

Because the device remains the property of Keokuk Community School District, the school reserves the right to monitor, review, and restrict the use of any device at any time, for any lawful reason, consistent with the policies of the School District and applicable law that subsides. Students are also responsible for appropriate care and use/non-use of their device at all times, per Keokuk Community School District's District Technology Handbook which can be found on the district website under District > Departments > Information Technology.

#### In addition, the following also apply:

- The use of personal devices during state or standardized testing is strictly prohibited including any testing done in the classrooms. Students who are caught using a phone illegally or in violation of school rules on cheating, will have the phone confiscated and is subject to suspension, or expulsion from school.
- All use of technology devices accessed on school property, including school buses, and/or off school property at school-sponsored events, must comply with the educational objectives of the School District policies.
- All devices must have cellular and network capabilities disabled (turned off) during instruction.
- The use of any device in the classroom is up to the discretion of the teacher and must be used at appropriate times in accordance with teacher instruction. Use of any device is a privilege, not a right. The teacher may request at any time that the device be turned off and put away. Failure to do so may result in disciplinary action.
- Sound should be muted unless the teacher grants permission for use of sound associated with the instructional activities.
- A device must not be a distraction or disruption for the student or others. If a device is a distraction or disruption on a school bus, the bus driver may require the device to be put away.
- Building level administration will determine when, where, and how devices may be used on school property, including school buses, and/or off school property at school-sponsored events.

Unauthorized audio or video recording is prohibited. A student that records an event at school with the purpose of publishing or promoting that event will be considered an

accomplice to the activity taking place and may be subject to discipline or criminal charges. See Iowa Code 723.2 Unlawful Assembly

If your school-issued device is damaged or missing, please report the problem immediately to the building's administration. If the Computer is stolen or vandalized while not at a Keokuk Community sponsored event, a parent/guardian shall file a police report within 48 hours. Stolen or lost computers will be locked and rendered inoperable via district management software.

# **Emergency Procedures**

Keokuk Community School district has adopted emergency response protocols that provide for the evacuation of students to a safe location in case of extreme emergency. The superintendent of schools will serve as a central communication source for the District and will use the <a href="SwiftReach">SwiftReach</a> to communicate during an emergency as soon as it is safe and practical to do so. For the safety of children, parents, and staff, we ask that parents do-not attempt to pick up their child during an emergency situation until directed to do so.

It is important that parents complete and update, as needed, all emergency contacts. This contact information for both the parents as well as the individuals authorized to pick up the child in the event of emergency or illness is accessible through your PowerSchool Parent Portal. It is the responsibility of the parent to complete and update this information when necessary.

### Fire and Tornado

Emergency drills are conducted throughout the school year for the protection of students and staff. Directions are posted inside the entrance of each classroom or teaching area. In the case of an emergency, or drill, students should remain quiet and act in an orderly manner.

During an emergency or emergency drill, students will:

- Remain quiet
- Walk in a brisk, orderly manner
- Remain with their instructor
- Follow all directions given by school staff members or emergency personnel

Students with physical limitations will have an emergency plan in place that provides them with assistance during emergencies or emergency drills.

# **Enrollment Requirements**

Under Iowa Code 282.1 a student must be a resident of the district in order to be enrolled in the district. All families must provide proof of residency and complete the Initial Registration Form prior to students attending school.

### **Proof of Residency**

All new students entering the district, no matter if they have a sibling(s) currently attending, must provide proper documentation establishing residency. The name and address on these documents must match the name and address of the parent or legal guardian of the student(s) being registered. Residency at the physical address is required, post office boxes do not establish residency.

#### **Important Note:**

Falsification of any information or document required for residency verification or the use of the address of another person without actually residing there may result in revocation of the student enrollment, being held liable to pay tuition for the time in attendance as a non-resident student, and filing a complaint with the appropriate law enforcement agency for criminal prosecution against all parties involved.

### Proof of Student's Date of Birth

Parents/guardians are responsible for providing school officials with an acceptable form of date and year of birth of each child enrolled in school. The purpose is to show the child is of legal age. The district will accept any of the following forms of proof of a student's date of birth as deemed acceptable by the building principal:

- 1. Certified Statement from Physician
- 2. Passport
- 3. Hospital Record
- 4. Adoption Record
- 5. Baptism Record

Two copies will be made at school at no charge. One copy will be given to the parent(s)/guardian(s) along with the original and the other copy will be placed for safe keeping in the child's cumulative folder.

### **Immunization Records**

A certificate of immunization must be on file at the school your child attends at the time of his/her enrollment. The State of Iowa requires, by law, that all children, Preschool - Grade 12, must have adequate immunizations.

### **Legal Names**

Students must be registered using the child's legal name under Iowa Administrative Code 281-12.3(4). Parents and legal guardians can indicate their child's preferred name for use in class lists, yearbooks and other outward facing school lists.

# **Extracurricular Activities, Standards for Participation**

Participation in extracurricular activities is a privilege provided to students as an enrichment, allowing them to apply academic skills in real-world context providing a well-rounded educational program.

Because students involved in athletics and activities perform and represent their school in public, they are expected to conduct themselves at all times in a manner that will reflect the high standards and ideals of their sport, activity, team, school, and community.

The program shall be designed to: "...meet the needs and interests and challenge the abilities of all pupils consistent with their individual stages of development; contribute to the physical, mental, athletic, civic, social, moral, and emotional growth of all pupils; offer opportunities for both individual and group activities; be integrated with the instructional program; and provide balance so a limited number of activities will not be perpetuated at the expense of others." [Standards for Iowa Schools, 12.6(1).]

Therefore, standards of eligibility for extra-curricular participation including academic, as well as, conduct in and out of school are provided in our Keokuk Jr/Sr High Activities Parent/Student Handbook found on the District Website at District > Departments > Activities.

# Family Passes/Adult Individual Passes/Senior Passes

Families of the Keokuk Community School District have the option of purchasing an individual or family pass that will provide each member of their immediate family (college aged or younger) with admission into every regular season home athletic event.

Family passes can be purchased when families register in the summer or through the main office at Keokuk High School during the school year.

Student Pass: \$40

Adult Individual Pass: \$75

Family Pass: \$200

Pass cards will be printed and distributed by the High School Activity Office. Please note that pass holders must physically have their pass with them when they enter the event or they will be expected to pay full admission. Lost or stolen passes can be replaced for \$10 in the main office at Keokuk High School.

Senior residents of Keokuk Community School District (age 62 and up) who are retired are eligible to receive a free "senior" pass that will provide them complimentary access to all home regular season athletic events. Seniors wishing to receive a pass can get one through the main office at Keokuk High School and should provide proof of residence and age in the form of a driver's license or identification card.

### Family Pass Program

Families of KCSD are given the opportunity to participate in the Keokuk Family Pass Program where they can sign up to work during concessions to earn an individual or family pass.

Family Pass: 25 hours Individual Pass: 10 hours Student Pass: 5 hours

# **Fees and Fines**

### **Textbook Rental Fees**

Textbook rental fees are set annually by the Board of Education and are due at registration. Fees can be paid on-line using E-Funds for Schools by using your child's student number and last name. This can be found on "Form N" in the PowerSchool Parent Portal. Cash and checks can be submitted during registration or accepted at your student's school.

Students, whose families meet income guidelines for free and reduced lunch, the family investment program (FIP), supplemental security income (SSI), transportation assistance under open enrollment, who are in foster care, or whose families are experiencing temporary financial complications are eligible to have their student fees waived or partially waived. This waiver does not carry over from year to year and must be completed annually.

If a student fails Driver Education the student will be allowed to retake the class but will be charged the full amount.

Some courses require additional equipment or supplies and may have additional fees. Students in need of financial assistance to pay fees should consult with their teachers, counselor, or principal. Please refer to the Table of Contents to locate the current list of Textbook Fees.

# Pre-Kindergarten Fee (Full Day Only)

There is a non-refundable enrollment fee of \$100 due by the last weekday of May for families enrolling their child in the full day Pre-K program. The enrollment fee will be deducted from your annual balance. The enrollment fee may be rolled into your first month's tuition or any month of your choosing through the year.

Tuition for the full day Pre-K depends on the total number of students enrolled in the full day program and is subject to change. Tuition cost could vary between \$250-\$350/month to be set by August 15th each school year.

Tuition payments are <u>due on the 1st school day of each month</u>. Payments can be made by cash, check, or through our E-funds system. Families that do not submit tuition payments by the 15th of each month may be moved to half day Pre-K until their balance is paid and may run the risk of being bumped out of the full day program.

### Fines & Unpaid Fees

Fines are assessed when textbooks, library books, other school materials, or property are damaged beyond that of normal wear and use as a result of carelessness or deliberate actions of the student. Lost or damaged books and Chromebooks need to be replaced. The replacement cost for these items are the responsibility of the student and the student's parent(s).

Fines are not subject to financial waivers of any type. It is expected that all fines be paid in full prior to the end of the school year in which the fine was imposed or the fee was incurred. In addition, school fines stay with students until their 12th grade year. Any High School student with unpaid fees will not be allowed to attend Homecoming festivities, Prom festivities, and/or participate in the Graduation exercises.

### Returned Checks/Insufficient Funds

All returned checks rejected due to insufficient funds will be charged a \$25.00 penalty. Missed payments and late fees must be paid within 2 weeks. Repeated incidents of returned checks or insufficient funds notices could result in termination of child care services. A payment plan should be discussed with the Director or Principal if a family is having trouble making payments.

# **Field Trips**

Educational field trips may be taken with administration approval. Parents will be notified by the monthly calendar and/or teacher note if their child will be leaving school grounds. Teachers may request parents to chaperone. All chaperones would have to complete and pass a background check. Since this is an opportunity for parents to have quality time with their child, siblings are not to attend field trips and parents must provide their own transportation. If parents would like to take their child home after a field trip or an assembly, they must sign out their child with the classroom teacher.

Students absent during a school day due to a school sponsored trip are not considered absent. As a general rule assignments for classes missed as a result of a trip should be completed promptly upon returning from the trip.

# **Food Services**

The school district will operate a school nutrition program in each attendance center. The school nutrition program will include meals through participation in the National School Lunch Program. Students may bring their lunches from home and purchase milk and other incidental items.

In an effort to maintain an environment that promotes healthy eating for our students, the following foods/beverages are strongly discouraged in the cafeteria: sugary, caffeinated beverages (soda pop), candy, fast foods, and other foods that are high in fat, sugar and/or sodium but low in nutrient value. If you are unsure, please call the school to check beforehand.

### **Lunch Cards**

Keokuk Community School District uses a computerized lunch account system for each student. This system allows parents to establish a family lunch account for all of their children regardless of what buildings the students attend.

Students are responsible for the charges to their account by using their lunch card (Student ID) or punching in an assigned number. No student is to sell, borrow, or trade with their lunch card or lunch number. The district is not responsible for charges made to an account.

### Payment of Meals

Starting 2023-2024, all full-day students PK-12 are eligible for a free breakfast and lunch, students with negative accounts are welcome to get a free meal. However, for any

extras or ala carte purchases, students must have adequate funds in their account at the time of purchase.

Families may add money to student(s) accounts using E-Funds electronic payment via check, cash or card. This is the preferred method of payment, as payments are automatically applied to your students account and available to be used within 15 minutes typically.

You may also submit payment by dropping off cash or check at the school office or mailing payment to:

Food Services c/o Sarah Hackett Keokuk Middle School 2002 Orleans Street Keokuk, Iowa 52632

Only the first meal a student receives each day is free. A second lunch or additional food purchased is at the posted price.

### **Negative Account Balances**

The school district will make reasonable efforts to notify families when meal account balances are low. Parents or guardians will be notified of an outstanding negative balance by automated calling system, email or text.

# Communication of the Policy

The policy and supporting information regarding meal charges shall be provided in writing to:

- All households at or before the start of each school year;
- Students and families who transfer into the district, at time of transfer; and
- All staff responsible for enforcing any aspect of the policy.

Records of how and when the policy and supporting information was communicated to households and staff will be retained.

### Food Allergy Policy

Recognizing that students with life-threatening allergies attend our school, Keokuk Community School District will maintain a system-wide emergency plan for addressing life-threatening allergic reactions and maintain an Individual Emergency Medical Plan (IEMP) for any student(s) whose parents/guardians, and physicians have informed the principal of the school in writing that the student(s) has a potentially life-threatening allergy. Further, the District will utilize procedures to minimize the chance of a child experiencing a life-threatening allergic reaction.

All necessary staff will be notified of the student(s) who have life-threatening allergies. It will be the Transportation Supervisors' and child care director's responsibility to communicate this information to all regular drivers and substitute drivers.

### Life-Threatening Allergy Policy

The school principal, in consultation with a school nurse, will be responsible for notifying the classroom teachers, classroom associates, and parents of students in classrooms where one or more students have a life-threatening allergy. (The allergy must be clearly documented by the primary care physician or a board-certified allergist.) Notification will include an explanation of the severity of the health threat, a description of signs and symptoms to be aware of and a concise list of foods and materials to avoid. Parents, in consultation with their primary care provider/allergist, will provide the list of allergens to be avoided.

The District may request that parents/students avoid nuts and nut products in lunches and snacks in grades PreK-12.

### **Classroom Treats**

No homemade treats (excluding homemade lunches) for students, will be brought into our schools either by parents or students. All treats must be commercially prepared and packaged for distribution with intact ingredient labels. Treats may be distributed by the classroom teacher for special occasions, such as birthdays or holiday parties. Classrooms with students who have life-threatening allergies may have more specific guidelines depending on the type(s) of allergy.

Food preparation will be allowed in academic curriculum for grades PK-12 with the principal's approval (who is in consultation with a school nurse.) An exception will be made for food preparation as related to the Individual Education Plan of individual student's goals served in special education in PK-12 grades. Precautions will be taken for students with life-threatening allergies.

Only prepackaged food manipulatives should be used in classrooms. Peanut butter jars should not be used for storage of manipulatives, even if the jars have been thoroughly washed.

Classroom pets that have been pre-approved by the building principal will be allowed provided that nut-free foods and bedding are used. Visiting pets are prohibited in our schools. Exceptions will be made for service animals and approved classroom curriculum units involving animals as a part of a lesson or lessons.

# **Grading**

Grades are an evaluation of what the student has learned. They become part of a permanent record. Institutions of higher learning, potential employers, and the various military services are all interested in a student's high school records. Students are evaluated according to scholastic performance at the end of each semester which is recorded on the permanent record.

Grades and electronic progress reports are viewable through the PowerSchool Parent Portal, and provide opportunities for parent conferences to serve as a basis for continuous evaluation of the student's performance and to help in determining changes that should be made to effect improvement. A paper copy of progress reports and grades are available upon request by contacting the school office.

# **Graduation Requirements**

All graduation requirements shall meet the standards established by state statute and the Department of Education. Students who have successfully completed high school shall be granted diplomas. Those students meeting the following graduation requirements for grades nine through twelve will be recommended by the principal for graduation. The District may provide a certificate of completion/attendance to those students receiving special education services who do not complete all required content coursework.

Students in good standing in grades 9-12 typically earn 7 credits per year to be on track for graduation.

Students wishing to earn more than seven credits in a specific semester will be allowed to do so only if pre-approved by the principal and the request meets one of the following criteria:

• The student has been identified as talented and gifted and has requested to take additional coursework as a part of their personal education plan established by a team to include a counselor, one or more of the student's teachers, the student, their parents and school administrator or their designee.

- Students having a need to make up credits due to the failure of a class may petition to earn additional credits to bring themselves back on track so that they may graduate with their cohort.
- All students and parents will have access to PowerSchool as often as needed. Grades will be entered and or updated by the teacher within one week of when an assignment has been collected. For tests and projects that time may be extended to 10 school days. If there is a concern about a teacher not recording grades for a period longer than one school week, parent/student should contact the teacher immediately with concerns, then the administration. Students who have missed any part of a semester and therefore were unable to complete the credits enrolled in that semester. Application for the earning of additional credits in a semester can be made by contacting a counselor or administrator. Applications made with the sole purpose of allowing the student to graduate early will be considered.

Please see the Keokuk High School Course Catalog on our district website for more information regarding course offerings under Parents or Schools > High School > Guidance.

### **Early Graduation**

Early graduation (completion of all high school requirements in less than 8 semesters. It is possible for students who have special needs or abilities that may be met by such a course of action. To be eligible to participate in spring and/or summer interscholastic activities - boys/girls athletics, music, and speech students must be actively enrolled.

Any student anticipating early graduation must discuss the intention and purpose with the principal and guidance counselor and then complete a written request with the guidance counselor before Nov 1st. Parental involvement is imperative. Any student graduating early (meeting all graduation requirements) will be awarded a diploma at the next regular commencement exercise. The school will provide the student with a letter attesting to fulfillment of requirements as soon as they have been satisfied.

# Special Student Status

The principal may grant a special student status in cases of extraordinary circumstances. The granting of this special status allows a student to enroll for a limited schedule (less than five subjects plus physical education). Examples of extraordinary circumstances: Extreme mental or physical illness, student pregnancy, and or a student returning to complete graduation requirements.

# Harassment, Intimidation and Bullying

Keokuk Community School District is committed to maintaining a learning environment that is free from harassment, intimidation 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 family status for all students, employees, parents/legal guardians, and volunteers.

Per Iowa Code 280.28 "Harassment" and "bullying" shall be construed to mean any electronic, written, verbal, or physical act or conduct toward a student which is based on any actual or perceived trait or characteristic of the student and which creates an objectively hostile school environment that meets one or more of the following conditions:

- 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 a student's academic performance, and/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.

Nothing in this section requires the affected student to actually possess a characteristic that is a basis for the harassment, intimidation or bullying.

Harassment, intimidation or bullying can take many forms including, but not limited to, slurs, rumors, jokes, innuendos, demeaning comments, drawings, cartoons, pranks, gestures, physical attacks, threats or other written, oral, physical or electronically transmitted messages or images. This includes all social media outlets.

This policy is not intended to prohibit expression of religious, philosophical, or political views, provided that the expression does not substantially disrupt the educational environment. Many behaviors that do not rise to the level of harassment, intimidation or bullying may still be prohibited by other district policies or building, classroom or program rules.

### Sexual Harassment

Students and staff are protected against sexual harassment by anyone in any school program or activity, including on the school campus, on the school bus, or off-campus during a school-sponsored activity.

Sexual harassment is unwelcome behavior or communication that is sexual in nature when:

- A student or employee is led to believe that he or she must submit to unwelcome sexual conduct or communications in order to gain something in return, such as a grade, a promotion, a place on a sports team, or any educational or employment decision, or
- The conduct substantially interferes with a student's educational performance, or creates an intimidating or hostile educational or employment environment.

#### **Examples of Sexual Harassment:**

- Pressuring a person for sexual favors
- Unwelcome touching of a sexual nature
- Writing graffiti of a sexual nature
- Distributing sexually explicit texts, e-mails, or pictures
- Making sexual jokes, rumors, or suggestive remarks
- Physical violence, including rape and sexual assault

### Reporting Harassment, Intimidation or Bullying

All incidents of harassment, intimidation and bullying should be promptly reported to your child's teacher and/or school principal. The name and contact information for each school's administrator is posted on the school website and in the front of this handbook.

Submission of a good faith complaint or report of prohibited harassment will not affect the complainants or reporter's grades or educational opportunities. The School District will discipline or take appropriate action against any student, teacher, administrator or other school personnel who retaliates against any person, who reports alleged harassment, or any person who testifies, assists or participates in an investigation, or who testifies, assists or participates in the proceeding or hearing relating to such harassment. Retaliation includes, but is not limited to any form of intimidation, reprisal or harassment.

### Complaint to the School District

If you cannot resolve your concern at your child's school, you may wish to file a complaint with the school district.

### Step 1: Write Out Your Complaint

In most cases, complaints must be filed within one year from the date of the incident or conduct that is the subject of the complaint. A complaint must be in writing. Be sure to describe the conduct or incident, explain why you believe discrimination, discriminatory harassment, or sexual harassment has taken place, and describe what actions you believe the district should take to resolve the problem. Send your written complaint by mail, or hand delivery to either of our instructional services coordinators, Kyler

Barnes at kyler.barnes@keokukschools.org, Natalie Ulloa at natalie.ulloa@keokukschools.org, or the District Superintendent, Dr. Kathy Dinger kathy.dinger@keokukschools.org.

500 N 20th Street Keokuk, IA 52632 P: 319-524-1402

#### Step 2: School District Investigates Your Complaint

Once the district receives your written complaint, the coordinator will give you a copy of the complaint procedure and make sure a prompt and thorough investigation takes place. If your complaint involves exceptional circumstances that demand a lengthy investigation, the district will notify you in writing to explain why staff need a time extension and the new date for their written response.

#### **Step 3:** School District Responds to Your Complaint

In its written response, the district will include a summary of the results of the investigation, a determination of whether or not the district failed to comply with civil rights laws, notification that you can appeal this determination, and any measures necessary to bring the district into compliance with civil rights laws.

# **Health Services**

# Bed Bugs and Head Lice

If a child or their possessions are found to have bed bugs and/or head lice the parent/guardian will be notified by phone and a note informing them of effective home and hair treatment. This will include information from the Iowa Department of Health on treatment. If the parent/guardian chooses to take the student home that day it will be considered an absence. It is the position of the Iowa Department of Public Health that the child remains in school upon the finding of bed bugs and/or head lice. The child is expected to be treated before returning to school the next day. Parents may always contact the school nurse/medical clerk for further information regarding bed bugs and/or head lice.

### Health Care Plans

### Documentation of Allergies

All child allergies should be noted on the health forms when completing registration. Additionally, allergies shall be disclosed to your child's teacher and the school nurse. Depending on the severity of the allergy, an Individual Health Plan may be developed for a child with severe allergies. All staff working in the classroom of a child with severe

allergies will be made aware of allergies and must review the Individual Health Plans to ensure understanding of emergency procedures should the child have an allergic reaction.

#### Documentation of Special Health Care Needs

An Individual Health Plan will be on file for any child or staff member with special health care needs (seizures, etc.). A copy of the Individual Health Plan must be kept in the classroom emergency binder. All staff working in the classroom must familiarize themselves with this plan, should an emergency arise. If necessary, staff will receive training regarding a child's or staff member's specific health care needs. [IQPPS 5.1.g]

### Illness and Injury

It is important that parents complete and update all emergency contact information in PowerSchool for both the parents as well as the individuals authorized to pick up the child in the event of illness or emergency. It is also important to provide and update medical and dental care providers.

While schools provide bandages, ice packs, and TLC, they are not equipped to treat children who are ill or seriously injured. Individuals designated as emergency contacts should reside within a reasonable distance of school. It is important that children who are ill or injured be picked up promptly. The nurse/medical clerk will evaluate and treat accordingly, then notify the parent of the illness or injury. Each building shall maintain a log of reportable accidents occurring on school property involving students and employees under school jurisdiction.

In cases where, in the judgment of professional staff, the situation is a matter of life or death, or other serious injury requiring immediate medical attention, a child will be taken to the hospital or EMS will be notified if a parent or other designated individual cannot be contacted.

Students with contagious diseases as defined by Iowa law/statute must report it to the school immediately, so it can be closely monitored by the school nurse/medical clerk. It is also important to keep us informed of any unusual or chronic health conditions, this information is considered confidential and shared only on a need-to-know basis. If at any time the school feels the need to have a note from the doctor, it is the responsibility of the parent to obtain such documentation.

Students who have a fever need to remain home from school for 24 hours after the temperature has returned to normal without using fever-reducing medication (Tylenol, Ibuprofen, or Motrin). The same requirement continues for vomiting and diarrhea, home for 24 hours after the last episode of vomiting or diarrhea.

#### **Immunizations**

A certificate of immunization must be on file at the school your child attends at the time of his/her enrollment. The State of Iowa requires, by law, that all children, Preschool12<sup>th</sup> grade, must have adequate immunizations. The school nurses/medical clerks monitor this information. Failure to have a certificate indicating adequate immunizations will result in the child not being permitted to attend until such requirement is met. The Lee County Public Health Department holds immunization clinics monthly. For more information on school immunization requirements in the state of Iowa, visit the Iowa Department of Public Health, Immunization Requirements.

Students with a medical exemption must provide a Medical Exemption Form, that is signed by the child's physician, with the school nurse and Principal. This form can be found on the district website under Parent Resources.

Students with a religious exemption must provide a Religious Exemption Form with the school nurse and Principal. This form can be found on the district website under Parent Resources.

#### **Medical Excuses**

If a student is unable to participate in Physical Education, he/she must see the nurse before their class so a written excuse can be provided to the teacher. To be excused from Physical Education, you must have a written excuse submitted by your doctor on the doctor's letterhead. Parents are allowed to excuse their student from PE once a semester. If your student is unable to participate in PE an alternative assignment may be required during this time. Should a student have an injury that requires the use of the elevator, a written excuse needs to be submitted from the parent/guardian or doctor.

# McKinney-Vento Education of Homeless Children

At times, circumstances may lead to the families of school age children to become homeless. In too many cases, when a family becomes homeless one result is that the children stop attending school.

The McKinney-Vento Act defines homeless children or unaccompanied youth as lacking a fixed, regular and adequate nighttime residence, which includes:

• Families doubled up with friends or relatives due to loss of housing.

- Children living in motels, hotels, trailer parks and campgrounds due to lack of alternative accommodations.
- Children living in emergency or transitional shelters.
- Children living in cars, parks, public spaces, abandoned buildings, substandard housing, and bus or train stations.

The McKinney-Vento Act ensures that children have a right to:

- Attend the school they last attended before they became homeless (school of origin) OR enroll in their neighborhood school.
- Immediate enrollment in school even if they lack required documents, such as school records, immunization records, or proof of residence.
- Free transportation to school of origin, when feasible.
- Free meals at school.
- Assistance for school fees, school supplies, and connecting to social service supports.

Should you become aware of families who are homeless and it appears the children are not attending school, please contact your nearest Keokuk school or call Central Office at 524-1402. Your call could be of great assistance to these families. If your family is ever in a situation where you are or may become homeless, please call Nathan Harrison, District Homeless Coordinator at (319) 524-2542 to seek assistance.

### **Medication**

Whenever possible and appropriate, families and physicians are encouraged to schedule medications to be given at home under parental supervision. If medications are needed during the school day, or if you have any questions, please contact your school nurse.

Administration of all medication (prescription and over-the-counter) at school shall be by the school nurse or in the absence of the nurse by an individual designated by the principal.

In order for a child of any age to receive medication at school or on a school-sponsored activity, a Medication Permission Form must be filled out. This applies to prescription medication as well as over-the-counter medication such as Tylenol, cough drops, etc.

The following procedures shall be followed:

• The parent/guardian must submit a medication permission form, signed and dated in the presence of the school nurse/med clerk regarding the times medication is to be administered. This form is available through the school nurse/med clerk. Medication order forms expire at the end of each school year.

- All medications must be taken immediately to the school office by an adult. They cannot be transported by the student.
- All medications must be in their original containers, prescription medication must be in a pharmacy labeled container.
- If the student is to self-administer medication, the parent must include a written statement to that effect and administration of the medication shall take place in the Nurse's Office.
- Any possible reactions to medication should be noted by the parent.
- Parents may come to school and administer medication to their child in the nurse's/medical clerk's office.

No medicines or pills are to be kept in any student's locker or carried in their possession at any time. If there is a need for medication to be kept anywhere at school other than the nurse's office, those arrangements MUST be approved by the nurse or principal. Students found in possession of, or unsupervised use of medication without proper authorization may lead to disciplinary action of the student up to and including suspension/expulsion.

Essential oils will not be administered at school due to the differing effect they can have on each individual child. Due to the fact they are oils it is impossible to ensure they won't be spread from one child to another.

#### **Asthma Medication**

Students prescribed asthma medication or medication for any other airway constricting disease may carry it on them during the school day. The school district and its employees incur no liability, except for gross negligence as a result of any injury arising from the self-administration of medication by the student. The school must have on file a signed permission slip from the nurse's office permitting student to carry asthma inhaler.

### **Notice of Nondiscrimination**

Keokuk Community School District does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability, religion, creed, age (for employment), marital status (for programs), sexual orientation, gender identity and socioeconomic status (for programs) in its educational programs and its employment practices. The belief in equal educational opportunity serves as a guide for the board and employees in making decisions relating to school district facilities, employment, selection of educational materials, equipment, curriculum, and regulations affecting students. There is a grievance procedure for processing complaints of discrimination.

If you have questions or a grievance related to this policy please contact Kyler Barnes, Coordinator of Instructional Services, 500 North 20th St, Keokuk, Iowa, 52632, (319) 524-1402, kyler.barnes@keokukschools.org.

# **Open Enrollment**

If a parent or guardian wishes to open enroll their child or children, they must:

- Complete an application (available in any Iowa public school district's central office and on the Iowa Department of Education Website.
- Submit an application for each child in their family, and
- Send the application to both the resident and receiving school districts.

Athletic Eligibility Students who open-enroll in grades nine through 12 are not eligible to participate in varsity contests and competitions during the first 90 school days of transfer (not counting summer school) unless an exception applies allowing immediate eligibility. For a list of exceptions to this rule, please see Iowa Administrative Code subrule 281-36.15(4).

## **PowerSchool**

PowerSchool is an online program that allows parents and students the opportunity to check grades, communicate with teachers, view report cards, check lunch accounts, and access your students Individualized Education Plan (IEP) if receiving special education services. You can also sign up to receive email notifications for attendance, lunch balances, grades, and school announcements.

PowerSchool Mobile app also offers quick access to important information. Users must enter district code "bttb" to gain access.

If at any time you would like access to PowerSchool, or have misplaced your guardian web information, please call the school office and we will be happy to assist you.

#### **Restorative Justice**

Restorative justice is a strategy that seeks to repair relationships that have been damaged, including those damaged through bullying. It does this by bringing a sense of remorse and restorative action on the part of the offender and forgiveness by the victim. Essentially, we will seek to identify consequences that are natural and will repair the damage done by an offender. For example, if a student chooses to disrespect an area of

our school by vandalizing school property, they would be required to work with our custodial staff to repair the damage.

#### What is restorative justice?

- In a restorative approach, the inherent worth of each individual is recognized, and we seek to strengthen the essential ties that bind us to one another in the classroom, in the school and in the community.
- Restorative justice is a framework that educators can use to create safe, supportive spaces in our schools. All members of the school learn to bravely engage in that community, and learn from honest – and sometimes difficult – conversations.
- When relationships break down as they will it is about having fair responsive processes in place in which everyone can share their stories, hear the impact of their actions, repair the relational harm and figure out the best way forward, together.
- It builds capacity in students and in adults to live in, understand and embrace the real world, with all its contradictions and complexities.
- For a restorative culture to be built, restorative justice cannot be something that schools employ only when things go wrong.
- On a daily basis, students need to feel valued no matter what and to be
  actively involved in the building of meaningful school relationships. Otherwise,
  they will have little reason to trust the processes in place to repair those
  relationships, when conflict or harm occurs.

#### Ways to build a restorative culture

- Teach and model communication skills so that students can both share and listen to diverse opinions. Embrace dissenting ideas as part of the learning process.
- Ensure that school practices and policies are flexible, not rigid. This allows schools to respond to students and staff as unique and valued individuals.
- Explicitly teach skills and attitudes for students to be able to problem-solve on their own and collectively.
- Help students problem-solve in their social relationships and in their schoolwork.
- Put significant time into developing student and staff relationships that are honest, supportive and collaborative.
- Support re-entry of students who have been excluded from school due to disciplinary action.

Punitive Justice	Restorative Justice
Focus on Rules that are broken	Focus on why it happened
Focus on who did the action	Focus on who was harmed
Focus on why a consequence is deserved	Focus on how to repair and make it right

# Student Directory, Photo Release & Publications

#### **Directory Information**

The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA), a Federal law, requires that Keokuk Community School District, with certain exceptions, obtain your written consent prior to the disclosure of personally identifiable information from your child's education records. However, Keokuk Community School District may disclose appropriately designated "directory information" without written consent, unless you have advised the District to the contrary in accordance with District procedures. The primary purpose of directory information is to allow Keokuk Community School District to include this type of information from your child's education records in certain school publications. Examples include:

- A playbill, showing your student's role in a drama production;
- The annual yearbook;
- Honor roll or other recognition lists;
- Graduation programs; and,
- Sports activity sheets, such as for wrestling, showing weight and height of team members.

Directory information, which is information that is generally not considered harmful or an invasion of privacy if released, can also be disclosed to outside organizations without a parent's prior written consent. Outside organizations include, but are not limited to, companies that manufacture class rings or publish yearbooks. In addition, two federal laws require local educational agencies (LEAs) receiving assistance under the *Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965* (ESEA) to provide military recruiters, upon request, with the following information – names, addresses and telephone listings – unless parents have advised the LEA that they do not want their student's information disclosed without their prior written consent.

If you do not want Keokuk Community School District to disclose directory information from your child's education records without your prior written consent, you must notify the District in writing by August 23 annually. Keokuk Community School District has designated the following information as directory information:

- Student's name
- Address
- Telephone listing
- Electronic mail address
- Photograph
- Date and place of birth
- Major field of study
- Dates of attendance
- Grade level
- Participation in officially recognized activities and sports
- Weight and height of members of athletic teams
- Degrees, honors, and awards received
- The most recent educational agency or institution attended
- Student ID number, user ID, or other unique personal identifier used to communicate in electronic systems that cannot be used to access education records without a PIN, password, etc. (A student's SSN, in whole or in part, cannot be used for this purpose.)

#### Photo & Video Use

The school maintains the right and freedom to use photographs, slides, video recordings, and DVDs of classroom and school activities involving students for the purpose of public relations. This may include social media postings as well as newspaper articles. Any parent/guardian objecting to this procedure must indicate on PowerSchool (permissions form) when registering their child.

#### **Student Expression & Publications**

#### **Student Expression**

It is the goal of the district to protect the educational environment for all students to help ensure it is free from substantial disruption or infringement upon their rights. Student expression should be appropriate to help ensure that the students learn and meet the goals of the school activity and that the potential audience is not exposed to material that may be harmful or inappropriate for their level of maturity.

Students who violate this policy may be subject to disciplinary measures. Employees are responsible for helping to ensure students' expression is in keeping with this policy. It is

the responsibility of the superintendent to develop administrative regulations regarding this policy.

#### **Student Publications**

Students may produce official school publications as part of the curriculum under the supervision of a faculty advisor and the principal. Official school publications include material produced in journalism, newspaper, yearbook, or writing classes and distributed to the student body either free or for a fee.

Any expression made by students, including student expression in official school publications, is not an expression of official school policy. The school district, the board, and the employees or officials are not liable in any civil or criminal action for any student expression made or published by students unless the employees or officials have interfered with or altered the content of the student speech or expression. The liability, if any, is only to the extent of the interference or alteration of the speech or expression.

Persons, other than students, who believe they have been aggrieved by student expression in a student-produced official school publication will follow the grievance procedure outlined in board policy 213.01. Students who believe their freedom of expression in a student-produced official school publication has been restricted will follow the grievance procedure outlined in board policy 502.04.

### **Student Records**

School records will be released to natural parents of minor children unless the legal rights of a parent have been severed. Guardianship, foster home placement, or divorce does not automatically sever parental rights. If parental rights of one parent have been severed, it is the responsibility of the parent retaining rights to provide the school with documentation or records might be released.

Under The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA), Keokuk Community School District is prohibited from releasing identifiable student records (except student directory information) without parent/guardian permission. Student records include, but are not limited to:

- Grades
- Achievement test scores
- Attendance records
- Disciplinary records

You should know the following regarding student records:

• You have the right to review your child's student records in the presence of school personnel.

- You may ask the school to amend a record you believe is inaccurate. To do so, clearly identify in writing the change requested and specify why the record is inaccurate.
- Student records may be disclosed without consent to school officials with legitimate educational interests.

If you have questions or concerns about the student records policy or wish to review or amend student records, contact your school principal.

#### **Transcripts**

Students/Graduates desiring transcripts should contact the High School office or submit an on-line transcript request which can be found under Parent Resources. There is no charge for transcripts while the student is in school and first year after graduation. After that a charge of \$5.00 applies for all transcripts to be paid on-line or in person. Official transcripts will be mailed to a designated party, or given directly in a sealed envelope. An unofficial transcript can be emailed or faxed.

# **Transportation & Busing**

#### Bicycles, Mopeds, and Motorcycles

Students in grades 2 or higher may ride a bicycle to school; must secure the bike in designated areas; and walk the bike while on school property.

Mopeds and motorcycles driven to school must not be ridden on school grounds and must be secured in designated areas.

#### **Automobiles**

Students driving to and from school must obey common road laws and must act safely and responsibly while driving in and around school grounds. Students that violate laws as it pertains to driving or put any other student in danger while operating a vehicle may not be permitted to park on or around school grounds for a definitive time period determined by the building administration. A student that is driving under a school permit that violates this policy may be subject to having their school permit revoked or suspended for a time period determined by the building administration.

Students holding an Iowa Intermediate Driver's License need a waiver to drive without a parent/guardian, family member over 21, or designated adult over 25 between the hours of 12:30 a.m. and 5:00 a.m. due to returning from a school activity or work. Waiver forms are available from the principal. Waivers for school activities are issued per activity not for a semester or year and apply only to those times when students would be

returning home after 12:30 a.m. from a school event or work. For information concerning permits see the building principal.

The District is not responsible for lost, stolen, or damaged student bicycles and motorized vehicles.

KCSD provides transportation for students before and after school to regular bus stops for all qualifying students.

- Elementary students living more than two miles from their designated school
- High School students living more than three miles from their designated school.

Students eligible for transportation services will be required to be picked up and dropped off at specific designated bus stops nearest their place of residence. These specific designated bus stops and approximate times will be made known to parents. No students or parents/guardians are allowed to ride a KCSD bus without prior administrative approval.

Students with temporary residence due to a valid special condition or restriction may be considered for transportation services. Requests for such special consideration must be submitted in writing to the building principal and transportation director.

Students eligible for specialized transportation services as listed in their Individualized Education Program (IEP) may receive curb-to-curb transportation. Transportation of a student to and from a special education support service is a function of that service, and is specified in the (IEP). When the IEP team determines that unique transportation arrangements are required and the arrangements are specified in the IEP or IFSP.

The following are some specific rules relating to students riding school buses.

- 1. Bus riders are not counted tardy when the bus is late.
- 2. Written request from the parent is required when requesting a child ride a different bus than his/her assigned bus. This request is to be approved by the building principal and the Director of Transportation by calling (319) 524-3690. Approval is dependent on the number of students riding that bus.
- 3. If a parent does not want his/her student to ride the bus home, the parent must contact the school either in writing or by calling the school office prior to 1:30 pm Monday through Friday.

#### **Midday Transportation**

KCSD provides midday transportation to and from the following local daycare centers:

- Keokuk Community Child Development Center 2330 Plank Rd., Keokuk, IA (319) 313-8831
- Head Start Community Action 220 S. 22nd St., Keokuk, IA (319) 524-6383
- Inertia Boys and Girls Center Inc. 1128 Fulton St., Keokuk, IA (319) 524-5060
- Hearts of Angels Daycare 513 S. 17th St., Keokuk, IA (319) 795-8099
- Lovable Lambs Childcare 1204 Franklin St., Keokuk, IA (319) 795-9498
- Pam Ragar's Daycare 301 Navaho Dr., Keokuk, IA (319) 670-8649
- The Giving Tree 102 Main St. Keokuk, IA (319) 313-8492
- **Tippy Toes Daycare** 818 Morgan St., Keokuk, IA (319) 795-7762

#### **Bus Rules**

Bus rules approved by the district will also be distributed to parents and their bus riding child(ren) at registration or during that first week of school. It is the responsibility of the parent(s) to make sure they have reviewed these rules with their child.

The school bus driver has the same authority on the bus as the teacher in the classroom. If a student's conduct, while a passenger on a bus, is such that bus rules are violated and the student refuses to cease when requested by the bus driver, bus transportation will be denied. Riding a bus is a privilege that can be taken away if bus rules are not followed. Please refer to Keokuk Community School District School Bus Conduct and Safety Regulations which can be found on our district website under Parent Resources and under Transportation.

#### **Emergency Routes**

Due to inclement weather or hazardous road conditions, (snow, ice, or extremely soft gravel roads) buses may not run, be delayed, or operate on hard surfaced roads only. Local media will be informed of changes in the regular school transportation schedule.

Emergency routes will be published at the beginning of the school year. Please call the Transportation Department at (319) 524-3960 to clarify either their routes and/or the emergency pick up points. Parents should make plans in advance with their students about what should be done when the school schedule changes.

# Visitors/Volunteers/Deliveries

### School Visitors/Guest

In order to maintain a safe and orderly environment, all visitors who wish to visit a classroom or while school is in session MUST first check in with the front office and are asked to follow the following guidelines:

- Notify the principal and obtain approval
- State the purpose of the visit (observe student behavior, gain understanding of instructional strategies, etc.)
- Wear identification badge at all times while on school property
- Maintain and acknowledge the importance of confidentiality.
- Confidentiality is a top priority. Observations of students and their academic abilities, social interactions, etc. are confidential and must not be shared outside of the classroom. Pictures and video recordings are prohibited.

In order to avoid classroom disruptions, individual gifts for students such as flowers, balloons, and similar items will be held in the school office and will not be allowed on school buses. Invitations to private parties may only be distributed in the classroom if there are invitations for the entire class. Food deliveries will only be permitted during established school lunch hours and will also be held in the school office.

Visitors failing to conduct themselves in a professional manner will be asked to leave the premises. Children who wish to visit school must be accompanied by a parent or responsible adult. All unauthorized persons who refuse to leave when requested may be prosecuted as a trespasser.

#### Volunteers-Parent/Citizens

The schools appreciate and encourage the assistance and help of parents and citizens in our programs and activities and are always looking for quality volunteers.

The Parent Teacher Organization (P.T.O.) is an active organization made up of parents, teachers and other staff. Each building has its own P.T.O. unit. This group works to provide materials and resources for our students. They also support the various programs of the building ranging from special events to a school bookstore. We invite you to be a part of our P.T.O. group. Please contact the school's main office if you are interested. There is no fee to belong and meetings are held monthly.

Volunteers within the district will be held to the same high standards of behavior as school employees. For the safety of all staff and students, a simple background check is

necessary prior to interacting with the students in a volunteer capacity. If you would like to help listen to a child read, help them with math or share your job and occupation, we would encourage you to contact us.

# Appendices



# Remember! Hawthorne Littles are Respectful, Responsible, and Ready!

	Hallway	Arrival & Dismissal	Playground	Library	Lunchroom	Assembly	Bus	Indoor Recess	Bathroom
Respectful	• Voice Level 0 or 1 • Use Line Basics	Voice Level 0 or 1  Follow adult directions	<ul> <li>Keep your hands and feet to yourself</li> <li>Include others in play</li> <li>Follow the playground rules</li> <li>Share and take turns</li> <li>Use appropriate language</li> </ul>	• Voice Level 0 or 1 • Sit in chair with feet on the floor • Use quiet, walking feet	While waiting in line, Voice Level 0 While all students are seated, Voice Level 1 or 2 Eat your own food Raise your hand for help	Voice Level will vary  Quiet hands and feet  Listen to the speaker	Voice Level 1 or 2  Use kind words and actions  Help limit bus driver distractions	• Voice Level 1 or 2 • Follow adult directions	• Voice Level 0 • Wait your turr
Responsible	Use quiet, walking feet  Walk up and down steps  In passing, just wave	Walk directly to breakfast or designated areas  Follow the rules	Stay visible on the playground  Pick up equipment	Use your place keeper correctly  Take care of your materials  Check out books  Bring your library card  Push chairs in when leaving	<ul> <li>Eat first, talk later</li> <li>Use good manners</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Participate using Voice Level 2</li> <li>Face forward</li> <li>Stay seated</li> </ul>	Be responsible for your belongings Help keep the bus clean Stay on the sidewalk while walking to the bus	Keep your hands and feet to yourself      Use Line Basics      Head directly to your designated area	Clean up after yourself Flush the toile Wash your hands Turn off the water Throw trash in the trash can
Ready	Use Line Basics	Listen for your name  Use Line Basics	<ul> <li>"Freeze" and line up quietly on signal</li> <li>Use Line Basics</li> </ul>	Sit quietly Keep your hands and feet to yourself Read to yourself Use Line Basics	Use Line Basics  Bring your lunch card  Clean up after yourself  Exit quietly	Use Line Basics  Listen for your class to be dismissed  Clap appropriately with your hands	Patiently wait in line to be checked onto the bus Sit in your seat, facing forward Keep your hands and feet to yourself	Use looking eyes and listening ears	Leave the doo open when yo are finished  Put the seat up or down as needed

# GEORGE WASHINGTON ELEMENTARY PBIS MATRIX FOR BEHAVIOR EXPECTATIONS

	Areas Before School	Hallway	Classroom	Lunchroom	Playground	Restroom	Library	Dismissal	Assemblies
Be Respectful	Follow directions from adults	Use line basics Keep voice quiet or do not talk	Use kind words and actions	Use quiet voice  Maintain personal space in line	Follow adult directions  Follow game rules  Be kind	Allow privacy for others Always flush Be quiet	Be quiet	Always walk and be prompt	Listen to speakers  Be quiet when someone is speaking
Be Responsible	Eat breakfast before playing	Walk directly to destination Walk on right-hand side	Participate Follow adult directions	Keep table area clean Take care of lunch card	Play safely  Ask an adult permission before going inside  Use stoplight	Return Directly to Class Wash your hands	Use place keepers for books	Be on time to the bus	Use body basics and sit quietly
Be Ready	Be on time Line up when bell rings	Follow directions from adults	Come to class prepared with all materials	Have lunch card ready or cold lunch in hand	Line up for class when recess if over	Use during transitions	Have card and books with you	Quickly and quietly prepare your backpack	Show appropriate appreciation

# **KMS Expectations**

opinions & values of others, tolerance, acceptance, non-violence, & courtesy.)   Page 14  Page 15  Pag	language and volume Be courteous to all Avoid distracting classrooms along your	Wait patiently in line     Use appropriate language     Be courteous to peers and staff     Practice good table manners  Volume: 1-3	Use appropriate language     Honor people's privacy     Take care of the facility     Keep your hands, feet and objects to yourself      Volume: 1-3	language Follow staff directions Keep your hands, feet and objects to your	hats for the National Anthem, stand for the Fight Song • Positive cheers only	When waiting for the bus stay away from front of bus doors until students get off the bus     Keep your hands, feet and objects to yourself     Volume: 1-3	Silence electronic devices during class/school activities     Use histening devices and cell phones only in hallways or at lunch and at teacher discretion in the classroom
(Accountability, Pursuing Excellence, & USelf-control)  Ready (Prepared for success in the real world!!)	yourself Use a planner/pass Walk Proper management of locker (keep it shut and school appropriate items)  Move to class promptly using the most direct route	Dump your tray when instructed Consume food and beverages in the cafeteria only Remain in the appropriate lunch areas until the bell rings Raise your hand if you want to go to the bathroom or nurse Single file entry, getting food and dismissal Share your table, accept others	Use restrooms between classes and/or lunch Keep the restroom area clean Clean up after yourself Keep your items in your locked locker  Practice good hygiene – wash your hands Get dressed/ seated Get in Get out!	Stay an arms length away from buses until the doors are open Cross at the stop sign if you are crossing the street  If you are not riding the bus leave the bus leave the bus loading area	Take care of concessions and restrooms in a timely manner Students that leave and wish to return must be with parent Good sportsmanship Positive attitude Encourage and be	Food and drink are to stay off of the bus during regular bus routes     Stay in your seat while the bus is in motion  Classroom expectations also apply to bus setting     Make safe choices	Care for personal and district devices Communicate appropriately when using personal and district devices Leave other's devices alone Show interest and motivation Lend a hand

# KEOKUK HIGH SCHOOL CHIEFS

Will Be Lobby & Hallways	Respectful (Value the opinions and values of others, tolerant, acceptance, non-violence)  Use appropriate language & volume.  Be courteous to all.  Avoid distracting classrooms along your	Responsible (accountability, pursuing excellence and self-control)  Clean up after yourself, throw your stuff away.  Use a planner pass.	Ready (Prepared for success in the real world!!!)  Move to class promptly using the most direct route.  Demonstrate understanding of appropriate behaviors &
	route.  Keep your hands to yourself.	Walk	expectations
Cafeteria	Wait Patiently in line Use appropriate language & volume. Be courteous to peers & staff Practice good table manners.	Clean up after yourself, throw your stuff away  Consume food & beverages in the cafeteria only.  Remain in the appropriate lunch areas until the bell rings.	Share your table-accept others  Carry on appropriate table conversation
Restrooms	Use appropriate language & volume  Respect people's privacy  Respect the facility	Use restrooms between classes and/or lunch  Keep the restroom area clean  Clean up after yourself	Practice good hygiene – wash your hands Get inGet out!
Campus & Parking Lot	Drive with care & caution  Respect other people's vehicles  Watch for pedestrians  Open doors carefully	Park in student parking areas only Follow appropriate driving rules/laws Lock your car to protect valuables Clean up after yourself	Buckle up Tunes not text
School Activities	Stand & remove hats for the National Anthem Stand for the Fight Song Cheer & applaud appropriately Stay off the playing surface	Appropriate behavior to match the event Be on time Clean up after yourself	Good sportsmanship  Positive attitude  Encourage & be courteous to others
Electronic Devices	Silence electronic devices during class/school activities  Use listening devices only in hallways or at lunch and at teacher discretion in the classroom	Be responsible for your own devices  Leave other's devices alone	Use devices appropriately
Classroom	Arrive on time  Honor the opinions & answers of others  Use appropriate language & volume  Keep your hands & feet to yourself	Participate in classroom discussion/activity  Complete all assignments promptly with honesty & integrity  Have materials ready for class	Show interest & motivation  Lend a hand to those in need  Take care of school property