



LAWTON HIGH SCHOOL HANDBOOK

AUGUST 16, 2022

LAWTON COMMUNITY HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT HANDBOOK

DISTRICT MISSION STATEMENT

Lawton Community Schools exists to provide meaningful opportunities that challenge each student to reach their potential. Through strong connections with students, families, and the community, we will prepare our students with the 21st Century Skills necessary to compete in a global economy.

MISSION STATEMENT OF LAWTON HIGH SCHOOL

Lawton High School is a community of independent thinkers who maintain high expectations and prepare themselves for the challenges of a competitive 21st century.

Business Office: Ben Bandfield, Superintendent 269-624-7901 (bbandfield@lawtoncs.org)

Lawton High School: Jon Waldron, Principal 269-624-7800 (jwaldron@lawtoncs.org)

Counseling Office: Nichole Sparks, School Counselor 269-624-7806 (nsparks@lawtoncs.org)

DAILY TIME SCHEDULE

Building will be open to students at 7:15 a.m.

Time

<u>8:00-9:06</u>	<u>1</u>
<u>9:10-10:16</u>	<u>2</u>
<u>10:20-11:26</u>	<u>3</u>
<u>11:30-12:00</u>	<u>Achievement</u>
<u>12:04-1:40</u>	<u>4</u>
<u>1:44-2:50</u>	<u>5</u>

1st Lunch

11:26-11:50
PM Tech Center

2nd Lunch

12:04-12:26 Lunch
12:30-1:40 Class

3rd Lunch

12:04-12:35 Class
12:34-1:00 Lunch
1:03-1:40 Class

VISITORS

All visitors, including parents and siblings, are required to enter through the front door of the building and proceed immediately to the main office. Visitors should identify themselves and inform office personnel of their reason for being at school.

Visitors must sign in, identifying their name, the date and time of arrival, and the classroom or location they are visiting. Approved visitors must take a tag identifying themselves as a guest and place the tag to their outer clothing in a clearly visible location. Visitors are required to proceed immediately to their location in a quiet manner. All visitors must return to the main office and sign out before leaving the school. Visitors are expected to abide by all school rules during their time on school property. A visitor who fails to conduct himself or herself in an appropriate manner will be asked to leave and may be subject to criminal penalties for trespass and/or disruptive behavior.

These rules apply to any student who is on school premises, in a school-related vehicle, at a school sponsored activity, or whose conduct at any time or place directly interferes with the operations, discipline, or general welfare of the school.

EQUAL OPPORTUNITY/NONDISCRIMINATION STATEMENT

Equal educational and extracurricular opportunities are available to all students without regard to race, color, nationality, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, ancestry, age, religious beliefs, disability, status as homeless, or actual or potential marital or parental status, including pregnancy.

No student shall, based on sex or sexual orientation, be denied equal access to programs, activities, services, or benefits, or be limited in the exercise of any right, privilege, advantage, or denied equal access to educational and extracurricular programs and activities.

The following person has been designated to handle inquiries regarding the School District's non-discrimination policies:

Name and/or Title: Jon Waldron, Principal

Phone number: 269-624-7800

For further information, you may also contact:

Office for Civil Rights

U.S. Department of Education

1350 Euclid Avenue, Suite 325

Cleveland, OH 44115

Telephone: 216-522-4970

FAX: 216-522-2573

TDD: 877-521-2172

E-mail: OCR.Cleveland@ed.gov

ANIMALS ON SCHOOL PROPERTY

To assure student health and safety, animals are not allowed on school property, except in the case of a service animal accompanying a student or other individual with a disability. This rule prohibiting animals on school property may be temporarily waived by the building principal in the case of a unique educational opportunity for students, provided that: (a) the animal is appropriately housed, humanely cared for, and properly handled, and (b) students will not be exposed to a dangerous animal or an unhealthy environment.

ADULT STATUS

A student, upon reaching 18 years of age, may establish adult status by completing the proper paperwork in the office. Circumstances where this would appear most appropriate are when a student is residing and financially supporting him/herself in a manner which is independent from guardian or parental assistance. The school will provide formal notification to the parent/guardian(s) of students who have requested adult status. Students may remove themselves from adult status by contacting office personnel. In addition, the school reserves the right to contact the parents at any time when school deems it necessary. Declaration of adult status does not exempt the student from school policies and rules that apply to all students, with the following exceptions:

- Have the same privileges as parents to gaining access to one's own personal records.
- Represent themselves during disciplinary conferences and attendance hearings.
- Receive their own grade reports, if requested.

DRUG HOTLINE: 269-624-7806

GUIDANCE DEPARTMENT

The Guidance Department is available to assist students and parents with personal problems, questions, tests interpretations,

schedules, college application, career information, vocational planning, co-op and job placement, dual enrollment procedures, agency referrals, etc.

Conferences with the counselor are by appointment. Students and/or parents may make an appointment by signing up in the

counseling office or by calling the high school at 624-7800, ext.7806.

For information about the opportunities available at the Technology Center, please request a copy of the VBISD Technology Center Publication.

504/ADA

Compliance Officer: Mr. Jim Turner Phone: 624-7905.

Questions about an Educational 504 may be directed to the building Principal.

GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

31 credits out of 33 needed to graduate

- A. Mathematics-4 credits (must include Algebra I; Geometry; Algebra II; including one credit in Senior Year)
- B. English Language Arts-4 credits (includes English 9-12)
- C. Science-3 credits (must include Biology; Physics, Chemistry or Anatomy & Physiology; and an elective science credit)
- D. Social Studies-3 credits (.5 credit in Government; .5 credit in Economics; U.S. History and Geography; World History and Geography)
- E. Physical Education/Health-1 credit (Credit guidelines developed by MDE)
- F. Visual Performing, Applied Arts-1 credit (Band; Choir; Art; Drama; Yearbook; Web Design)
- G. Online Learning Experience-0.5
- H. 2 credits of foreign language or 1 credit foreign language & 1 credit CTE
- I. Electives- 14.5 credits
- J. Career Exploration (Class of 2024 and after)

LAWTON HIGH SCHOOL GRADING POLICY

With the Trimester schedule, classes meet 66 minutes per day

for 12 weeks. Students will receive a half credit for each class at the end of the trimester. Grading at the high school is cumulative for each class. The mid-term report card is a progress report indicating a student's progress in class to that point. The trimester report cards indicate the student's final grades for the class. Grades are reflected on the report cards by letter grades that equate to the following numerical percent. Grade levels are adjusted in June based on credits earned during 1st, 2nd, and 3rd trimesters.

PERSONAL CURRICULUM – Every student is entitled to a personal curriculum. Please see attached link for clarification on the state guidelines.

http://www.michigan.gov/documents/mde/PC_Guide_1_2015_482101_7.pdf

93-100	A	73-76	C
90-92	A-	70-72	C-
87-89	B+	67-69	D+
83-86	B	63-66	D
80-82	B-	60-62	D-
77-79	C+	Below 60	E

Students who fail a course may make up the credit by earning a passing grade at summer school or credit recovery. Students must present evidence of successful completion of summer school to receive credit.

NUMBER OF CREDITS NEEDED FOR EACH GRADE LEVEL

Freshman	0-6.25
Sophomore	6.25-14.5
Junior	14.5-22.75
Senior	23.0-31.00

GRADING AND PROMOTION

School report cards are issued to students on a trimester basis. For questions regarding grades, please contact the classroom teacher.

The decision to promote a student to the next grade level is based on successful completion of the curriculum, attendance, performance on standardized tests and other testing. A student will not be promoted based upon age or any other social reason not related to academic performance.

ACADEMIC PROBATION

Lawton Community Schools recognizes the importance of high education standards for all students and strives to provide opportunities for all students to succeed. Every student who attends Lawton Community Schools shall be responsible for maintaining a serious effort to benefit from the educational opportunities available in the classroom. Students must earn grade-level promotions and course-level credit by fulfilling the minimum academic expectations established for grade levels and courses. Failure to fulfill these academic requirements will result in failure and retention at grade level or course level, unless extenuating circumstances cause the instructional, guidance, and administrative staff to determine a different grade or course assignment. Any student who has attained their eighteenth birthday is no longer compelled to attend school, under the compulsory attendance laws of the State of Michigan. Students eighteen years of age or older who have demonstrated or who begin to demonstrate a continuous lack of serious educational effort or intent may be excluded from attendance in the Lawton Community Schools. The Board of Education recognizes that the presence of such students can create negative and undesirable effects on the educational and social atmosphere of the school. Students may become subject to exclusion from school based on lack of serious educational intent or effort, if they demonstrate any number or combination of criteria, such that their continued presence in school is deemed to be contrary to the best interests of the educational program and environment, as determined by the professional staff.

ACADEMIC LETTERS PROGRAM

The Board of Education shall recognize the importance of academic achievement by providing awards to high school students who meet the following criteria:

- A. At each year-end, the student must have earned a grade point average of 3.0 or better for the year's course work. The student must have received no individual grade lower than a C-minus. Senior awards will be determined based on second trimester grades.
- B. All courses for which a letter grade is given shall be counted in determining the grade-point average for this award. However, the student must be enrolled in at least three (3) graded courses to be eligible for that year.
- C. The Board shall provide the following awards to qualifying students:

First year: An academic Letter

Second year: An Academic Medal

Third year: An Academic Pin

Fourth year: An Inscribed Plaque

D. The awards shall be presented annually in a recognition program to be held in September, honoring students for the previous school year's achievements. Seniors shall receive their awards at the Senior Awards Banquet. All Senior awards and rankings shall be determined by 1st and 2nd trimester grades.

LAWTON SENIOR SCHOLARS

Beginning with the Class of 2011, Lawton High School will name Senior Scholars instead of naming a class valedictorian and salutatorian. The Senior Scholars will consist of the top ten graduates. This will be determined by a combination of the student's SAT score, their grade point average, and honor points they have received by taking higher level classes. Students listed as Senior Scholars will receive medallions.

Summa Cum Laude – Students will graduate Summa Cum Laude if they have a 3.9 grade point average or above. They will receive a **gold cord** to wear during the graduation ceremony and be noted in a special part of the program.

Magna Cum Laude – Students who have a grade point average 3.7 up to 3.89 will graduate Magna Cum Laude. They will receive a **silver cord** to wear during the graduation ceremony and be noted in a special part of the program.

Cum Laude – Students who have a grade point average 3.5 up to 3.69 will graduate Cum Laude. They will receive a **white cord** to wear during the graduation ceremony and be noted in a special part of the program.

Honor Roll – Students who graduate with a 3.0 up to a 3.49 will receive a blue cord to wear in the graduation ceremony and be noted in the graduation program.

CLASSES RECEIVING HONOR POINTS

Certain advanced level classes will receive an honor point per trimester.

This is to encourage students to take higher level classes. Many times, students do not challenge themselves to take some of the more difficult classes because they are afraid of it affecting their grade point average. Moving to the Senior Scholars program encourages students to take some of these higher-level classes without it affecting their status as a top ten student because they will receive an honor point for the class. A student is issued an honor point regardless of the grade they receive if they pass the class.

The list of classes that have been selected to receive extra honor points are, but not limited to, the following:

Spanish III	Spanish IV
Pre-Calculus	Trigonometry
AP Calculus	WMU ATYP Classes
MIVHS Foreign Language	Advanced Classes
Algebra II B	
Tech Center Acad. Classes	
PLTW Classes	
All AP Classes	
College Classes including Middle College Classes	

**Formula for calculating the Top Ten Scholars: 20/30/50:
20% Honor points, 30% SAT converted to ACT score, 50% GPA**

The mechanism for calculating the class standing is based on a 1000-point system. That is, a score of 1000 points is perfect. Weighting factors are calculated so that all the components add up to 1000 points. 36 is a perfect ACT score, $300/36= 8.33$. There are 35 opportunities for honors courses in the schedule. Giving one point/trimester would result in a possibility of 48 honor points, $200/48= 4.17$.

Student #1-	Ranked 2nd	
GPA	$3.981 \times 125 =$	497.625
Honors	$21 \times 4.17 =$	87.57
ACT/SAT	$27 \times 8.33 =$	<u>224.91</u>
		810.105

Student #2-	Ranked 1st	
GPA	$3.949 \times 125 =$	493.625
Honors	$20 \times 4.17 =$	83.4
ACT/SAT	$34 \times 8.33 =$	<u>283.22</u>
		860.245

Student #3-	Ranked 4th	
GPA	$3.670 \times 125 =$	458.750
Honors	$17 \times 4.17 =$	70.89
ACT/SAT	$29 \times 8.33 =$	<u>241.57</u>
		771.21

Student # 4-	Ranked 3rd	
GPA	$3.522 \times 125 =$	440.025
Honors	$26 \times 4.17 =$	108.42
ACT/SAT	$28 \times 8.33 =$	<u>233.24</u>
		781.685

Graduation Speeches- The top three students based upon this formula will be able to speak at graduation. If one or more of the top three do not want to speak, the next in line will be given the opportunity.

MARY STALEY BROWN CHAPTER - NATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY

Mary Staley Brown, for whom this chapter is named, was a teacher in the Lawton School system for 23 years. This chapter was named in her honor in 1962. Membership in the National Honor Society is both an honor and a responsibility. Students are considered for membership at the end of the first trimester their sophomore year and each succeeding year thereafter throughout their high school career. Students to be considered for membership must have a cumulative grade point average of 3.33 and demonstrate the qualities of scholarship, leadership, service, and character.

GUIDELINES FOR STUDENT CONDUCT

- **Be respectful**
- **Be responsible**
- **Be safe**

Guidelines for student conduct apply to any student on school premises, on a school-related vehicle, at a school sponsored activity, or whose conduct at any time or place directly interferes with the operation, discipline, or general welfare of the school.

1. Lawton High School has a closed campus policy. Students are not to leave the school campus at any time during school hours, including lunch hour, without permission from the adult office personnel. Students are to eat lunch at school.
2. Students leaving school or arriving at or returning to school during the day must sign out or in at the office.
3. Students are not to go outside the building between classes except those riding a shuttle bus.

4. Students who become ill during the school day are to report to the office. No student will be allowed to leave school property during the day unless permission from parents or guardians can be obtained. Students must sign out in the office before they may leave.
5. Glass bottles and two-liter bottles shall be strictly prohibited on school premises. **Pop is not allowed to be brought into the cafeteria.**
6. No food or drink is to be on the carpeted areas of the school except for bottled water. **Energy drinks are not to be brought to school.**
7. **No back packs in the classrooms without teacher approval.**
8. Physical education students are not to enter or leave the locker rooms or gym area without the permission of the teacher.
9. Athletes are not to wear athletic shoes with cleats inside the building. Basketballs, footballs, baseballs, hacky sacks, volleyballs, and Frisbees are prohibited in the hallways.
10. Throwing snowballs on campus is strictly prohibited.
11. Running in the building is strictly prohibited. This especially includes running to the kitchen or cutting in lunch lines.
12. Bus privileges may be suspended or revoked by the office for any improper student conduct on the bus.
13. Students will not be allowed to use cell phones during class without the permission of the classroom teacher.
14. Students are not to bring those items to school which have no relationship to the learning process and would be considered disruptive. This includes any item that may be considered distasteful by administration or staff.
16. **Holding hands is the only acceptable display of affection in the Lawton High School environment.**
17. Students are to be aware that the lockers are the property of the school and may be subject to random search at any time by the administration. Also, vehicles parked on school property are subject to be searched at any time.
18. Student's must have a pass from their teacher to use the office phone. Students must have their agenda book signed by the teacher any time they leave class. Students are to go only to the destinations listed on the pass.
19. Cheating /plagiarism is prohibited.

DANCE REGULATIONS

Only High School students can attend dances. Guests from other schools must have a permission slip on file before the deadline date of the dance. Permission slips may be obtained at the high school office. Must be at the dance within one hour of it starting to be admitted. If you leave the dance, you cannot reenter.

STUDENT DISCIPLINE

The Board of Education is continually concerned about the safety and welfare of District students and staff and, therefore, will not tolerate behavior that creates an unsafe environment, a threat to safety or undue disruption of the educational environment.

The following list of disciplinary measures is a range of options that will not always be applicable in every case.

Disciplinary Measures

Potential disciplinary measures include, without limitation, any of the following measures:

1. Notifying parents/guardians.
2. Disciplinary conference.
3. Withholding of privileges.
4. Temporary removal from the classroom.
5. Return of property or restitution for lost, stolen or damaged property.

6. In-school suspension.
7. After-school study or Wednesday School study provided the student's parent/guardian has been notified. (If transportation arrangements cannot be made in advance, an alternative disciplinary measure will be assigned to the student.)
8. Community service.
9. Seizure of contraband; confiscation and temporary retention of the personal property that was used to violate school rules.
10. Suspension of bus riding privileges.
11. Suspension from school and all school activities for up to 10 days. A suspended student is prohibited from being on school grounds.
12. Expulsion from school and all school activities for a definite time period. An expelled student is prohibited from being on school grounds.
13. Transfer to an alternative program if the student is expelled or otherwise qualifies for transfer under State law.
14. Notifying juvenile authorities or other law enforcement whenever the conduct involves criminal activity, such as, illegal drugs (controlled substances), "look-alikes," alcohol or weapons or in other circumstances as authorized by the reciprocal reporting agreement between the District and local law enforcement agencies.

Corporal Punishment

Corporal punishment is illegal and will not be used. Corporal punishment is defined as the deliberate infliction of physical pain by hitting, paddling, spanking, slapping, or any other physical force used as a means of discipline. Corporal punishment does not include physical pain caused by reasonable physical activities associated with athletic training. A school employee, contractor, or employee may use reasonable physical force as necessary to maintain order and control in a school or school-related setting for the purpose of providing an environment conducive to safety and learning and for the reasons otherwise specified by law.

Weapons, Arson, Criminal Sexual Conduct

In compliance with State and Federal law, the Board (*Superintendent*) shall expel any student who possesses a dangerous weapon in a weapon-free school zone in violation of State law or commits either arson or criminal sexual conduct in a District building or on District property, including school buses and other school transportation.

For purposes of this policy, a dangerous weapon is defined as "a firearm, dagger, dirk, stiletto, knife with a blade over three (3) inches in length, pocketknife opened by a mechanical device, iron bar, or brass knuckles" or other devices designed to or likely to inflict bodily harm, including, but not limited to, air guns and explosive devices. The term "firearm" is defined as: a) any weapon (including a starter gun) which will or is designed to or may readily be converted to expel a projectile by the action of the explosive; b) the frame or receiver of any such weapon; c) any firearm muffler or firearm silencer; or d) any destructive device. Such term does not include an antique firearm.

The Board (*Superintendent*) need not expel for possession of a dangerous weapon if the student can establish in a clear and convincing manner to the satisfaction of the Board (*Superintendent*) that:

the object or instrument was not possessed for use as a weapon, or for direct or indirect delivery to another person for use as a weapon;
the weapon was not knowingly possessed;
the student did not know or have reason to know that the object or instrument possessed constituted a dangerous weapon; or
the weapon was possessed at the suggestion, request, or direction of, or with the express permission of a District administrator or the police.

There is a rebuttable presumption that expulsion for possessing the weapon is not justified if the Board (*Superintendent*) determines in writing that the student has established that he or she fits under one of the exceptions above by clear and convincing evidence, and that the student has no previous history of suspension or expulsion.

The above exceptions will not apply to student misconduct involving sexual conduct or arson.

Physical and Verbal Assault

The Board shall permanently expel a student in grade six or above if that student commits physical assault at school against a District employee, volunteer, or contractor.

The Board shall suspend or expel a student in grade six or above for up to 180 school days if the student commits physical assault at school against another student.

Physical assault is defined as "intentionally causing or attempting to cause physical harm to another through force or violence."

The Board shall suspend or expel a student in grade six or above and may discipline, suspend, or expel a student in grade five and below for a period of time as determined at the Board's discretion if the student commits verbal assault at school against a District employee, volunteer, or contractor or makes a bomb threat or similar threat directed at school building, property, or at a school-related activity.

Verbal assault is a communicated intent to inflict physical or other harm on another person, with a present intent and ability to act on the threat.

"At school" means in a classroom, elsewhere on school premises, on a school bus or other school-related vehicle, or at a school-sponsored activity or event whether it is held on school premises.

The Board (*Superintendent*) will exercise discretion over whether to suspend or expel a student for the statutorily mandated reasons. In exercising that discretion for a suspension of more than ten (10) days or expulsion, there is a rebuttable presumption that a suspension or expulsion is not justified unless the Board (*Superintendent*) can demonstrate that it considered each of the factors listed above. For a suspension of ten (10) days or fewer, there is no rebuttable presumption, but the Board (*Superintendent*) will still consider the factors.

A student may not be expelled or excluded from the regular school program based on pregnancy status.

Exception: If a student possesses a firearm in a weapon free school zone, the student will be permanently expelled without considering the above factors, unless the student can establish mitigating factors by clear and convincing evidence.

In recognition of the negative impact on a student's education, the Board encourages the District's administrators to view suspensions, particularly those over ten (10) days, and permanent expulsions as discipline of last resort, except where these disciplines are required by law. Alternatives to avoid or to improve undesirable behaviors should be explored when possible prior to implementing or requesting a suspension or expulsion.

Restorative Practices

If the District determines that it will utilize restorative practices in addition to or as an alternative to suspension or expulsion of a student, it will engage in restorative practices which emphasize repairing the harm to the victim and school community caused by the student's misconduct.

Restorative practices may include victim-offender conferences that:

are initiated by the victim; are approved by the victim's parent or legal guardian or, if the victim is at least fifteen (15), by the victim; are attended voluntarily by the victim, a victim advocate, the offender,

members of the school community, and supporters of the victim and the offender (the "restorative practices team"); would provide an opportunity for the offender to accept responsibility for the harm caused to those affected, and to participate in setting consequences to repair the harm, such as requiring the student to apologize; participate in community service, restoration of emotional or material losses, or counseling; pay restitution; or any combination of these.

CODE OF CONDUCT

The Board of Education established the following categories of misconduct as those which may result in temporary separation, suspension, or expulsion from the Lawton Schools. These categories are general in nature and are not deemed to be all inclusive. **Students suspended (In-school and out of school) or expelled from school will not be allowed to attend or participate in school related activities -- i.e., athletic contests, class or club meetings, concerts, dances, etc.**

CRIMINAL ACTS

- A. Arson
- B. Assault-State Law may apply
- C. Bomb Threat
- D. Burglary, Larceny
- E. Explosives
- F. Extortion, blackmail, or coercion
- G. False Fire Alarms
- H. Weapons of any type (Michigan weapon law in effect)
- I. Vandalism
- J. Sale, use, or Possession of Controlled Substances
- K. Sale, Use, or Possession of Alcohol
- L. Interference with School Authorities in the performance of their duties.
- M. Intimidation of School Authorities
- N. Involvement of Law Enforcement
- O. Extreme fighting
- P. Other such serious offenses

FIRST OFFENSE

The above listed acts are punishable by a suspension of not less than 5, no more than 10 days. During the term of the suspension, the principal shall convene a conference to be attended by the student, parent/guardian, principal, superintendent, and other involved parties. This conference must be held before such student may be reinstated.

In the case of an extremely serious incident involving any of the above offenses, as determined by the principal, the principal and superintendent may request that the Board of Education convene to consider the expulsion of the student. Due process shall be accorded.

SECOND OFFENSE

The Board of Education shall convene to consider the expulsion of any student who commits more than one criminal act during a school year. Due process shall be accorded.

ALTERNATIVE PUNISHMENT

In the event a student is subject to suspension or expulsion for an offense involving use of alcohol, drugs or controlled substances, the Board of Education or school administrator may, at their discretion, reduce the length of the suspension or change the expulsion to a suspension if the student voluntarily and at the student's expense participates in a substance abuse counseling or therapy program which the Board of Education or school administration believes will assist or rehabilitate the student.

INVOLVEMENT OF LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES

Students are advised that outside law enforcement agencies (Lawton Police Department, Van Buren County Sheriff Department, and/or Michigan State Police) may be involved in instances of all of the criminal acts listed above. The decision to involve law enforcement agencies shall be made by the administration.

II. NON-CRIMINAL ACTS

- A. Fighting/Excessive horseplay
- B. Profane/Obscene Language
- C. Degrading Words/Phrases
- D. Disruptive Conduct
- E. Insubordination
- F. Refusal to identify self
- G. Gang related activity, dress, language, symbolism
- H. Possession of laser pointers
- I. Misuse of internet
- J. Bullying
- K. Property damage
- L. Cell phone violation
- M. Other such offenses

CELL PHONE OFFENSE

1st offense – 1-hour detention or 2 lunch detentions

2nd offense – Wednesday School

Additional offenses will result in suspension and loss of cell phone privileges

FIRST OFFENSE (ALL OTHER NON-CRIMINAL ACTS)

1-3-day suspension, Wednesday School, or the equivalent in detention at the discretion of the principal.

SECOND OFFENSE

3-5-day suspension followed by student, principal, parent conference before reinstatement.

THIRD OFFENSE

Up to 10-day suspension. During the term of the suspension, the principal shall convene a conference to be attended by the student, parent, guardian, principal, superintendent, and other involved parties. This conference must be held before reinstatement.

FOURTH OFFENSE

The Board shall convene to consider the expulsion of any student who commits more than three such acts during a school year. Due process shall be accorded.

III. SMOKING/POSSESSION OF TOBACCO PRODUCTS OR ANY VAPE OR VAPING PRODUCTS/ACCESSORIES

FIRST OFFENSE

3-day suspension and **police authorities will be notified.**

SECOND OFFENSE

5-day suspension, conference must be held between parent and principal before reinstatement.

THIRD OFFENSE

10-day suspension, conference must be held between superintendent-parent and principal before reinstatement.

FOURTH OFFENSE

The Board of Education shall convene to consider the expulsion of any student who violates this prohibition more than twice during a school year. Due process shall be accorded.

IV. COUNTERFEIT DRUGS, LOOK-ALIKE DRUGS, OR OTHER SUCH SUBSTANCES

The Board of Education expressly forbids the possession or use

of, including the sale, purchase, trade, exchange, or other distribution of all pills, capsules, tablets, powders, or other such substances, including CBD products. Students who are found to be involved in such activity will be subject to the following disciplinary measures:

FIRST OFFENSE

5-day suspension, parent-student-principal conference before reinstatement.

SECOND OFFENSE

10-day suspension. During the term of the suspension, the principal shall convene a conference to be attended by the student, parent/guardian, principal, superintendent, a member of the Board of Education, and other involved parties. This conference must be held before reinstatement.

THIRD OFFENSE

The Board of Education shall convene to consider the expulsion of any student who violates this prohibition more than twice during a school year. Due process shall be accorded.

Students who bring legitimate medicines to school, whether prescription or non-prescription, are required to comply with the Board Policy on Medication of Students. Special request cards may be acquired in the office.

A student will be deemed to be in possession of an alcoholic beverage, intoxicating liquor, drug, or controlled substance if the student is in a private, confined area on school property such as a motor vehicle where the alcoholic beverage, intoxicating liquor, drug or controlled substance is being used or consumed by others or if the student is in a motor vehicle on school property where the alcoholic beverage, intoxicating liquor, drug or controlled substance is being transported by another person with the knowledge of the student.

BULLYING, INTIMIDATION AND HARASSMENT

Bullying, intimidation, and harassment diminish a student's ability to learn and a school's ability to educate. Preventing students from engaging in these disruptive behaviors and providing all students equal access to a safe, non-hostile learning environment are important school goals.

Bullying on the basis of actual or perceived race, color, national origin, immigration status, military status, unfavorable discharge status from the military service, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender-related identity or expression, ancestry, age, religion, physical or mental disability, order of protection status, status of being homeless, or actual or potential marital or parental status, including pregnancy, association with a person or group with one or more of the aforementioned actual or perceived characteristics, or any other distinguishing characteristic is prohibited in each of the following situations:

1. During any school-sponsored education program or activity.
2. While in school, on school property, on school buses or other school vehicles, at designated school bus stops waiting for the school bus, or at school-sponsored or school-sanctioned events or activities.
3. Through the transmission of information from a school computer, a school computer network, or other similar electronic school equipment.
4. Through the transmission of information from a computer that is accessed at a non-school related location, activity, function, or program or from the use of technology or an electronic device that is not owned, leased, or used by the school district or school if the bullying causes a substantial disruption to the educational process or orderly operation of a school.

Bullying includes cyber-bullying (bullying using technology or any electronic communication) and means any severe or pervasive physical or verbal act or conduct, including communications made in writing or electronically, directed toward a student or students that has or can be reasonably predicted to have the effect of one or more of the following:

1. Placing the student or students in reasonable fear of harm to the student's or students' person or property.
2. Causing a substantially detrimental effect on the student's or students' physical or mental health.
3. Substantially interfering with the student's or students' academic performance; or
4. Substantially interfering with the student's or students' ability to participate in or benefit from the services, activities, or privileges provided by a school.

Examples of prohibited conduct include name-calling, using derogatory slurs, stalking, sexual violence, causing psychological harm, threatening, or causing physical harm, threatened or actual destruction of property, or wearing or possessing items depicting or implying hatred or prejudice of one of the characteristics stated above.

Students are encouraged to immediately report bullying. A report may be made orally or in writing to the principal, guidance counselor or any staff member with whom the student is comfortable speaking. Anyone, including staff members and parents/guardians, who has information about actual or threatened bullying is encouraged to report it to the principal or any staff member. Anonymous reports are also accepted by phone call or in writing.

Any student who is determined, after an investigation, to have engaged in intimidation or harassment will be subject to disciplinary consequences as provided in this handbook, including but not limited to, suspension and expulsion consistent with the school and district's discipline policy. Parents of students who have engaged in the above behavior will be notified. Any student making a knowingly false accusation regarding harassment may also be subject to disciplinary consequences.

SCHOOL DRESS CODE/STUDENT APPEARANCE

Students are expected to wear clothing in a neat, clean, and well-fitting manner while on school property and/or in attendance at school sponsored activities. Students are to use discretion in their dress and are not permitted to wear apparel that causes a substantial disruption in the school environment.

- Student dress (including accessories) may not advertise, promote, or depict alcoholic beverages, illegal drugs, drug paraphernalia, violent behavior, or other inappropriate images.
- Student dress (including accessories) may not display lewd, vulgar, obscene, or offensive language or symbols, including gang symbols.
- Hats and sunglasses may not be worn in the building during the school day.
- Hairstyles, dress, and accessories that pose a safety hazard are not permitted in the shop, laboratories, or during physical education.
- Clothing with holes, rips, tears, and clothing that is otherwise poorly fitting may not be worn at school.
- The length of shorts or skirts must be appropriate for the school environment.
- Halter tops, tops with spaghetti straps or tops that show the stomach are not allowed.
- Appropriate footwear must be always worn.
- If there is any doubt about dress and appearance, the building principal will make the final decision.
- Student whose dress causes a substantial disruption of the orderly process of school functions or endangers the health or safety of the student, other students, staff, or others may be subject discipline.

STUDENT PARKING

Students may park their vehicles only in the lot designated for student parking. Vehicles must have a valid parking permit, be parked between the painted lines, and must be driven under the speed limit of 10 miles per hour while in the lot. Vehicles should be driven safely and must yield to pedestrians. Vehicles parked outside painted lines or designated parking spots may be ticketed or towed at the discretion of the school, at the vehicle owner's expense. Students caught driving recklessly in the parking lot may be subject to disciplinary action and may have driving privileges revoked.

All other parking lots are for school staff, personnel, and others designated by administration. These lots MAY NOT be used by students at any time. Student vehicles parked in these lots may be ticketed or towed at the discretion of administration.

The school is not responsible for student vehicles, any possessions left in them, or anything attached to the vehicles. **STUDENTS PARK THEIR VEHICLES ON OR NEAR SCHOOL PROPERTY AT THEIR OWN RISK.** Students should be aware their vehicles are not protected in any way while in the parking lot, and items of value should not be left in or near the vehicle while unattended. Students are not to be in their cars or student parking lot during school hours without first getting permission from adult office personnel.

Students have no reasonable expectation of privacy in vehicles parked on school grounds. School lots are regularly searched by contraband dogs, administration, and police officers. Students should be aware that items and spaces on school grounds are subject to view by others. Based on the reasonable suspicion standard, vehicles parked on school grounds may be subject to search. Prohibited items discovered during a search may result in discipline, including, but not limited to, expulsion from school, as well as referral to law enforcement.

BUS CONDUCT

Students are expected to follow all school policies when riding the school bus. A student may be suspended from riding the bus and or school for engaging in gross disobedience or misconduct, including but not limited to, the following:

1. Violating any school rule or school district policy.
2. Willful injury or threat of injury to a bus driver or to another rider.
3. Willful and/or repeated defacement of the bus.
4. Repeated use of profanity.
5. Repeated willful disobedience of a directive from a bus driver or other supervisor.
6. Such other behavior as the building principal deems to threaten the safe operation of the bus and/or its occupants.
7. If a student misses the Tech Center bus, the student will spend the Tech Center period in the high school office.

LIBRARY

Library Attendance

1. Library is open before and after school for study purposes with permission.
2. Students may study in the library during lunch hour only if they have a pass from a teacher or librarian.
3. Students may use the library during classes with a pass from their teacher unless a class or other activity has reserved the library.
4. Library privileges will be suspended to those who do not use the library properly.
5. Students are not to be in the library without the librarian, aide, or teacher present.

Borrowing Materials

Two weeks: Most books and paperbacks

STUDENT ATTENDANCE (Phone number: (269) 624-7802)

One of the primary educational outcomes at LHS is for students to have the knowledge, attitude, and skill necessary to enter the workforce. Among those skills are the willingness and ability to be punctual, to be present regularly, to participate in the learning activities, and to complete assignments on time as directed. Additionally, educational research shows that students with positive attendance tend to perform better academically and are more likely to find success after high school.

- a. Michigan Law and Lawton Board of Education policy require daily school attendance except in cases of illness or other unavoidable circumstances. Because attendance in school is considered the responsibility of the student and parents, parents should inform the school of an absence by 10:00am.
- b. Students may not exceed 8 absences per trimester in any class. Please be aware that a student who is more than 15 minutes tardy will be marked absent for the class.
- c. The school will notify parents in writing when a student has accumulated 4 absences per trimester. Upon the 9th absence in any class, the school will notify parents in writing that their student has violated the attendance policy and may lose credit for the class.
- d. Please keep in mind that absences outlined as excusable in School Board policy are as follows:
 - Illness with doctor's note
 - Death of a relative
 - School business
 - Required court attendance
 - Bonafide religious holiday

If a student misses' school due to the above reasons, and provides official written documentation in support (i.e., note from Doctor's office), the absence will be considered exempt from the policy.

Violation of the attendance policy

If a student has more than 8 absences without documentation in a single trimester, they are in violation of the attendance policy. The student will receive a "Conditional Credit Denial" for the trimester. If they pass the trimester exam, they will receive the grade and credit earned. If they do not pass the trimester exam, they will receive an NC (No Credit) on their transcript. If they do not violate the attendance policy in the next trimester, the grade earned will be restored to their transcript.

Students who receive 4 tardies in any class (without documentation) will receive a lunch detention.

Attendance and Extracurricular Activities

To participate in extracurricular activities, students must attend school for at least Achievement and the last two periods of that same day. The only exceptions considered by the HS principal will be supported with documentation as outlined in (d) above.

Unexcused absences from class

Students who are absent from school without parent communication may be considered skipping class and may receive disciplinary consequences ranging from parent communication to in-school or out of school suspension. Repeated unexcused absences will result in truancy charges.

MAKE-UP WORK:

Make-up work shall be allowed within the following guidelines:

1. The student shall be responsible for planning for make-up work with his or her teachers on the day the student returns to school. These arrangements should be made before or after school or during achievement time unless the teachers are able to provide these assignments during class periods.
2. Make-up time allowed for students completing missed work shall be limited to one calendar day for each day of absence following the student's return to school, up to a limit of seven calendar days. Assignments turned in later than this time limit will be denied if special arrangements have not been made in advance with the classroom teacher.
3. In the case of an extended illness of 3 or more days, assignments may be obtained by contacting the high school office. Teachers must be given 24 hours to provide assignments.

UNEXCUSED ABSENCE FROM CLASS: Shall be dealt with in the following manner:

FIRST OFFENSE: The student will be assigned to a Wednesday school. If a student fails to report as scheduled for Wednesday school, they will be suspended for a one-day period. The principal will contact the parents or guardians regarding this unexcused absence.

SECOND OFFENSE: The student will be suspended for a period of at least one day, pending a parent-principal conference. This conference must be held before the student can be reinstated in school. For absences of less than a full school day, and at the discretion of the principal, the student may be assigned to Wednesday school and/or detention, as an alternative to suspension.

THIRD OFFENSE: The student will be suspended pending a required reinstatement conference to be held in the office of the superintendent. Parties to be included will be the student, parent, or guardians, principal, superintendent, and a member of the Board of Education. This conference must be held within ten (10) school days of the suspension.

FOURTH OFFENSE: The Board of Education will convene to consider the expulsion of any student who accumulates more than three unexcused absences during a school year. Due process will be accorded.

MEDICATION OF STUDENTS

Children receiving medications which must be taken during school hours should have a written order from their physician stating the reason for which the child is taking the medication, the name of the medication, directions for administering, possible side effects which may be anticipated and length of time the child is to receive such medication. Long-term medication orders should be reviewed each year by the physician and a written statement must also be obtained from the parents for the teacher or other designated person to remind the child to take their medicine. The principal, together with the parent, should decide whether the children themselves, teachers, or the building office should handle the medication. If medication is administered by a school employee, it shall be administered only in the presence of another adult employee of the school district and in strict compliance with the above-described written physician' order. In addition, a written record of that date, time and amount of medicine administered, together with names of the employees administering the medication shall be maintained.

LAWTON ATHLETICS

For a complete list of sports offered at LHS please visit our website at www.lawtoncs.org

Following is a complete copy of the Athletic Code, which all Lawton student-athletes are responsible for reviewing. Individual coaches will be asked to discuss the Athletic Code and any other purposeful comments with their team members.

It is recognized and mutually agreed that citizenship, sportsmanship, positive attitude, life-long values, and the mental and physical well-being of students are of primary concern. The varsity teams, as representative of the school, are expected to win when possible, but they are not to ignore the above-

mentioned ideals. Other teams, i.e., junior varsity, freshman, and middle school, exist for the purpose of providing training and experience for the future varsity teams. A secondary and often forgotten purpose is to provide the opportunity for more students to participate in athletic endeavors. Winning at these levels is desirable but is not the only objective. Learning fundamentals, developing coordination, and attitudes, instilling self-discipline, building bodies and the opportunity to participate should not be minimized. To participate in practices or competitions, the student-athlete must be in school for at least achievement hour and the last two periods of the day. Any exceptions to guideline this will be determined by the Athletic Director and/or building Principal.

ATHLETIC CODE

PREAMBLE

Representing Lawton Community Schools in interscholastic athletic competition is a privilege and not a right. Students who participate in Lawton's interscholastic athletic program are expected to represent the highest ideals of character by exemplifying good conduct, good citizenship, and good sportsmanship. Lawton athletes are also expected to engage in good training habits, which include abstaining from the use of tobacco, alcohol, or drugs. Separate and apart from a student's performance as an athlete, the student's conduct, citizenship, sportsmanship, and training habits always reflect on the student athlete, his or her team, our school, and our community. Accordingly, the Board of Education establishes this Athletic Code for all students who aspire to participate in interscholastic athletics as representatives of the Lawton Community Schools.

ATHLETIC CODE

*All athletes are required to have a current physical on file with the athletic department before competing in any athletic event or practice.

ELIGIBILITY RULES

A. All student athletes must have a full-time schedule of classes.

B. Weekly Eligibility: The student must be passing all the courses in which he/she is currently enrolled. Students will be granted a one-week probationary status when a grade falls into the failing level.

C. Trimester Ineligibility: Any student failing one class period will be ineligible for 10% of the total contest dates of the sport they are currently participating in 5% if they fail achievement. If they are not currently participating in a sport, they will be ineligible for 10% of the total contest dates of the next sport season. Students failing more than one class period at the end of any trimester period including achievement shall be ineligible for 60 school days or the next trimester. When a student fails one or more classes in the third trimester the penalty of 10% for 1 failed class or 60 days for 2 failed classes will be assessed for the next school year's fall season / first trimester. If a student makes up a credit in summer school or credit recovery before the start of the next season, their ineligibility may be reduced.

II. STANDARDS OF CONDUCT FOR ALL ATHLETES

A. Training rules are in effect for all athlete year around. Once a student participates in athletics, he/she shall be subject to the Athletic Code for the duration of his/her academic/athletic career at Lawton High School.

B. Standards of Conduct:

The following behaviors constitute a violation of the Lawton Athletic Code and subject the athlete to discipline as outlined in the "Penalties for Violations of Rules" section of the Athletic Code.

1. Violation of federal, state, or local law/ordinance, including felony or misdemeanor, acts other than minor traffic offenses. Conviction of said act is not necessary to establish a violation of the athletic code, which will be determined through an independent school investigation.

2. Cumulative or gross misconduct, including behavior which school officials consider conduct unbecoming of an athlete and a representative of Lawton Community Schools.
3. A Major Violation of the Student Code of Conduct
4. Violation of any team conduct rule as may be established by the team's head coach and approved by the Athletic Director.
5. Use, possession, concealment, distribution, sale or being under the influence of (substance abuse prohibitions).
6. Remaining at a function or place where the athlete knows that a minor present at the function or place possesses or is using a controlled substance or alcohol. Students suspended In-school or out of school cannot participate in athletic contest and or practices scheduled on the day of the suspension.

III. TRAINING RULES 9TH - 12TH GRADES

A. Training rules are in effect for all athletes are year-round. Once a student participates in athletics, he/she shall be subject to the Athletic Code for the duration of his/her academic/athletic career at Lawton High School.

B. All reports of training rule violations must be investigated by the Athletic Director and the Principal, with appropriate follow-up action taken. Parents of athletes who are not 18 years of age and who have violated training rules shall be notified in writing by the Athletic Director. This notification shall include the basis of the accusation, the penalty involved and shall be delivered as soon as possible after the investigation is concluded.

C. Training Rules

The following behaviors constitute a violation of the Lawton Athletic Code and subject the athlete to discipline as outlined in the "Penalties for Violations of Rules" section of the Athletic Code.

The basic training rules that apply to all athletes are:

1. No athlete shall use, possess, transmit tobacco, tobacco products, electronic cigarettes or vapes.
2. No athlete shall use, possess, transmit or be under the influence of any alcoholic beverage or intoxicating liquor.
3. No athlete shall use, possess, transmit or be under the influence of any drug or controlled substance, including but not limited to any narcotic drug, hallucinogenic drug, amphetamine, barbiturate, or marijuana. Nor shall any athlete use, possess or transmit drug paraphernalia or counterfeit or look-alike drugs or inhale or ingest any chemicals or products with the intention of bringing about a state of exhilaration or euphoria. The use of a drug authorized by a valid medical prescription from a registered physician shall not be considered a violation of this rule when the drug is taken by the person for whom the drug was prescribed. A look-alike drug is a substance that is not a controlled substance or is not a drug for which a prescription is required, which by dosage unit, appearance including color, shape, size and/or markings and/or by representations made, would lead a reasonable person to believe that the substance could be a controlled substance.
4. A person shall be deemed to be in possession of an alcoholic beverage, intoxicating liquor, drug, or controlled substance if the athlete is in a confined area such as, but not limited to, a motor vehicle or room where the alcoholic beverage, intoxicating liquor, drug or controlled substance is being used or consumed by others, this also includes situations where a student athlete is in a motor vehicle where an alcoholic beverage, intoxicating liquor, drug or controlled substance is being transported by another student with the knowledge of the athlete. This provision is not intended to apply when an alcoholic beverage, intoxicating liquor, drug or controlled substance is being used, transported, or consumed by a responsible adult who has reached the legal drinking age, such as a student's parent or guardian, and where neither the students nor people who have not reached the legal age are not participating in the consumption or use.

III. PENALTIES FOR VIOLATIONS OF RULES

A. For the first violation, the athlete shall be suspended from twenty percent of the originally scheduled full team dates of competition. If the athlete chooses to complete the TND (Project Toward No Drug Abuse) program sponsored by the Van Buren County District Health Department or another approved program, the suspension will be reduced by half. The athlete **MUST PARTICIPATE IN PRACTICES** during the period the athlete is suspended from participating in contests. Failure to do so will result in the athlete being disciplined in accordance with the rules and guidelines set forth by the individual coach. When an athlete has violated a training rule, he/she must finish a season for any served suspension to be counted. An example would be a person serving a suspension in baseball, and then immediately quitting. This person would have to serve a suspension in the next season of participation. To be reinstated the student-athlete must receive permission from the Athletic Director. Permission will be granted after the Athletic Director has verified that the terms of the suspension have been met and after he/she has conferred with the student-athlete and his/her parents or guardians.

B. For the second violation, the athlete shall be suspended from forty percent of the originally scheduled full team dates of competition. The athlete **MUST PARTICIPATE IN PRACTICES** during the period the athlete is suspended. Failure to do so will result in the athlete being disciplined in accordance with the rules and guidelines set forth by the individual coach. To be reinstated for athletic participation, the athlete must:

1. Voluntarily, and at their own expense, begin a program of substance abuse counseling, if the first and second violations involved alcohol or controlled substances. The student-athlete is responsible for verification of participation in this program being delivered to the Athletic Director.
2. Work as a volunteer at three (3) athletic contests or an approved equivalent.
3. Attend a committee meeting with his/her parents, the Athletic Director, the Athletics and Student-Community Activities Committee of the Board, and the Superintendent, to discuss the violation of the Athletic Code, and to review the athlete's progress in fulfilling the requirements for resuming contest participation. The athlete will not be allowed to resume participation unless and until this committee determines that the athlete has satisfactorily fulfilled the above requirements.

C. For the third violation, the athlete shall be suspended from contest participation for ninety (90) school days. The athlete **MUST PARTICIPATE IN PRACTICES** during the period the athlete is suspended. To be reinstated for athletic participation, the athlete must:

1. Voluntarily, and at his/her own expense, begin a program of substance abuse counseling, if two of the three violations involved alcohol or controlled substances; or, voluntarily, and at their own expense, resume a program of substance abuse counseling, if all three violations involved alcohol or controlled substances.
2. Work as a volunteer at ten (10) athletic contests, or an approved equivalent.
3. Attend, with his/her parents, a meeting of the Board of Education, and the Athletic Director, to present a 500-word paper on the perils of substance abuse, to discuss the violations of the Athletic Code, and to review the athlete's progress in fulfilling the requirements for resuming contest participation. The athlete will not be allowed to resume contest participation unless and until the Board of Education determines that the athlete has satisfactorily fulfilled the above requirements. During the suspension, the athlete may participate in practices only at the discretion of the coaches of the sport or sports involved.

D. For the fourth and subsequent violations, the athlete shall be suspended from contest participation for double the number of school days for the most recent violation (180 school days, 360 school days, etc.). All other provisions of the third violation will be repeated. During such suspensions, the athlete may participate in practices only at the discretion of the coach or coaches of the sport or sports involved. **NOTE:** These suspensions carry over from one season to the next and from one year to the next, effective with the beginning of the ninth-grade year through the end of the twelfth-grade year.

E. Due process and right of appeal shall be offered to athletes.

ENFORCING THE ATHLETIC CODE: DUE PROCESS AND APPEAL

If there is reason to believe that a student athlete has violated the Athletic code of Conduct, the following procedures shall be employed:

I. THE ATHLETIC DIRECTOR AND PRINCIPAL:

The Athletic Director (A.D.) and the Principal are responsible for ensuring that athletes adhere to the Athletic Code. Should the A.D. and Principal have reason to believe that a violation may have occurred; the A.D. and Principal shall investigate the circumstances.

A. The Investigation: In the event it is alleged there was a violation of the Athletic Code, the A.D. and Principal shall conduct an investigation. This investigation may include discussion with the athlete in question. If the investigation results in the A.D. and Principal believing that there was a violation of the Athletic Code, the A.D. shall reduce the charges to writing. The charges shall (1) state the facts establishing the basis for the A.D. and Principal's belief that the Athletic Code was violated; (2) state the penalty proposed by the A.D. and Principal; and (3) advise the athlete that the athlete shall be given the opportunity for a hearing in the event the athlete disagrees with the charges. The charges shall be given to the athlete and, where appropriate, to the athlete's parents.

B. The hearing: In the event the athlete does not agree with the written charges of the A.D. and Principal, the athlete shall be entitled to a hearing before the Athletic Council before the charges and the penalty proposed in the charges are imposed. The athlete must submit a written request for a hearing to the A.D. within three (3) school days after he or she receives the written charges from the A.D. The athlete's failure to follow this procedure will terminate the right to a hearing. The hearing shall be held as soon as it can be reasonably scheduled, but not later than five (5) school days after the athlete requests a hearing in writing. The purpose of the hearing is to determine if a violation was committed and, if so, to render discipline as stated in the Athletic Code. At the hearing, the A.D. shall state the charges, may call witnesses, or allow the student to answer the charges, call witnesses, produce other evidence, and be assisted by others.

The athletic council shall decide on the guilt or innocence of the student, based upon the evidence presented, and renders discipline as required by the Athletic Code. Guilt shall be established if the preponderance of evidence indicates guilt.

Evidentiary rules required by a court of law are not required for purposes of school or athletic discipline. The athletic council shall consist of three varsity coaches, but not the varsity coach of a sport in which the accused student athlete participates. The Athletic Director and Principal shall not be a member of the Athletic Council.

C. Notification: At the conclusion of the hearing, the Athletic Council shall render a decision to the athlete, and to the parents of the athlete. The Athletic Council's written decision shall be considered timely if it is mailed within three (3) school days of the hearing. The A.D. shall not sit as part of the Athletic Council but shall be responsible for writing and mailing the decision of the Athletic Council as herein specified.

D. Appeal to the Board of Education: In the event the athlete disagrees with the decision of the Athletic Council the athlete shall have the right to appeal the Athletic Council's decision to the Board of Education. To do so, the athlete must submit a written appeal to the Superintendent stating the grounds for appeal and the remedy sought within five (5) calendar days of receiving written notice of the Athletic Council's decision. The athlete's failure to follow this procedure will terminate the right to appeal.

Discipline rendered shall continue in effect during the appeal process, not to exceed that set by the Athletic Code. The Board of Education shall convene a hearing within ten (10) calendar days' after receipt of the athlete's appeal. Board shall render a decision at the conclusion hearing. The decision of the Board is final.

E. The Coach/Athlete Relationship: Nothing contained in this policy shall interfere with the coaches' responsibility and right to speak freely with their athletes, to correct them, to discipline them for less serious incidents, to encourage proper attitudes and behaviors, and to maintain their authority as coach.