



CLASSIFIED EMPLOYEE HANDBOOK

Humphrey Public Schools

2025-2026 School Year

2025-2026 CLASSIFIED EMPLOYEE HANDBOOK HUMPHREY PUBLIC SCHOOL

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Humphrey Public Schools Classified Employee Handbook 2025-2026 School Year

FOREWORD

Section 1 Intent of Handbook

Welcome to Humphrey Public Schools. This handbook is intended to be used by classified employees to provide general information about Humphrey Public School and to serve as a guide to policies, rules, and regulations, benefits of employment, and performance expectations.

References in this handbook to “Classified Employees” are intended to apply to all staff that is not required by their position to hold a teaching or administrative certificate.

Each classified employee is responsible for becoming familiar with the handbook and knowing the information contained in it. Although the information found in this handbook is detailed and specific on many topics, the handbook is not intended to be all encompassing so as to cover every situation and circumstance that may arise. This handbook is intended to supplement other documents that deal with your employment, including your employment contract and the policies and regulations of the Board of Education. In reading this handbook, please understand that where a direct conflict exists, state or federal law and Board policies and regulations will control.

This handbook does not create a “contract” of employment. Classified employee positions and assignments may be ended or changed on an “at will” basis notwithstanding anything in this handbook or any other publication or statement, except for a contract approved by the Board of Education.

The administration will be responsible for interpreting the rules contained in the handbook and shall have the right to make decisions and make rule revisions at any time. Should a situation or circumstance arise that is not specifically covered in this handbook, the administration will make a decision based upon applicable school district policies, state and federal statutes and regulations, and the best interests of the District.

This handbook took effect at the beginning of the 2025-2026 school year and applies to all subsequent school years unless replaced by a later edition.

Humphrey Public Schools



WE ARE **B**UILDING **U**NITED, **L**IFELONG
LEARNERS THAT **D**EVELOP **O**PPORTUNITIES
AND ACHIEVE **G**OALS **S**UCCESSFULLY.

WE **P**LEDGE TO BE OUR **BULLDOG** BEST
EVERY DAY!

#BEKIND



PROMOTE ACADEMIC SUCCESS.



LEAD BY EXAMPLE.



ENCOURAGE ONE ANOTHER.



DO WHAT YOU LOVE.



GROW AS INDIVIDUALS.



EMBRACE ONE ANOTHER'S DIFFERENCES.

ADOPTED FEBRUARY 10, 2020

Section 3: Members of the Board of Education

Aaron Korth	President	PO Box 377, Humphrey, NE 68642	402-841-1619
Jenny Baumgart	Vice President	51401 380th Ave, Humphrey, NE 68642	402-920-2885
Mike Brandl	Treasurer	22020 415th St., Humphrey, NE 68642	402-920-3010
Julie Preister	Secretary	PO Box 462, Humphrey, NE 68642	402-920-0201
Kevin Herchenbach		40786 490th St., Lindsay, NE 6844	402-920-2504
Alan Huettner		36864 460th St., Humphrey, NE 68642	402-920-3289
Paul Schemek		31233 385th St., Humphrey, NE 68642	402-920-0413
Payton Sell		41903 295th Ave., Humphrey, NE 68642	402-640-6101
Kory Vering		45387 Ann St., Cornlea, NE 68642	402-491-3644

Section 4: Administrative Staff

Name	Position
Mr. Brice King	Superintendent
Mr. Josh Rathje	PK-6 Principal
Mr. Brandon Kirby	7-12 Principal

Section 5: Teaching Staff

Dawn Baumgart	4 th Grade
Kassandra Beebe	FCS
Kim Bender	Media Specialist, Junior High English
Natalie Beranek	Preschool
Kelli Berrymann	K-6 Special Education
Ashlen Brockhaus	3 rd Grade
Emily Droescher	Kindergarten - Humphrey
Jen Fistler	K-6 Special Education
Travis Friesen	Middle School Social Studies

Section 5: Teaching Staff

Robyn Graham	Agriculture Agriculture, Welding
Kandee Hanzel	K-12 Physical Education
Christina Hastreiter	K-12 Special Education
Joe Hesse	High School Social Sciences, American Government
Stephanie Hogancamp	High School English
Nicole King	JH/HS Business Education, 5th & 6th Computers
Melissa Klug	5th Grade
Jeanette Korth	K-12 Special Ed. (HSF, Archangels, LAC, LHF, LA)
Tara Korth	1st Grade
Kara Libich	2 nd Grade
Barbara Lovercheck	High School Math
Mitzi Luedtke	Technology Coordinator, K-4 Keyboarding/Computers
Tom Meyer	Industrial Technology
Aaron Niemann	6th Grade
Penny Niemann	Title I – St. Francis & HHS
Cami Oelslgle	K-12 Guidance
Mitch Osborn	High School Science
Kyler Peetz	JH/HS Vocal, Instrumental Music
Jill Preister	Middle School Math, Spanish
Jennifer Rautenburg	Kindergarten - LAC
Kristi Settje	2nd Grade
Allie Schneider	Middle School Science
Anonda Schneider	K-12 Special Education
Susan Whited	K-6 Vocal Music, Title I – LAC, LHF

Section 6: Support Staff

Name	Position
Pam Friesen	Bookkeeper
Amanda Veik	Secretary
Jordyn Borer	Para – Humphrey
Allison Bystrzynski	Para – Humphrey
Sally Dahlberg	Para – Humphrey
Julie Fittje	Para – Humphrey
Vicky Frisch	Para - Humphrey
Makayla Heidemann	Para - Humphrey
Heather Olsen	Para - Humphrey
Sandra Rozmiarek	Para - Humphrey
Brandi Schure	Para - Humphrey
Sarah VanBuskirk	Para - Humphrey
Morgan Warland	Para - Humphrey
Samantha Zoucha	Para - Humphrey
Tara Preister	Para – LAC
Robby Heesacker	Maintenance
Brandi Gronenthal	Custodian
	Custodian
Todd Macken	Custodian
Erica Kurtenbach	Kitchen Manager
Lisa Freudenburg	Kitchen Assistant
Jane Schnitzler	Kitchen Assistant
	Kitchen Assistant
Ken Kosch	Kitchen Assistant

Article 1 – SCHOOL CALENDAR AND SCHEDULES

Section 1 School Calendar

See Handout of 2025-2026 Calendar

Section 2 Daily Schedule

Period 1	8:00 - 8:49
Period 2	8:51 - 9:40
Period 3	9:42 - 10:31
Period 4	10:33 - 11:22
Elem Lunch	11:00 - 12:00
Period 5	11:24 - 12:13
Secondary Lunch	12:33 - 12:43
Period 6	12:45 - 1:34
Period 7	1:36 - 2:25
Period 8	2:27 - 3:16
WIN/SEL	3:16 - 3:36 (WIN Mon., Tues., Wed.)(SEL Tues. & Thurs.)

****Rotating Study Hall – Tuesdays & Thursdays

Section 3 Shortened Schedule

Will be put into the Student/Teacher Daily Bulletin as needed

Section 4 Severe Weather and School Cancellations

The Superintendent of schools is authorized by the Board of Education to close public schools in case of severe weather. Representatives of the Superintendent's staff will notify local news media when inclement weather warrants such action. The information is broadcast by Alert Now system and the following radio stations; KEXL 106.7 FM, WJAG AM 78, KZ-100-FM (KZEN), KKOT-FM 93.5, KLIR-FM 101, KJSK-900 AM, KTTT-AM 1510, MIX 94.7 KNEN-FM, and US 92. The following television stations will also announce cancellations; KOLN/KGIN TV, WOWT Channel 6, & KETV Channel 7 on Omaha.

Decision to Close Schools. A decision to close school is made when forecasts by the weather service and civil defense officials indicate that it would be unwise for students to go to school. If possible, a decision about the next school day will be made by 9:30 p.m. for announcement during the 10 p.m. news. An early decision is not always possible because of uncertain weather conditions. School officials will make periodic assessments of conditions during the night and will decide early in the morning (by 6 a.m. if possible). In any case, **an announcement will be made to the news media when schools will be closed.** In some instances, schools will be open, but certain services may be cancelled (bus transportation, kindergarten, student activities). Some staff may be designated as being required to come to school even in the event of a school closing.

After School Starts. Every attempt will be made to avoid closing school once classes are in session. In some instances closing school during the day is inevitable if children are to safely return home before the brunt of a major storm hits. In these cases as much advance notice as possible will be given. If school is closed during the day staff will be notified and parents will be notified via media broadcast. Teachers and designated staff will be responsible for remaining with students until all students have safely left school or the administration has made arrangements for remaining students.

Emergency Conditions. Humphrey Public School has a signal which, when activated, includes the necessity to either evacuate the building or to move to safer areas of the building. All regular drills are held as required by law through the school year. There are plans for Emergency Exit System, Tornado Warning System, and Critical Incident Response. **School officials are not permitted to release students from the school building during a tornado warning.** In the event of an emergency exit alert or tornado warning, you should implement the school's established safety procedures.

Section 5 Intruder in the Building –Lock Down

Humphrey Public Schools will have intruder in the building drills randomly throughout the school year.

In the event of a Lock down, students are NOT allowed to move from class to class. There is NO outside recess. All of the doors to the school remain locked and nobody will be allowed to enter or exit the building. Parents/guardians will be called by office personnel to notify them of the “lock down” situation as time allows. Only after an “all clear” has been given by the administration and law enforcement will parents be allowed to pick up their child(ren). Busses will NOT run routes during a HARD lock down situation.

Section 6 Violence Threat –Secure

In the event of a Lock Out, students ARE allowed to move from class to class. All of the doors to the school are locked. There will be NO outside recess. All students will remain within the school building. Parents/guardians will be called by officer personnel to notify them of the “lock out” situation.

Administration will determine if busses will run normal routes based on information obtained from law enforcement. Parents will be updated via the Alert Now system throughout the lockdown process. The administration reserves the right to make decisions based on the well-being and safety of our students.

Article 2 – EMPLOYMENT, COMPENSATION AND BENEFITS

Section 1 Employment

Employment occurs when the employee signs the Employee's Contract and the Board of Education approves such contract of employment.

Classified employees may be asked in the spring whether they wish to continue in employment during the following school year. This is done for staff planning purposes and does not constitute an offer of employment.

Should an employee wish to resign from employment the employee should give two weeks' written notice of resignation to the Superintendent. The request to resign will be acted upon by the Board of Education.

Classified employees are "at-will" employees, and may be terminated at any time by the school district. Notice of termination may be delivered by the administration or Board of Education. The termination of employment will be acted upon by the Board of Education at a regular or special meeting.

Section 2 Assignments

The duties to be performed by an employee with the District shall be subject to assignment by the Superintendent. Job descriptions, where available, provide additional information about the position duties.

A employee will be expected to devote full time during days of school to the employee's position and to diligently and faithfully perform the assigned duties to the best of the employee's ability.

Section 3 Personnel File

The District will follow the requirements of state and federal law and regulation with regard to employee personnel files. Employees are to notify the Principal's office of any changes in contact information (address/telephone). For a name change, provide your new social security card. Employees may contact the Principal or Superintendent to request a review of their personnel file.

Section 4 Grievances and Complaints

Employment related grievances or complaints shall be addressed through the administrative chain of command following the process set forth in board policy.

Section 5 Compensation

Compensation. Compensation is paid only as authorized by the Board of Education.

Salary Payments. Salary is payable on a once per month basis for those months when services are performed. Employees will be paid on the 15th of the month, or the last preceding school day, if the 15th falls on a vacation or week-end day. In emergency cases exceptions may be made, subject to the approval of the Board. In no case shall the Board advance more than one month's salary. Upon separation of an employee's employment, or upon fulfillment of the contract, the employee may, at the option of the Board, be paid all wages due in one lump sum. Reimbursements for mileage or other expenses will be considered separate from compensation.

Section 6 Payroll and Payroll Deductions

Wages/salary and benefits are paid in accordance with the individual employment contracts and negotiated agreement, if any. Payroll deductions shall be made in accordance with law and the negotiated agreement, if any.

Section 7 Expense Reimbursement

Reimbursement for authorized mileage will be paid to employees required to drive their own vehicles during their regular scheduled working hours between two or more work sites. Claims for reimbursement should be submitted to the employee's immediate supervisor. The allowable rate shall be governed by Board policy, unless otherwise required by law. The District is not liable for physical damage to employee vehicles.

Necessary materials and supplies are provided by the District. If an employee needs additional materials for performance of duties, the request should be made to the employee's immediate supervisor. Employees who purchase materials or supplies without advance approval may not be reimbursed.

Reimbursement for other expenses related to District-required travel must be submitted to and approved by the Superintendent. The request for reimbursement should include a voucher sufficient to establish that the expense was actually incurred and that the expense was reasonable and related to a school-purpose.

Section 8 Overtime

Overtime is paid to classified employees in accordance with the Fair Labor Standards Act (FLSA). A publication provided by the federal government which provides more information about the FLSA is attached as Appendix "A" to this handbook.

Classified employees may be classified as either "exempt" or "non-exempt" for overtime purposes. Employees who are classified as exempt employees are not eligible for overtime, while those who are "non-exempt" are eligible for overtime.

Non-exempt employees will be expected to accurately report hours worked. Falsification of time cards is a serious offense.

Non-exempt employees must receive prior approval from their supervisor to work additional hours beyond their regular work schedule. Non-exempt employees will be paid for each hour worked in excess of 40 hours in a workweek and are expected to accurately and timely report overtime hours to their supervisor. The regular workweek for overtime purposes is from 12:00 a.m. on Monday through 11:59 p.m. on Sunday. The administration may establish a different 7-day period workweek from time to time for specified employees or employee groups.

Overtime pay for non-exempt employees will be paid at the rate of not less than 1½ times the employee's regular rate of pay for hours worked in excess of the 40 hour workweek. Employees with two or more non-exempt positions may be eligible for overtime pay based upon the total number of hours worked in one workweek. If applicable, the employee and the Superintendent will agree upon the overtime rate, in compliance with FLSA regulations.

A non-exempt employee may request compensatory time in lieu of overtime pay, with approval of the employer, with the rate figured as 1½ times the number of hours worked in excess of 40 hours in any work week. Compensatory time may be accumulated up to 40 hours upon approval by their supervisor. Any accumulation of compensatory time over 40 hours must be approved by the Superintendent. The FLSA limits the accumulation of compensatory time to 240 hours.

The District's policy is to not permit improper deductions from the salary of exempt employees who are required to meet a "salaried basis" test for the overtime exemption to be applicable. An employee who feels an improper deduction affecting exemption status has occurred may submit a complaint to the Superintendent or the Superintendent's designee, who shall promptly investigate the complaint. Reimbursement shall be made and a good faith commitment to comply in the future will be given in the event it is determined that an improper deduction affecting overtime exemption has been made.

The District's policy is to authorize unpaid disciplinary suspensions of a full day or more for infractions of workplace conduct rules and to apply such policy uniformly to all similarly situated employees, including exempt employees who are required to meet a "salaried basis" test for the exemption to be applicable. Unpaid disciplinary suspensions of a partial day or of a full day or more may be implemented for infractions of safety rules of major significance. Deductions of pay of a partial day or of a full day or more may be made for FMLA leaves and in the first and last weeks of employment. In addition, based on principles of public accountancy, deductions from pay of a partial day or of a full day or more will be made for absences for illness, injury or personal reasons when accrued leave is not used or not available, and for absences due to any budget-required furlough.

Article 3 – ABSENCES FROM WORK

Section 1 Paid Leave - Sick and Personal Leaves

Classified employees may be provided with paid sick and personal leaves in accordance with the employee's individual contract or negotiated agreement, if any. During such paid leaves, classified employees shall continue to receive all wages/salary and fringe benefits called for by the individual contract or negotiated agreement, if any.

The leaves provided by the District are to be used for the purpose intended. Abuse of leave privileges affects the students, other staff, and the entire District and will not be tolerated.

Requests for Leave

Advance reporting of the need to take a leave is important. A classified employee who becomes ill and is unable to work is to contact the Principal Josh Rathje (402-910-1582) or appropriate designee before 6:30 a.m. Before the end of the school day on the first day of the sick leave, and on each subsequent day of absence, a report should be made to the Principal or Superintendent or appropriate designee as to whether the classified employee will be able to return to duty on the next duty day. For illnesses or medical situations where the need for the leave can be determined in advance, the classified employee is to make such advance report of need for leave as possible.

For personal and other leaves, a Request for Leave form is to be submitted to the Principal or Superintendent and appropriate designee at least five school days prior to the leave, or such other advance notice as is practicable under the circumstances.

Return from Leave

Upon return from leave, classified employees are to review information supplied by the substitute classified employee as to progress made in the classified employee's area of responsibility. The substitute should be contacted directly if the written information supplied is not adequate.

A classified employee who is absent for any period of time because of injury requiring care from a physician or health care provider, or for a period of one week or more due to illness, must present a written statement to the Principal or Superintendent from the classified employee's physician or health care provider stating that the classified employee is physically able to return to duty. This statement is to be presented in person before the classified employee returns to duty in order that the present stage of convalescence can be observed and discussed.

Section 2 Payroll Deductions for Absences in Excess of Paid Leave

Should an employee be absent from work in excess of the employee's accumulated sick leave or other paid leaves, the employee's salary and fringe benefits (including the cost of premiums for group health insurance) shall be reduced by the day or days or work missed. In the case of hourly employees the reduction will be made on an hourly basis. In the case of salaried employees the reduction will be made on a per diem basis calculated using the number of days missed as the numerator, and the number of total contract days for the school year as the denominator.

Section 3 Leaves of Absence

A classified employee may apply to the Board of Education for a leave of absence from the classified employee's duties. The Board of Education will consider such requests on a case-by-case basis. No leave of absence shall extend beyond one school year. All leaves of absence shall be without pay except for the payment of health insurance benefits as may be required under applicable state or federal laws.

Section 4 Jury Duty

An employee who is summoned for jury service shall promptly notify the employee's immediate supervisor of such summons. The employee's salary will continue during time spent in jury service, and no deduction of leave time shall occur, except that the District may reduce the pay by an amount equal to any compensation, other than expenses, paid by the court for jury duty. Employees are to notify their supervisor of the amount received for such jury duty.

If an employee, upon reporting for jury duty in the morning, is dismissed from jury duty for the remainder of the day, the employee is to report for duty and resume duties for the balance of the day. When an employee is entirely dismissed from jury duty, the employee is directed to report for duty.

Employees are expected to promptly notify the employee's immediate supervisor of any other form of legal summons which may require an absence from duty. In the event the summons involves a school-related matter, the matter shall be treated similar to a jury duty absence. In the event the summons involves a personal matter, the employee will be required to use available leave days.

Section 5 Military Leave

Employees who are members of the National Guard, Army Reserve, Naval Reserve, Marine Corps Reserve, Air Force Reserve, or Coast Guard Reserve (hereinafter, "reserves"), are entitled to a military leave of absence from their respective duties, without loss of pay, when employed with or without pay under the orders or authorization of competent authority in the active service of the state or of the United States. Employees who normally work or are normally scheduled to work 120 hours or more in three consecutive weeks shall receive a military leave of absence of 120 hours each calendar year. Employees who normally work or are normally scheduled to work less than 120 hours in three consecutive weeks shall receive a military leave of absence each calendar year equal to the number of hours they normally work or would normally be scheduled to work, whichever is greater, in three consecutive weeks. Such military leave of absence may be taken in hourly increments and shall be in addition to the classified employee's regular annual leave.

When the governor of this state shall declare that a state of emergency exists, and any employee who is a member of the reserves is ordered to active service of the state, the employee shall be granted a state of emergency leave of absence until released from active service by competent authority. The leave of absence shall not be a military leave of absence; other forms of leave may be granted. The employee shall receive normal salary or compensation minus the state active duty base pay the employee receives in active service of the state.

Section 6 Family and Medical Leave Act

The Family and Medical Leave Act (FMLA) provides for 12 weeks of job-protected unpaid leave in a 12-month period to eligible employees in specified circumstances. A publication provided by the federal government which provides more information about FMLA leaves is attached as Appendix “B” to this handbook. Some specifics regarding FMLA leave at Humphrey Public School:

- a. The plan year for FMLA is a rolling year. A rolling year is a 12-month period measured backward from the date an employee uses any FMLA leave.
- b. Employees will be required to substitute remaining applicable paid leave prior to using unpaid leave. In other words, the total of job-protected paid and unpaid leave is 12 weeks.

If you need to take an FMLA leave, or have any questions regarding an FMLA leave, you should contact the Superintendent.

Article 4 – DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Section 1 Hours of Work

Regular, dependable attendance at work is an essential function of a classified employee's employment position.

Section 2 Arrival to Duty Assignments

Schools have differing starting and ending times for the student day. Classified employees' work assignments may or may not be related to the regular school day. Classified employees are expected to know their duty dates and times, and to be on time for work.

Section 3 Leaving School

Employees are to be on duty at all times during the assigned work day. Employees may not leave school or their assigned area during duty hours without approval of the Principal or Superintendent. Employees who leave the school during their designated lunch period must check out with the Principal or Superintendent's office. Employees who leave during their work hours for an approved absence must check out with the Principal or Superintendent's office or their supervisor when leaving, and check back in upon return. Employees who need to leave during the school day for reason of illness or emergency are to check out with the Principal or Superintendent's office or their supervisor and make sure that a responsible person has been notified of their unexpected absence so work coverage may be provided.

Section 4 School Procedures

Employees are expected to adhere to the following classroom and school procedures in the performance of their duties:

1. Use of Cell Phones

Employees shall not use personal cell phones for any non-school purpose during duty time.

2. Checking Out of Equipment

All equipment must be checked out through the building principal or superintendent. All school equipment may be used only for school purposes.

3. Requisition of Equipment and Supplies

Equipment and supplies which are needed for work duties should be requested through the Superintendent's office. No equipment or supplies ordered through the District may be directed to the personal use of an employee or another District employee.

4. E-mail

Employees may be assigned a school e-mail address for purposes of intra-school and inter-school e-mail correspondence. Employees should check for e-mail through out the day, and should timely respond to e-mails which require a response. Paraeducators and other staff assigned to work with students should avoid checking and responding to e-mails during instructional or supervisory time. Use of the District's e-mail system for personal communications should be limited, and is subject to the rules governing overall computer usage found in Board policy and this handbook.

5. Employee Mail Box

Employees may be assigned a mailbox located in the Teacher's work room. Employees should check for mail each morning and also later in the school day, if possible. If something requires an answer employees are responsible for responding promptly. Employee mail boxes are to be limited to communicate regarding school business.

6. Record Keeping

Duties of classified employees often involve keeping detailed records. Make sure to complete these records as directed by your supervisor.

7. Employees Meetings

Employees' meetings will be held on the when necessary. **ALL** employees are expected to be present for the meetings, unless they are absent from school for good cause or have made prior arrangements.

Section 5 Supervision of Students

Proper supervision of students is an important responsibility for employees. Employees who have responsibilities for student supervision are expected to meet the four "P's" for student supervision and safety. All employees of the school should be familiar with these principles, to the extent they may be involved in supervision of students or interacting with students.

Proper Supervision

- Report to all duty assignments on time.
- Circulate through your duty area. Pay particular attention to areas and activities that pose an increased risk of injury.
- Be vigilant while supervising students. Never leave students unattended; the need to make a copy is not greater than the need to supervise your students. If an emergency requires that you leave students who you are supervising, request that another nearby staff member provide supervision for you, or notify the office so someone can provide assistance. If you are assisting with recess duty, your responsibility is to supervise the students in your assigned area. When talking with other adults or students, remember that your primary duty is supervision and make sure you are aware of what all students who you are to be supervising are doing.
- Be accountable for students who are assigned to you from the beginning of the supervision assignment to the end. Do not dismiss students early. If a student needs to leave class, make sure they have a hall pass. If the student is to report to the office, inform the office to be expecting the student. If the student is to be returning to your class after a brief absence (e.g., after using the restroom), contact the office if the student has not returned by the time expected.
- If you have seen or have been informed that a particular student has a propensity to act dangerously or in an unpredictable manner, your supervision of that student must increase with the known risk of injury. (Remember, though, that this type of information may be confidential—do not share confidential information about students except with other staff who need to know the information to perform their jobs).
- Be careful with touching students. Use of corporal punishment is prohibited in our school district. Touching students should be limited to

that necessary to protect the student from harm (e.g., falling from playground equipment) and that which professional educators determine appropriate for purposes of proper student relationships.

- Be careful with your language. Profanity or abusive language should not be used by you. Be a good role model for students. If a student uses such language, you should make a report to the student's teacher or administration.

2. Proper Instructions

- A. Proper instructions are important to reduce the risk of injury when students undertake an activity, especially an activity that has an increased risk of harm to students.
- B. Repeat the instructions on how to complete a task that has a heightened risk of danger as often as needed. Do not assume because students heard the directions once that they will be remembered.
- C. When you go over safety rules with students note it in your written records. If any students are absent when you review the rules contact the student(s) to review the same information and also note that contact in your written records.

3. Proper Maintenance of Buildings, Grounds, and Equipment

- A. Conduct periodic inspections of equipment under your control or in your area of supervision.
- B. If equipment is broken and presents a risk of injury, immediately take it out of service. If it can't be moved, tape a "Do Not Use" sign and notify the office so those repairs may be undertaken.
- C. Check your communication device (whether it be a school phone in your supervision area, a walkie-talkie, or a cell phone) periodically to make sure you can communicate with the office immediately in the event of an emergency.

4. Proper Warnings

- A. If you have knowledge of a hazard that can likely cause injury, take steps to warn other staff and students.
- B. Tell the office so additional warnings may be given.

Contact the Office for Assistance

The office administration should be contacted immediately when a situation exists which could cause injury to students or others. Examples include:

- student fight
- student health problem (fainting, bleeding, high temperature, difficulty breathing, etc.); if the office can not be immediately located, call 911 if the problem appears to be of immediate and serious concern
- a report or a suspicion that a student has a weapon or other dangerous item or drugs, alcohol, or other illegal substances
- presence of an intruder (a non-student or staff member who refuses to go to the office)

Violations of student rules which are also violations of state law are required to be reported to law enforcement. Make a report of such conduct to the Principal so this law may be followed.

Student Searches

Office administration and the student's teacher should be contacted in the event a search of a student or their belongings is needed to be done. Do not conduct such a search yourself without a teacher or administrator being present or having given you clear directions. You may direct a student suspected of having an item in violation of school rules to wait with you until another adult is present, or to follow you to the office if you can leave your assigned area without causing risk of harm to others. Do not use physical force to detain the student or to make the student accompany you except as reasonably necessary to protect the student or others.

Student Rights

Students should be treated fairly and given the same treatment without consideration of race, color, religion, gender, or disability. Students who need special accommodations should be given those accommodations as needed for them to participate in school and school activities. Further, students have the right to have their school records kept confidential. Such information should be shared only with other school staff with a need to know the information to perform their duties.

Section 6 Role of Para-educators

Para-educators provide valuable assistance in the educational process and allow teachers to carry out their responsibilities in a more efficient and effective manner. A paraeducator must not, however, assume teaching responsibilities. The teacher must maintain the role of leadership and responsibility for the students, with the paraeducator in a supportive role. Paraeducators may assist the teacher by, among other tasks, assisting with instructional activities under the direction of the teacher, helping to supervise students, copying tests and other written material, organizing class materials, preparing bulletin boards, grading tests or class work, and calculating and recording grades. Paraeducators are to work only on their assigned work days and within their assigned work day. If a teacher requests a paraeducator to work hours other than the assigned work hours or assigned work day, the administration must be contacted for approval.

Section 7 Dispensing Medication

Employees are not permitted to give any medication to students unless trained under the Medication Aid Act. Students who need to take prescription medicine must have a signed parent release form on file in the office. Medications are to be taken in the presence of the office staff, the nurse, or medication aide and are to be stored in the office. Medical procedures are not to be administered in the classroom except in accordance with the District's Safety and Security Management Plan and the District's Emergency Protocol (asthma/anaphylaxis protocol). **If students must take medication and/or perform medical procedures prescribed by a duly licensed physician during school hours, it is the responsibility of the parents or guardians to sign permission to dispense the medicine at the school and to submit a note or prescription from the physician authorizing the medicine and/or medical procedure. School district personnel will not administer medicine, including over the counter medicine, without this signed form and note or prescription.** Any medication brought to school needs to be properly labeled. The label should include the following information: Student's name, name of medication, dosage needed, and time of dispensing the medication.

Section 8 Reporting Child Abuse

Nebraska State Law and school policy mandates school officials to make a report to the proper law enforcement agency or the Department of Health and Human Services (Child Protective Services) when there is reasonable cause to believe that a child has been abused or neglected, or a child is in a situation which would reasonably result in abuse or neglect. According to Nebraska State Law, abuse or neglect means knowingly, intentionally, or negligently causing or permitting a minor child to be:

- (a) Placed in a situation that endangers his or her life or physical or mental health;
- (b) Cruelly confined or cruelly punished;
- (c) Deprived of necessary food, clothing, shelter, or care;
- (d) Left unattended in a motor vehicle if such minor child is six years of age or younger;
- (e) Sexually abused; or
- (f) Sexually exploited by allowing, encouraging, or forcing such person to solicit for or engage in prostitution, debauchery, public indecency, or obscene or pornographic photography, films, or depictions.

Employees are to inform their principal or supervisor in the event they become aware of child abuse or neglect. Be as specific as possible with what, when, and where you observed the abuse or neglect and anything which you may have heard said by the student or others. It is vital that your report to school officials be made as accurately and as soon as possible. Timeliness in making a report will assist in minimizing further risk to the child

Do not talk about the matter directly with the parent or others, as that may violate confidentiality restrictions, affect the ability of authorities to investigate, create problems with relationships and create legal problems. The school administration will consider your information, conduct any further investigation needed to justify a report, and determine whether a report of child abuse or neglect is to be made. If the person who you have reported to does not make a report to the police or Child Protective Services, and you feel a report should be made, report the matter directly to the Superintendent.

Section 9 Professional Boundaries Between Employees and Students

Personnel - All Employees

Professional Boundaries Between Employees and Students

Definitions:

Grooming means building trust with a student and individuals close to the student in an effort to gain access to and time alone with the student, with the ultimate goal of engaging in sexual contact or sexual penetration with the student, regardless of when in the student's life the sexual contact or sexual penetration would take place;

Personal communication system means a device or software that provides for communication between two or more parties and is capable of receiving, displaying, or transmitting communication. Personal communication system includes, but is not limited to, a mobile or cellular telephone, an email service, or a social media platform;

School employee means a person nineteen years of age or older who is employed by a public, private, denominations, or parochial school approved or accredited by the State Department of Education. Neb. Rev. Stat. § 28-720. School employee also includes any person who is contracted with, or otherwise paid by the district and who has access to or interaction with students including all student teachers or interns.

Sexual contact has the same meaning as in section 28-318;

Sexual penetration has the same meaning as in section 28-318; and

Student teacher or intern has the same meaning as in section 79-875.

All employees are expected to observe and maintain professional boundaries between themselves and students. A violation of this policy or any violation of professional boundaries is misconduct and will likely result in disciplinary action.

In addition, a violation of employee and student boundaries is also a violation of standards of professional conduct which could result in the revocation of a certificated educator's certificate or permit. 92 Nebraska Administrative Code Chapter 27.

Such violations could also result in a referral to the Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services and law enforcement.

All employees are expected to observe and maintain professional boundaries between themselves and students. A violation of professional boundaries will be regarded as a form of misconduct and may result in disciplinary action.

Prohibited Activity:

Engaging in any relationship that involves sexual contact or sexual penetration with a student while the student attends the school where the employee works and for one year after the student graduates or otherwise ceases enrollment.

The following is a non-exclusive list of actions that will be regarded as a violation of the professional boundaries that all employees are expected to maintain with all students. In addition, repeatedly engaging in any of these activities or a combination of these activities are examples of grooming as defined in this policy.

1. Communication with students through any method not approved or not designated by the school district including social networking apps or websites and texting, or other instant messaging, one-on-one with any students.
2. Communication with students on any matters or subjects that do not pertain to school or school-related activities. School or school related activities include student homework, in class activities, school sponsored sports or clubs or any other school-sponsored activity.
3. Engaging in any kind of behavior or communication that could be reasonably construed as a sexual advance or respond in any positive manner to a student's sexual advance.
4. Being alone with a student anywhere where all doors to such room are closed.
5. Showing a student any inappropriate or sexually suggestive material that is not part of classroom lesson or curriculum known to appropriate school authorities.

6. Telling jokes with sexual themes or subject matter.
7. Invading a student's physical privacy. One example would be walking in on a student changing in a locker room or bathroom when the employee has no duty to be there.
8. Intruding on a student's personal physical space in any manner that makes a student uncomfortable.
9. Initiating unwanted physical contact.
10. Treating one student differently from other students either by providing privileges or failing to enforce school policy or other disciplinary action.
11. Discussing an educator's private personal matters with a student and inquiring about a student's private personal matters when no basis for concern about the student's health or safety.
12. Providing rides to a student in an employee's personal vehicle without the express written permission of a student's parent or guardian and permission from an administrator unless another school employee is in the vehicle.
13. Meeting with a student outside of school for any reason other than a school sponsored activity or event.
14. Having a student in an employee's home without a student's parent or appropriate chaperone.
15. Giving or receiving gifts to or from one student. A gift to a class or the same gift to a group of students is not prohibited.
16. Consuming alcohol in the presence of any student when the student's parent or guardian is not present or consuming illegal drugs in the presence of students at any time.
17. Providing alcohol or illegal or unauthorized drugs or medications to a student under any circumstances.
18. Any other behavior with could exploit the unique position of trust and authority between a student and employee.

Exceptions to these prohibitions may include:

1. Communicating with your own child or another student with whom there is personal relationship that exists independent of that child being a student at the same school where the employee works such as when the student is a relative, neighbor or fellow member of a group or organization outside of the school or school sponsored setting when such communications pertain to such a group or organization.
2. An emergency or concern for that student's immediate health or safety.
3. A singular chance encounter at a public place provided the encounter provided there is no additional violation of this policy

Except in the case of a true emergency, or an unplanned chance encounter, employees must obtain permission in writing from his or her administrator prior to engaging in such communication.

Permissible methods to communicate with students outside of school:

The Superintendent or Superintendent's designee will circulate to staff the District-approved apps or social media sites that employees may use to communicate with student regarding educationally related topics.

In addition, employees may utilize:

1. Text messages that include at least one other adult and a student. The adult may either be the student's parent or guardian or another school employee.

2. Use of social media through a district approved social media account as a coach or supervisor of a school sponsored club or activity. However, even approved social media communication must abide by the standards of professional conduct and must be professional in nature and in the best interest of the school district.
3. Use of the school district email system.

Allowing students to view an educator's social media postings is not a preferred method of communication. Educators are responsible for any social media postings that is viewed by students when such posting violates the standards of professional conduct.

Permissible ways to engage with students when the employee has concerns about the student's well-being:

1. Contact the guidance counselor and ensure the student's parent or guardian is aware of your concerns.
2. Contact the student's parents or guardian if the concern is not with the parent or guardian.
3. If you believe the student is in immediate danger, contact the Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services child abuse hotline or contact law enforcement.

Reporting Violations:

If any school employee violates this policy or has reason to believe another employee has violated this policy, the employee is required to make a report to the superintendent within 24 hours. The school employee also has an obligation to report to the Nebraska Health and Human Services and the Nebraska Department of Education.

The most serious violations shall be reported immediately. The Superintendent shall also ensure a report is made to the Nebraska Department of Education, the Nebraska child abuse and neglect hotline and law enforcement authorities as required by law and notify the school Board President. If the superintendent is the alleged violator or fails to take appropriate steps, the School Board President shall be notified by the school employee.

Students who feel his or her boundaries have been violated or know of another student whose boundaries have been violated may report to any school employee he or she is comfortable to confide in. That school employee will then have an obligation to report as identified above.

Reprisal or retaliation for good faith reports made by students or school employees is itself a violation and is prohibited.

Records retention:

School employees are required to maintain copies of any communication exchanged with students via a personal communications system. Such copies must be maintained pursuant to district records retention policies and schedules. The records may be kept electronically or in hard copy or any format easily retrievable by the employee upon request. Any employee who is unable to produce copies of such communications for any reason will be in violation of this policy.

FERPA and Confidentiality:

School employees are encouraged to consult their school's policy on confidentiality of personally identifiable student information before posting any information regarding student or student activities online.

Legal Reference: Neb. Rev. Stat. Sec. 79-879

Date of Adoption: June 14, 2021

Article 5 – CLASSIFIED POSITION AND PERSONAL CONDUCT AND PERFORMANCE**Section 1 Ethics Standards**

The Humphrey Public Schools expects its classified employees to adhere to ethics standards which are modified from those established by the Nebraska Department of Education for certificated employees. The classified school employment job ethics standards which classified employees are expected to adhere to include those set forth below.

Principle I - Commitment as a School Employee:

Employees shall exhibit good moral character, maintain high standards of performance and promote equality of opportunity.

In fulfillment of the employee's contractual and personal responsibilities, the employee:

- A. Shall not interfere with the exercise of political and citizenship rights and responsibilities of students, colleagues, parents, school patrons, or school board members.
- B. Shall not discriminate on the basis of race, color, creed, sex, marital status, age, national origin, ethnic background, or handicapping condition.
- C. Shall not use coercive means, or promise or provide special treatment to students, colleagues, school patrons, or school board members in order to influence personal decisions.
- D. Shall not make any fraudulent statement or fail to disclose a material fact for which the employee is responsible.
- E. Shall not exploit school relationships with students, colleagues, parents, school patrons, or school board members for personal gain or private advantage.
- F. Shall not sexually harass students, parents or school patrons, employees, or board members.
- G. Shall not engage in conduct involving dishonesty, fraud, deceit, or misrepresentation in the performance of job duties.
- H. Shall report to the Superintendent any known violation of paragraphs B or E above.
- I. Shall seek no reprisal against any individual who has reported a violation of this rule.

Principle II - Commitment to the Student:

Mindful that the employee's classified position exists for the purpose of serving the best interests of the school district's students and patrons, the classified employee shall perform his/her job duties with genuine interest, concern, and consideration for the student. The employee shall work to stimulate the spirit of inquiry, the acquisition of knowledge and understanding, and the thoughtful formulation of worthy goals.

In fulfillment of the obligation to the student, the employee:

- A. Shall make reasonable effort to protect the student from conditions which interfere with the learning process or are harmful to health or safety.
- D. Shall keep in confidence personally identifiable information that has been obtained in the course of employment, unless disclosure is approved by the administration or is required bylaw.

- G. Shall not discipline students using corporal punishment.

Principle III - Commitment to the Public:

The magnitude of the responsibility inherent in the education process requires dedication to the principles of our democratic heritage. The classified employee bears responsibility for instilling an understanding of the confidence in the rule of law, respect for individual freedom, and a responsibility to promote respect by the public for the integrity of the profession.

In fulfillment of the obligation to the public, the employee:

- A. Shall not misrepresent an institution with which the employee is affiliated, and shall take added precautions to distinguish between the employee's personal and institutional views.

- B. Shall not use institutional privileges for private gain or to promote political candidates, political issues, or partisan political activities.
- C. Shall neither offer nor accept gifts or favors that will impair judgment to be exercised in the course of employment.
- D. Shall support the principle of due process and protect the political, citizenship, and natural rights of all individuals.
- E. Shall not commit any act of moral turpitude, nor commit any felony under the laws of the United States or any state or territory.
- F. Shall, with reasonable diligence, attend to the duties of the employee's position.

Principle IV - Commitment to Classified Position Employment Practices:

The employee shall regard the employment agreement as a pledge to be executed both in spirit and in fact. The employee shall believe that sound personnel relationships with governing administration and board of education are built upon personal integrity, dignity, and mutual respect.

In fulfillment of the obligation to professional employment practices, the employee:

- A. Shall apply for, accept, offer, or assign a position or responsibility on the basis of preparation and legal qualifications.
- B. Shall not knowingly withhold information regarding a position from an applicant or employer, or misrepresent an assignment or conditions of employment.
- C. Shall give prompt notice to the employer of any change in availability of service.
- D. Shall conduct job related business through designated procedures, when available, that have been approved by the employing agency.
- E. Shall not assign to unqualified personnel, tasks for which an employee is responsible.
- F. Shall permit no commercial or personal exploitation of his or her professional position.
- G. Shall use time on duty and leave time for the purpose for which intended.

Section 2 Evaluations

Evaluations of employees will be conducted in accordance with the Board policy. Supervisors reserve the right to observe, appraise or evaluate employees more frequently than required by policy on an as-needed basis. Employees are expected to participate constructively and positively in the evaluation process and to accept and implement constructive suggestions and improvement strategies developed by the administration.

Section 3 Role Model

Employees serve as role models for students and their actions and conduct reflect on the school as a whole. Employees are in all respects to conduct themselves in a manner supportive of the mission of the school.

Section 4 Relationships

It is important for employees to maintain an effective working relationship with the administration, co-workers, students and parents. Appropriate relationships are established by extending social courtesies, following through on commitments and promises, complying with administrative directives and Board policies, being honest and consistent, and not intruding into personal matters outside the scope of duties or gossiping or spreading rumors about others.

Section 5 Attire

It is important for employees to project a responsible, adult image to students, parents and co-workers. Appropriate attire and grooming is one of the means of projecting such an image. Employees are expected to maintain conservative attire and grooming when on duty. As a minimal guide, employees should not wear clothing which students would not be permitted to wear at school. Employees should wear clothing which is safe and suitable for their work assignments; and avoid clothing which may be caught in machinery. The administration may establish more detailed guidelines for individual employees should that be necessary.

Section 6 Outside Employment

Employees shall not perform other work or engage in activities unrelated to District employment during duty hours. In addition, employees shall not engage in employment which conflicts with their school duties. Employees are not required to notify the District of outside employment except: (1) employees who are also employed by another Nebraska school district in order to comply with Nebraska State Retirement System regulations and (2) employees who have a work-related injury in order to comply with workers' compensation requirements.

Article 6 – USE OF SCHOOL FACILITIES AND EQUIPMENT

Section 1 Drug-Free Workplace

The District has established the school as a drug-free workplace. The drug-free workplace for this purpose includes school grounds, school utilized vehicles, and places in which school activities are held.

The unlawful manufacture, distribution, disposition, possession, or use of a controlled substance is prohibited in the work place. The possession, use or distribution of illicit drugs or alcohol, the use of glue or aerosol paint or any other chemical substance for inhalation, and being under the influence of illicit drugs, alcohol, or inhalants, is prohibited in any place while employees are on duty time. Any level of impairment from illicit drugs, alcohol, or inhalants, and the presence of any odor of illicit drugs (such as marijuana) or alcohol on a employee in the work place or on duty time shall be a violation of the drug-free workplace. The possession or distribution of a look-alike drug or look-alike controlled substance is prohibited. In addition, employees are expected to serve as role models for students and will be considered to have violated the District's expectations in the event the employee commits a criminal drug or alcohol offense off the work place or off duty time.

As a condition of employment employees will abide by the District's drug-free workplace policies and notify the Superintendent of any criminal drug statute conviction for a violation occurring in the workplace no later than 5 days after such conviction. Disciplinary sanctions up to and including termination of employment and referral for prosecution will be imposed for violations of the District's drug-free workplace policies. Sanctions may include the requirement that the employee complete an appropriate rehabilitation program, a reprimand, and termination of employment. Drug and alcohol counseling and rehabilitation and reentry programs are available through local health agencies.

Section 2 Smoke and Tobacco-Free Workplace

The use of tobacco and/or vaping products in the District's buildings and on school grounds, all owned or leased facilities and vehicles, is prohibited.

Section 3 Weapon-Free Workplace

The District prohibits any person from being in possession of a weapon at a school attendance facility, on school property, at a school-supervised activity, or at a school-sponsored function. Any employee found to be in violation of this policy shall be subject to disciplinary action, up to and including termination.

The term "weapon" means an instrument or object used, or which may be used, as a means of attack, defense, or destruction, including, without limitation:

- a. Any object which will, or is designed to, or may readily be converted to, expela projectile by the action of an explosive or other means;
- b. The frame or receiver of any object described in the preceding example;
- c. Any firearm muffler or silencer;
- d. Any explosive, incendiary or gas (a) bomb, (b) grenade, (c) rocket, (d) missile, (e) mine, or similar device;

- e. Any bludgeon, sand club, metal knuckles, or throwing star;
- f. Any knife other than as used for strictly instructional or personal care or eating purposes. A pocket knife with a blade of 2-1/2 inches or more is a prohibited weapon. A switch-blade knife is prohibited regardless of size of the blade. A switch-blade knife is defined as a knife with a blade that opens automatically by hand pressure applied to a button, spring, or other device in the handle of a knife, or any knife having a blade that opens or falls or is ejected into position by the force of gravity or by an outward, downward, or centrifugal thrust or movement;
- g. Any electronic device designed to discharge immobilizing levels of electricity, commonly known as a stun gun; and
- h. A employee may possess mace or other similar chemical agents in quantity and/or concentration typically designed for individual personal defensive purposes shall not be considered as possession of a weapon. Possession of larger quantities and/or concentrations of mace or other similar chemical agents than is typically designed for individual personal defensive purposes will be considered as possession of a weapon. Usage of mace or other similar chemical agents will be considered as usage of a weapon if the usage is found to be for non-defensive purposes. An employee who is negligent in their possession of mace or other similar chemical agents will be subject to disciplinary action.
- i. A employee may possess an item which may be considered a weapon where such item is used for instructional purposes and the employee has received approval of the administration to possess the item, provided it is used in the manner approved and is maintained in such manner as the administration has directed.
- j. Any other object that is designed for or intended for use as a destructive or injurious device.

The phrase "possession of a weapon" includes, without limitation, a weapon in a employee's personal possession, as well as in a employee's motor vehicle, desk, locker, briefcase, backpack, or purse.

Section 4 Use of District Computer Network and Internet Internet Safety and Acceptable Use Policy #6800

A. Internet Safety Policy

B. Internet Safety Policy

It is the policy of Humphrey Public Schools to comply with the Children's Internet Protection Act (CIPA) and Children's Online Privacy Protection Act (COPPA). With respect to the District's computer network, the District shall: (a) prevent user access to, or transmission of, inappropriate material via Internet, electronic mail, or other forms of direct electronic communications; (b) provide for the safety and security of minors when using electronic mail, chat rooms, and other forms of direct electronic communications; (c) prevent unauthorized access, including so-called "hacking," and other unlawful activities online; (d) prevent unauthorized online disclosure, use, or dissemination of personal identification information of

minors; (e) obtain verifiable parental consent before allowing third parties to collect personal information online from students; and (f) implement measures designed to restrict minors' access to materials (visual or non-visual) that are harmful to minors.

1. Definitions. Key terms are as defined in CIPA. "Inappropriate material" for purposes of this policy includes material that is obscene, child pornography, or harmful to minors. The term "harmful to minors" means any picture, image, graphic image file, or other visual depiction that: (1) taken as a whole and with respect to minors, appeals to a prurient interest in nudity, sex, or excretion; (2) depicts, describes, or represents, in a patently offensive way with respect to what is suitable for minors, an actual or simulated sexual act or sexual contact, actual or simulated normal or perverted sexual acts, or a lewd exhibition of the genitals; and (3) taken as a whole, lacks serious literary, artistic, political, or scientific value as to minors.
2. Access to Inappropriate Material. To the extent practical, technology protection measures (or "Internet filters") shall be used to block or filter Internet, or other forms of electronic communications, access to inappropriate information. Specifically, as required by the CIPA, blocking shall be applied to visual depictions of material deemed obscene or child pornography, or to any material deemed harmful to minors. Subject to staff supervision, technology protection measures may be disabled or, in the case of minors, minimized only for bona fide research or other lawful purposes.
3. Inappropriate Network Usage. To the extent practical, steps shall be taken to promote the safety and security of users of the District's online computer network when using electronic mail, chat rooms, instant messaging, and other forms of direct electronic communications. Specifically, as required by CIPA, prevention of inappropriate network usage includes: (a) unauthorized access, including so-called 'hacking,' and other unlawful activities; and (b) unauthorized disclosure, use, and dissemination of personal identification information regarding minors.
4. Supervision and Monitoring. It shall be the responsibility of all members of the District staff to supervise and monitor usage of the online computer network and access to the Internet in accordance with this policy and CIPA. Procedures for the disabling or otherwise modifying any technology protection measures shall be the responsibility of the Superintendent and the Superintendent's designees.
5. Social Networking. Students shall be educated about appropriate online behavior, including interacting with others on social networking websites and in chat rooms, and cyberbullying awareness and response. The plan shall be for all students to be provided education on these subjects. The Superintendent or the Superintendent's designee shall be responsible for identifying educational materials, lessons, and/or programs suitable for the age and maturity level of the students and for ensuring the delivery of such materials, lessons, and/or programs to students.
6. Parental Consent. The District shall obtain verifiable parental consent prior to students providing or otherwise disclosing personal information online.

7. Adoption. This Internet Safety Policy was adopted by the Board at a public meeting, following normal public notice.
8. The District shall comply with the Nebraska Student Online Personal Protection Act and will endeavor to take all reasonable and necessary steps to protect the online privacy of all students.

C. Computer Acceptable Use Policy

This computer acceptable use policy is supplemental to the District's Internet Safety Policy.

1. Technology Subject to this Policy. This Computer Acceptable Use Policy applies to all technology resources of the District or made available by the District. Technology resources include, without limitation, computers and related technology equipment, all forms of e-mail and electronic communications, and the internet.
2. Access and User Agreements. Use of the District technology resources is a privilege and not a right. The Superintendent or designee shall develop appropriate user agreements and shall require that employees, students (and their parents or guardians), and others to sign such user agreements as a condition of access to the technology resources, as the Superintendent determines appropriate. Parents and guardians of students in programs operated by the District shall inform the Superintendent or designee in writing if they do not want their child to have access.

The Superintendent and designees are authorized and directed to establish and implement such other regulations, forms, procedures, guidelines, and standards to implement this Policy.

The technology resources are not a public forum. The District reserves the right to restrict any communications and to remove communications that have been posted.

3. Acceptable Uses. The technology resources are to be used for the limited purpose of advancing the District's mission. The technology resources are to be used, in general, for educational purposes, meaning activities that are integral, immediate, and proximate to the education of students as defined in the E-rate program regulations.
4. Unacceptable Uses.

The following are unacceptable uses of the technology resources:

- a. **Personal Gain:** Technology resources shall not be used, and no person shall authorize its use, for personal financial gain other than in accordance with prescribed constitutional, statutory, and regulatory procedures, other than compensation provided by law.

- b. Personal Matters: Technology resources shall not be used, and no person shall authorize its use, for personal matters unless the User has entered into a lease agreement or other similar agreement with the School District that makes such use permissible under law.

Occasional use that the Superintendent or designee determines to ultimately facilitate the mission of the District is not prohibited by this provision. Examples of occasional use that may be determined to ultimately facilitate the mission of the District: sending an e-mail to a minor child or spouse; sending an e-mail related to a community group in which an employee is a member where the membership in the community group facilitates the District's mission.

This occasional use exception does not permit use by employees contrary to the expectations of their position. For example, employees may not play games or surf the net for purposes not directly related to their job during duty time; nor may students do so during instructional time.

The occasional use exception also does not permit use of the technology resources for private business, such as searching for or ordering items on the internet for non-school use; or sending an e-mail related to one's own private consulting business.

- c. Campaigning: Technology resources shall not be used, and no person shall authorize its use, for the purpose of campaigning for or against the nomination or election of a candidate or the qualification, passage, or defeat of a ballot question.
- d. Technology-Related Limitations: Technology resources shall not be used in any manner which impairs its effective operations or the rights of other technology users. Without limitation:
 - 1. Users shall not use another person's name, log-on, password, or files for any reason, or allow another to use their password (except for authorized staff members).
 - 2. Users shall not erase, remake, or make unusable another person's computer, information, files, programs or disks.
 - 3. Users shall not access resources not specifically granted to the user or engage in electronic trespassing.
 - 4. Users shall not engage in "hacking" to gain unauthorized access to the operating system software or unauthorized access to the system of other users.
 - 5. Users shall not copy, change, or transfer any software without permission from the network administrators.
 - 6. Users shall not write, produce, generate, copy, propagate, or attempt to introduce any computer code designed to self-replicate, damage, or otherwise hinder the performance of any computer's memory, file system, or software. Such software is often called a bug, virus, worm, Trojan horse, or similar name.

7. Users shall not engage in any form of vandalism of the technology resources.
 8. Users shall follow the generally accepted rules of network etiquette. The Superintendent or designees may further define such rules.
- e. Other Policies and Laws: Technology resources shall not be used for any purpose contrary to any District policy, any school rules to which a student user is subject, or any applicable law. Without limitation, this means that technology resources may not be used:
 1. to access any material contrary to the Internet Safety Policy; or to create or generate any such material.
 2. to engage in unlawful harassment or discrimination, such as sending e-mails that contain sexual jokes or images.
 3. to engage in violations of employee ethical standards and employee standards of performance, such as sending e-mails that are threatening or offensive or which contain abusive language; use of end messages on e-mails that may imply that the District is supportive of a particular religion or religious belief system, a political candidate or issue, or a controversial issue; or sending e-mails that divulge protected confidential student information to unauthorized persons.
 4. to engage in or promote violations of student conduct rules.
 5. to engage in illegal activity, such as gambling.
 6. in a manner contrary to copyright laws.
 7. in a manner contrary to software licenses.
5. Disclaimer. The technology resources are supplied on an “as is, as available” basis. The District does not imply or expressly warrant that any information accessed will be valuable or fit for a particular purpose or that the system will operate error free. The District is not responsible for the integrity of information accessed, or software downloaded from the Internet.
6. Filter. A technology protection measure is in place that blocks and/or filters access to prevent access to Internet sites that are not in accordance with policies and regulations. In addition to blocks and/or filters, the District may also use other technology protection measures or procedures as deemed appropriate.

Notwithstanding technology protection measures, some inappropriate material may be accessible by the Internet, including material that is illegal, defamatory, inaccurate, or potentially offensive to some people. Users accept the risk of access to such material and responsibility for promptly exiting any such material.

The technology protection measure that blocks and/or filters Internet access may be disabled only by an authorized staff member for bona fide research or educational purposes: (a) who has successfully completed District training on proper disabling circumstances and procedures, (b) with permission of the immediate supervisor of the staff member requesting said disabling, or (c) with

the permission of the Superintendent. An authorized staff member may override the technology protection measure that blocks and/or filters Internet access for a minor to access a site for bona fide research or other lawful purposes provided the minor is monitored directly by an authorized staff member.

7. Monitoring. Use of the technology resources, including but not limited to internet sites visited and e-mail transmitted or received, is subject to monitoring by the administration and network administrators at any time to maintain the system and insure that users are using the system responsibly, without notice to the users. Users have no privacy rights or expectations of privacy with regard to use of the District's computers or Internet system. All technology equipment shall be used under the supervision of the Superintendent and the Superintendent's designees.
8. Sanctions. Violation of the policies and procedures concerning the use of the District technology resources may result in suspension or cancellation of the privilege to use the technology resources and disciplinary action, up to and including expulsion of students and termination of employees. Use that is unethical may be reported to the Commissioner of Education. Use that is unlawful may be reported to the law enforcement authorities. Users shall be responsible for damages caused and injuries sustained by improper or non-permitted use.

Legal Reference: Children's Internet Protection Act, 47 USC § 254
Children's Online Privacy Protection Act, 15 U.S.C. § 6501
FCC Order adopted August 10, 2011
47 USC § 254(h)(1)(b); 47 CFR 54.500(b) and 68 FR 36932 (2003) (E-rate restrictions)
Neb. Rev. Stat. § 49-14,101.01 (Political Accountability and Disclosure Act)
LB 512 (2017).

Date of Adoption: June 12, 2017

Section 5 Use of School Facilities

Employees who are issued keys to the school are expected to not lose their keys and to not allow others to have access to or to use their keys. Employees are permitted to have access to school facilities during non-school time provided your Principal/Superintendent or supervisor has given permission and such access is for work-related purposes. When employees leave the building, they are to close all windows, lock doors, and make sure that the entry door is fully closed and locked. This is especially important when employees are using the school facilities prior to the beginning of the school year and during any weekend or evening usage.

School property is to be used for approved work-related purposes and not for personal purposes or for personal gain or benefit. Use of school supplies (paper, staples, etc.), school equipment (copiers, fax machines, telephones, etc.), and school postage is to be used for approved school-related purposes only. Excess or surplus supplies or equipment, including items which have been placed in the trash, should not be removed for non-school use without approval from the administration.

Section 6 Care of School Property

Employees are responsible for the proper care of all books, equipment, supplies and furniture supplied by the school. If an item is in need of maintenance or repair, report it to the Principal. If you learn that a student or staff member has damaged school property or equipment, or if you are responsible for damage to school property, promptly report it to the Principal so the item may be replaced or repaired if possible and appropriate responsibility for the cost of replacement or repair may be determined.

Section 7 Use of Telephone

Personal telephone calls shall not be made during duty time except in the event of an emergency. Long distance calls on school telephones must be made from the office. You will need to have your cell phone for personal long distance calls.

Section 8 Visitors

Employees are not to have visitors on school property except on a short-term basis and only with permission of the principal. Included in the definition of visitors are family members of the employee. Visitors should follow posted procedures for being on school property. Employees are not to bring their children to school with them in lieu of taking them to childcare.

Section 9 Salespersons

Employees need not allow, and should not permit, any salesperson or representative or agent of any commercial enterprise or theatrical presentation to contact the employee while engaged in the employee's duties except for such times as may be designated by the Superintendent or designee.

Employees shall not use classrooms, buildings or other school property for personal use or profit without specific approval from the Superintendent or designee. Employees shall not use time for which the employee is on duty or paid by the District to engage in any activity for personal financial profit. Any violation of this policy will be held to be willful insubordination.

Section 10 Security of Desks and Lockers

Offices, employee desks, lockers, file cabinets and other such storage devices ("storage devices") are owned by the school and are to be properly cared for and maintained. Appropriate security measures should be used to protect school and personal property kept in storage devices from theft or vandalism and to protect confidential student records.

The school exercises exclusive control over school property and reserves the right to search offices and storage devices provided to or used by employees where permitted by law, such as where reasonable grounds exist for suspecting that a search will turn up evidence that the employee has committed work-related misconduct, or that a search is necessary for a non-investigatory work-related purpose, such as to retrieve a file. School-related documents or records must remain readily available to administration and other appropriate school staff. Any personal items an employee wants to have kept private should be kept in a separate personal storage device, such as a brief case, purse or backpack.

The District is not responsible for any personal property employees may bring to school. Employees are cautioned not to bring large amounts of money or items of significant value to school.

Section 11 Video Surveillance

The Board of Education has authorized the use of video cameras on School District property to ensure the health, welfare and safety of all staff, students and visitors to District property, and to safeguard District facilities and equipment. Video cameras may be used in locations as deemed appropriate by the Superintendent.

Notice is hereby given that video surveillance may occur on District property. In the event a video surveillance recording captures a student or other building user violating school policies or rules or local, state or federal laws, the video surveillance recording may be used in appropriate disciplinary proceedings against the employee or other building user and may also be provided to law enforcement agencies.

Bulletins and Announcements

Bulletin boards and display cases are available for school-related and approved materials to be posted and displayed. Posters to be used in the halls or materials for distribution will need to be approved by the Principal's office.

Section 13 Copyright and Fair Use Guidelines

It is the school's policy to follow the federal copyright law. Employees are reminded that, when using school equipment, they also must follow the federal copyright laws. The federal copyright law governs the reproduction of works of authorship. Copyrighted works are protected regardless of the medium in which they are created or reproduced; thus, copyright extends to digital works and works transformed into a digital format. Copyrighted works are not limited to those that bear a copyright notice.

The "fair use" doctrine allows limited reproduction of copyrighted works for educational and research purposes. The relevant portion of the copyright statute provides that the "fair use" of a copyrighted work, including reproduction "for purposes such as criticism, news reporting, teaching (including multiple copies for classroom use), scholarship, or research" is not an infringement of copyright. The law lists the following factors as the ones to be evaluated in determining whether a particular use of a copyrighted work is a permitted "fair use," rather than an infringement of the copyright:

- the purpose and character of the use, including whether such use is of a commercial nature or is for nonprofit educational purposes;
- the nature of the copyrighted work;
- the amount and substantiality of the portion used in relation to the copyrighted work as a whole, and
- the effect of the use upon the potential market for or value of the copyrighted work.

Although all of these factors will be considered, the last factor is the most important in determining whether a particular use is "fair." Employees should seek assistance from their immediate supervisor or the Principal if there are any questions regarding what may be copied.

Section 14 Lost and Found

Employees who find lost articles are asked to take them to the office, where the articles can be claimed by the owner.

Section 15 Safety

Safety Program and Safety Committee

The District has established a Safety and Security Management Plan which includes safety and security plans and procedures, including plans and procedures to address emergency and crisis situations. Employees are expected to be familiar with and to comply with the Safety and Security Management Plan. The Plan may be obtained for review or copy from the Principal or the Superintendent.

The District also has a safety committee to address employee accidents, injuries and work place conditions. A representative from each bargaining group plus representatives appointed by the administration serve on the committee. If you have a desire to serve on the committee, you should contact your supervisor or the Superintendent. Employees can make suggestions and/or report concerns to the safety committee by contacting a member of the safety committee or the Superintendent.

Safety Practices

Guidelines for safe work practices which employees should follow include the following:

1. Never stand on chairs, counters, tables, etc. Only use step stools, ladders and locking stools to stand, climb, etc., to reach high places, put things on bulletin boards, etc.
2. Always wear protective equipment (i.e., goggles, aprons, gloves, and ear protection).
3. Wipe up spills or report promptly to appropriate personnel. DO NOT assume someone else will do it.
4. Be aware of your surroundings. Pick up clutter, keep your work area or room clean and free of clutter, debris, etc.
5. Identify and report all hazards (i.e., broken equipment, broken or uneven floor surfaces, non-operating tools, windows, doors, etc.). Follow up if not repaired.
6. Do not use equipment if you are not familiar with it or operate machinery without proper training.
7. Do not carry heavy or bulky objects beyond your physical abilities. Get a cart, dolly or assistance. Know how to properly lift.
8. Report any injuries or medical problems to your supervisor immediately and complete the employee accident report.
9. Wear seatbelts when in vehicles where provided.
10. Do not do repetitive tasks for long periods of time (i.e., keyboarding, dipping cookies, cutting out things, filing, typing, etc.). Take breaks, learn and do stretching exercises, etc.

Do not engage in “horseplay.” Such conduct is a common cause of injuries and is not consistent with job duties.

As required by law, approved safety glasses will be required of every student and employee while participating in or observing vocational, technical, industrial technology, science, and art classes. All visitors to these areas must check out a pair of safety glasses when entering any of these areas.

Use of Personal Vehicles

Employees who drive school vehicles or volunteer to use their personal automobile to transport students must have a valid driver's license and proof of insurance. Employees will be provided a Driver's Certification form to verify this information and to be given instruction on emergency evacuation and first aid. Employees who drive school vehicles or transport students in their personal vehicles are responsible for following safe driving practices, including use of seat belts by all occupants, and are responsible for any injury or accident. Employees are not to use cell phones while driving a school vehicle or while transporting children.

Accidents

Every accident which results in a personal injury must be reported to the Principal immediately. In the event the injury involves a student, the employee responsible for the student either as employee, coach or sponsor is responsible for making the report. If the injury occurs in the presence of the employee, the employee is also responsible for making a report.

Workers Compensation

Employees are required to immediately report any work-related injury and/or work-related medical condition to their supervisor and complete all appropriate paperwork.

Article 7 – STATE AND FEDERAL PROGRAMS

Section 1 Notice of Nondiscrimination

The Humphrey Public School District does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability, religion, age or other protected status in its programs and activities and provides equal access to the Boy Scouts and other designated youth groups. The following persons have been designated to handle inquiries regarding the non-discrimination policies:

Mr. Brice King, Superintendent, P.O. Box 278, 405 South 7th Street, Humphrey, NE 68642

Complaints or concerns involving discrimination or needs for accommodation or access should be addressed to the appropriate Coordinator. For further information about anti-discrimination laws and regulations, or to file a complaint of discrimination with the Office for Civil Rights in the U.S. Department of Education (OCR), please contact the OCR at 8930 Ward Parkway, Suite 2037, Kansas City, Missouri 64114, (816) 268-0550 (voice), or (877) 521-2172 (telecommunications device for the deaf), or ocr.kansascity@ed.gov.

Section 2 Designation of Coordinators

Any person having inquiries concerning the District's compliance with anti-discrimination laws or policies or other programs should contact or notify the following person(s) who are designated as the coordinator for such laws, policies or programs. The contact address for each coordinator is: Humphrey Public School, P.O. Box 278, Humphrey, NE 68642, (402) 923-1230.

Law, Policy or Program	Issue or Concern	Coordinator
Title VI	Discrimination or harassment based on race, color, or national origin; harassment	Superintendent
Title IX	Discrimination or harassment based on sex; gender equity	Superintendent
Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act and the Americans with Disability Act (ADA)	Discrimination, harassment or reasonable accommodations of persons with disabilities	Superintendent
Homeless student laws	Children who are homeless	Superintendent
Safe and Drug Free Schools and Communities	Safe and drug free schools	Superintendent

Section 3 Anti-discrimination & Harassment Policy

Anti-discrimination, Anti-harassment, and Anti-retaliation

A. Elimination of Discrimination.

The Humphrey Public Schools hereby gives this statement of compliance and intends to comply with all state and federal laws prohibiting discrimination. This school district intends to take any necessary measures to assure compliance with such laws against any prohibited form of discrimination.

The Humphrey Public Schools does not discriminate on the basis of sex, disability, race, color, religion, veteran status, national or ethnic origin, age, marital status, pregnancy, childbirth or related medical condition, sexual orientation or gender identity, or other protected status in its programs and activities and provides equal access to the Boy Scouts and other designated youth groups. Reasonable accommodations will be provided to employees with disabilities and to those who are pregnant, have

given birth, or have a related medical condition, as required by law. The following persons have been designated to handle inquiries regarding the non-discrimination policies:

Students: Principal, 405 South 7th Street, Humphrey, NE 68642 (402) 923-1230.

Employees and Others: Mr. Brice King, Superintendent, 405 South 7th Street, Humphrey, NE 68642 (402) 923-1230 (briceking@humphrey.esu7.org).

Complaints or concerns involving discrimination or needs for accommodation or access should be addressed to the appropriate Coordinator. For further information about anti-discrimination laws and regulations, or to file a complaint of discrimination with the Office of Civil Rights in the U.S. Department of Education (OCR), please contact the OCR at One Petticoat Lane, 1010 Walnut Street, 3rd Floor, Suite 320, Kansas City, Missouri 64106, (816) 268-0550 (voice), Fax (816) 268-0599, (800) 877-8339 (telecommunications device for the deaf), or ocr.kansascity@ed.gov.

B. Prohibited Harassment, Discrimination, and Retaliation of Employees, Students and Others.

1. Purpose:

The Humphrey Public Schools is committed to offering employment and educational opportunities to its employees and students in a climate free of discrimination. Accordingly, unlawful discrimination, harassment or retaliation of any kind by District employees, including, co-workers, non-employees (such as volunteers), third parties, and others is strictly prohibited and will not be tolerated.

Harassment is a form of discrimination and includes verbal, non-verbal, written, graphic, or physical conduct relating to a person's sex, disability, race, color, religion, veteran status, national or ethnic origin, age, marital status, pregnancy, childbirth or related medical condition, sexual orientation or gender identity, or other protected status, that is sufficiently serious to deny, interfere with, or limit a person's ability to participate in or benefit from an educational or work program or activity, including, but not limited to:

- a. Conduct that is sufficiently severe or pervasive to create an intimidating, hostile, or abusive educational or work environment, or
- b. Requiring an individual to endure the offensive conduct as a condition of continued employment or educational programs or activities, including the receipt of aids, benefits, and services.

Educational programs and activities include all academic, educational, extracurricular, athletic, and other programs of the school, whether those programs take place in a school's facilities, on a school bus, at a class or training program sponsored by the school at another location, or elsewhere.

Discriminatory harassment because of a person's sex, disability, race, color, religion, veteran status, national or ethnic origin, age, marital status, pregnancy, childbirth or related medical condition, sexual orientation or gender identity, or other protected status, may include, but is not limited to:

- a. Name-calling,
- b. Teasing or taunting,
- c. Insults, slurs, or derogatory names or remarks,
- d. Demeaning jokes,
- e. Inappropriate gestures,
- f. Graffiti or inappropriate written or electronic material,
- g. Visual displays, such as cartoons, posters, or electronic images,
- h. Threats or intimidating or hostile conduct,
- i. Physical acts of aggression, assault, or violence, or
- j. Criminal offenses

The following examples are additional or more specific examples of conduct that may constitute sexual harassment:

- a. Unwelcome sexual advances or propositions,

- b. Requests or pressure for sexual favors,
- c. Comments about an individual's body, sexual activity, or sexual attractiveness,
- d. Physical contact or touching of a sexual nature, including touching intimate body parts and inappropriate patting, pinching, rubbing, or brushing against another's body,
- e. Physical sexual acts of aggression, assault, or violence, including criminal offenses (such as rape, sexual assault or battery, and sexually motivated stalking), against a person's will or where a person is incapable of giving consent due to the victim's age, intellectual disability, or use of drugs or alcohol,
- f. Requiring sexual favors or contact in exchange for aids, benefits, or services, such as grades, awards, privileges, promotions, etc., or
- g. Gender-based harassment; acts of verbal, nonverbal, written, graphic, or physical conduct based on sex or sex-stereotyping, but not involving conduct of a sexual nature.

If the District knows or reasonably should know about possible harassment, including violence, the District will conduct a prompt, adequate, reliable, thorough, and impartial investigation to determine whether unlawful harassment occurred (see section entitled "Grievance Procedures," below), and take appropriate interim measures, if necessary. If the District determines that unlawful harassment occurred, the District will take prompt and effective action to eliminate the harassment, prevent its recurrence, and remedy its effects, if appropriate. If harassment or violence that occurs off school property creates a hostile environment at school, the District will follow this policy and grievance procedure, within the scope of its authority.

All District employees are expected to take prompt and appropriate actions to report and prevent discrimination, harassment, and retaliation by others. Employees who witness or become aware of possible discrimination, including harassment and retaliation, must immediately report the conduct to his or her supervisor or the compliance coordinator designated to handle complaints of discrimination (designated compliance coordinator).

2. Anti-retaliation:

The District prohibits retaliation, intimidation, threats, coercion, or discrimination against any person for opposing discrimination, including harassment, or for participating in the District's discrimination complaint process or making a complaint, testifying, assisting, or participating in any manner, in an investigation, proceeding, or hearing. Retaliation is a form of discrimination.

The District will take immediate steps to stop retaliation and prevent its recurrence against the alleged victim and any person associated with the alleged victim. These steps will include, but are not limited to, notifying students, employees, and others, that they are protected from retaliation, ensuring that they know how to report future complaints, and initiating follow-up contact with the complainant to determine if any additional acts of discrimination, harassment, or retaliation have occurred. If retaliation occurs, the District will take prompt and strong responsive action, including possible discipline, including expulsion or termination, if applicable.

3. Grievance (or Complaint) Procedures:

Employees or students should initially report all instances of discrimination, harassment or retaliation to their immediate supervisor or teacher or to the compliance coordinator designated to handle complaints of discrimination. If the employee or student is uncomfortable in presenting the problem to the supervisor or teacher, or if the supervisor or teacher is the problem, the employee or student may report the alleged discrimination, harassment or retaliation to the designated coordinator, or in the case of students, to another staff person (such as a counselor or principal).

Other individuals may report alleged discrimination to the designated coordinator. If the designated coordinator is the person alleged to have committed the discriminatory act, then the complaint should be submitted to the Superintendent for assignment. A discrimination complaint form is attached to this grievance procedure and is available in the office of each District building, on the District's website, and from the designated coordinators.

Under no circumstances will a person filing a complaint or grievance involving discrimination be retaliated

against for filing the complaint or grievance.

i. Level 1 (Investigation and Findings):

Once the District receives a grievance, complaint or report alleging discrimination, harassment, or retaliation, or becomes aware of possible discriminatory conduct, the District will conduct a prompt, adequate, reliable, thorough, and impartial investigation to determine whether unlawful harassment occurred. If necessary, the District will take immediate, interim action or measures to protect the alleged victim and prevent further potential discrimination, harassment, or retaliation during the pending investigation. The alleged victim will be notified of his or her options to avoid contact with the alleged harasser, such as changing a class or prohibiting the alleged harasser from having any contact with the alleged victim pending the result of the District's investigation. The District will minimize any burden on the alleged victim when taking interim measures to protect the alleged victim.

The District will promptly investigate all complaints of discrimination, even if an outside entity or law enforcement agency is investigating a complaint involving the same facts and allegations. The District will not wait for the conclusion or outcome of a criminal investigation or proceeding to begin an investigation required by this grievance procedure. If the allegation(s) involve possible criminal conduct, the District will notify the complainant of his or her right to file a criminal complaint, and District employees will not dissuade the complainant from filing a criminal complaint either during or after the District's investigation.

The District will aim to complete its investigation within **ten (10) working days** after receiving a complaint or report, unless extenuating circumstances exist. Extenuating circumstances may include the unavailability of witnesses due to illness or incapacitation, or additional time needed because of the complexity of the investigation, the need for outside experts to evaluate the evidence (such as forensic evidence), or multiple complainants or victims. If extenuating circumstances exist, the extended timeframe to complete the investigation will **not exceed ten (10) additional working days without the consent of the complainant, unless the alleged victim agrees to a longer timeline.** Periodic status updates will be given to the parties, when appropriate.

The District's investigation will include, but is not limited to:

- a. Providing the parties with the opportunity to present witnesses and provide evidence.
- b. An evaluation of all relevant information and documentation relating to the alleged discriminatory conduct.
- c. For allegations involving harassment, some of the factors the District will consider include: 1) the nature of the conduct and whether the conduct was unwelcome, 2) the surrounding circumstances, expectations, and relationships, 3) the degree to which the conduct affected one or more students' education, 4) the type, frequency, and duration of the conduct, 5) the identity of and relationship between the alleged harasser and the suspect or suspects of the harassment, 6) the number of individuals involved, 7) the age (and sex, if applicable) of the alleged harasser and the alleged victim(s) of the harassment, 8) the location of the incidents and the context in which they occurred, 9) the totality of the circumstances, and 10) other relevant evidence.
- d. A review of the evidence using a "preponderance of the evidence" standard (based on the evidence, is it more likely than not that discrimination, harassment, or retaliation occurred?)

The designated compliance coordinator (or designated investigator) will complete an investigative report, which will include:

- a. A summary of the facts,
- b. Findings regarding whether discrimination, harassment or other inappropriate conduct occurred, and
- c. If a finding is made that discrimination, harassment or other inappropriate conduct occurred, the recommended remedy or remedies necessary to eliminate such discrimination, harassment or other inappropriate conduct.

If someone other than the designated compliance coordinator conducted the investigation, the compliance

coordinator will review, approve, and sign the investigative report. The District will ensure that prompt, appropriate, and effective remedies are provided if a finding of discrimination, harassment, or retaliation is made. The District will maintain relevant documentation obtained during the investigation and documentation supportive of the findings and any subsequent determinations, including the investigative report, witness statements, interview summaries, and any transcripts or audio recordings, pertaining to the investigative and appeal proceedings.

The District will send concurrently to the parties written notification of the decision (findings and any remedy) regarding the complaint within **one (1) working day** after the investigation is completed. The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA), 20 U.S.C. Sec. 11232g; 34 C.F.R. Part 99, permits the District to disclose relevant information to a student who was discriminated against or harassed.

ii. Level 2 (Appeal to the Superintendent):

If a party is not satisfied with the findings or remedies (or both) set forth in the decision, he or she may file an appeal in writing with the Superintendent within **five (5) working days** after receiving the decision. The Superintendent will review the appeal and the investigative documentation and decision, conduct additional investigation, if necessary, and issue a written determination about the appeal **within ten (10) working days** after receiving the appeal. The party who filed the appeal will be sent the Superintendent's determination at the time it is issued, and a copy will be sent to the designated compliance coordinator. [If the Superintendent is the subject of the complaint, the party will file the appeal directly with the Board.]

iii. Level 3 (Appeal to the Board):

If the party is not satisfied with the Superintendent's determination, he or she may file an appeal in writing with the Board of Education **within five (5) working days** after receiving the Superintendent's determination. The Board of Education will review the appeal, the Superintendent's determination, the investigative documentation and decision, and allow the party to address the Board at a Board meeting to present his or her appeal. The party will be allowed to address the Board at the Board's next regularly scheduled Board meeting (unless the Board receives the appeal within one week of the next regularly scheduled Board meeting) or at a time and date agreed to by the Board, designated compliance officer and the party. The Board will issue a written determination about the appeal **within thirty (30) days** after the party addresses the Board. The party who filed the appeal will be sent the Board's determination at the time it is issued, and a copy will be sent to the designated compliance coordinator. The Board's determination, and any actions taken, will be final on behalf of the District.

4. Confidentiality:

The identity of the complainant will be kept confidential to the extent permitted by state and federal law. The District will notify the complainant of the anti-retaliation provisions of applicable laws and that the District will take steps to prevent retaliation and will take prompt and strong responsive actions if retaliation occurs.

If a complainant requests confidentiality or asks that the complaint not be pursued, the District will take all reasonable steps to investigate and respond to the complaint consistent with the request for confidentiality or the request not to pursue an investigation, as long as doing so does not prevent the District from responding effectively to the harassment and preventing harassment of other students. If a complainant insists that his or her name or other identifiable information not be disclosed to the alleged perpetrator, the District will inform the complainant that its ability to respond may be limited. Even if the District cannot take disciplinary action against the alleged harasser, the District will pursue other steps to limit the effects of the alleged harassment and prevent its recurrence, if warranted.

5. Training:

The District will ensure that relevant District employees are adequately trained so they understand and know how to identify acts of discrimination, harassment, and retaliation, and how to report it to appropriate District officials or employees.

In addition, the District shall ensure that employees designated to address or investigate discrimination, harassment, and retaliation, including designated compliance coordinators, receive training to promptly and

effectively investigate and respond to complaints and reports of discrimination, and to know the District's grievance procedures and the applicable confidentiality requirements.

6. Designated Compliance Coordinators:

Designated compliance coordinators will be responsible for:

- a. Coordinating efforts to comply with anti-discrimination, anti-harassment, and anti-retaliation laws and regulations.
- b. Coordinating and implementing training for students and employees pertaining to anti-discrimination, anti-harassment and anti-retaliation laws and regulations, including the training areas listed above.
- c. Investigating complaints of discrimination (unless the coordinator designates other trained individuals to investigate).
- d. Monitoring substantiated complaints or reports of discrimination, as needed (and with the assistance of other District employees, if necessary), to ensure discrimination or harassment does not recur, and that retaliation conduct does not occur or recur.
- e. Overseeing discrimination complaints, including identifying and addressing any patterns or systemic problems, and reporting such patterns or systemic problems to the Superintendent and the Board of Education.
- f. Communicating regularly with the District's law enforcement unit investigating cases and providing current information to them pertaining to anti-discrimination, anti-harassment, and anti-retaliation standards and compliance requirements.
- g. Reviewing all evidence in harassment or violence cases brought before the District's disciplinary committee or administrator to determine whether the complainants are entitled to a remedy under anti-discrimination laws and regulations that was not available in the disciplinary process.
- h. Ensuring that investigations address whether other students or employees may have been subjected to discrimination, including harassment and retaliation.
- i. Determining whether District employees with knowledge of allegations of discrimination, including harassment and retaliation, failed to carry out their duties in reporting the allegations to the designated compliance coordinator and responding to the allegations.
- j. Recommending changes to this policy and grievance procedure.
- k. Performing other duties as assigned.

7. Preventive Measures:

The District will publish and widely distribute on an ongoing basis a notice of nondiscrimination (notice) in electronic and printed formats, including prominently displaying the notice on the District's website and posting the notice at each building in the District. The District also will designate an employee to coordinate compliance with anti-discrimination laws (see Designated Compliance Coordinator section, above, for further information on compliance coordinator), and widely publish and disseminate this grievance procedure, including prominently posting it on the District's website, at each building in the District, reprinting it in District publications, such as handbooks, and sending it electronically to members of the school community.

The District also may distribute specific harassment and violence materials (such as sexual violence), including a summary of the District's anti-discrimination, anti-harassment, and anti-retaliation policy and grievance procedure, and a list of victim resources, during events such as school assemblies and back to school nights, if recent incidents or allegations warrant additional education to the school community.

Notice of Nondiscrimination

The Humphrey Public School District does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability, religion, age or other protected status in its programs and activities and provides equal access to the Boy Scouts and other designated youth groups. The following persons have been designated to handle inquiries regarding the non-discrimination policies:

Students: Brice King, Principal, Director of Student Services, 405 South 7th Street, Humphrey,

NE 68642 402 923-1230 (briceking@humphrey.esu7.org).

Employees and Others: Brice King, Supt., Human Resources Director, 405 South 7th Street,
Humphrey, NE 68642 (402) 923-1230 (briceking@humphrey.esu7.org).

Complaints or concerns involving discrimination or needs for accommodation or access should be addressed to the appropriate Coordinator. For further information about anti-discrimination laws and regulations, or to file a complaint of discrimination with the Office for Civil Rights in the U.S. Department of Education (OCR), please contact the OCR at 8930 Ward Parkway, Suite 2037, Kansas City, Missouri 64114, (816) 268-0550 (voice), or (877) 521-2172 (telecommunications device for the deaf), or ocr.kansascity@ed.gov.

Complaint Form Discrimination, Harassment or Retaliation

The Humphrey Public School District does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability, religion, age or other protected status in its programs and activities and provides equal access to the Boy Scouts and other designated youth groups. This complaint form is to be used when a person has a complaint related to discrimination, harassment or retaliation on such bases in regard to employment or the programs and activities of the school district.

Refer to Board Policy 4003 and/or 5401 for the particulars of the complaint and grievance process. You may attach additional materials to this form if needed.

The applicable coordinator may be contacted if you have questions about filling out this complaint form: Students: Brice King, Superintendent, Director of Student Services, 405 South 7th

Street, Humphrey, NE 68642 402 923-1230 (briceking@humphrey.esu7.org).

Employees and Others: Brice King, Human Resources Director, 405 South 7th Street, Humphrey, NE 68642 (402) 923-1230 (briceking @esu7.org).

Name: _____

Date: _____

(1) Description of the complaint:

(2) Names of any witnesses to the matter being complained about:

(3) Identify and attach any document supporting the complaint:

(4) Confidentiality: I__do__do not give consent to my identity being shared with the person(s) against whom I am complaining. If I do not give consent, I understand that the investigation may be hindered, but that the District will nonetheless investigate and take prompt and effective action to remediate the concerns I have raised, if appropriate.

(5) Relief requested (what I want done in response to this complaint):

The undersigned states: The facts in this complaint are true to the best of my knowledge, information and belief. I give permission for an investigation to be made into this complaint. I understand that the District will take steps to prevent me being retaliated against for filing this complaint that I am to notify the District if any such retaliation occurs, and that the District will take prompt and strong responsive action if retaliation occurs.

Signature: _____

Received by: _____

Date: _____

Section 4 Grievance Procedure for Persons with a Disability

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act address discrimination, harassment or failure to provide reasonable accommodations to persons with a disability. The following grievance procedure shall be used for resolution of complaints of alleged violations of the ADA or Section 504:

1. Complaints shall be filed with the ADA and Section 504 Coordinator. Complaints shall be made in writing, unless the Complainant's disability prevents such, in which event the Complaint can be made verbally.
2. Complaints shall set forth: (a) the name of the Complainant, (b) the address and telephone number or other such information sufficient to enable the Coordinator to contact the Complainant, (c) a brief description of the alleged violation, and (d) the relief requested by the Complainant.
3. Complaints shall be investigated by the Coordinator or the Coordinator's designee. Investigations shall be thorough, but informal, and the Complainant shall be given a full opportunity to submit evidence relevant to the complaint.
4. The Coordinator shall make a decision on the Complaint within thirty (30) days of the filing of the Complaint, unless such time period is extended by agreement of the Complainant. The decision shall be made in writing, shall set forth the Coordinator's proposed resolution of the Complaint, and shall be forwarded to the Complainant.
5. The Complainant shall have ten (10) days from the date the Coordinator's decision is sent to the Complainant to accept or reject the Coordinator's proposed resolution, and shall be deemed to have accepted the proposed resolution unless the Complainant rejects the proposed resolution within such time period. In the event the Complainant rejects the proposed resolution, the Complainant shall be given the opportunity to file a request for reconsideration within the ten (10) days from the date the Coordinator's decision is sent to the Complainant. The request for reconsideration shall be filed with the Coordinator. The Coordinator shall consider any additional information provided in the request for reconsideration and make a decision on the request for reconsideration within 10 (ten) days after the request for reconsideration was filed.

Section 5 Confidentiality Records (FERPA)

The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) gives parents and students over 18 years of age rights of access and confidentiality with respect to education records. Employees are expected to provide access rights and maintain the confidentiality of education records in accordance with FERPA and Board policy. Further information about FERPA and the District's policies under FERPA are found in Board policy and in the student handbook.

Section 6 Breakfast and Lunch Programs

The District participates in the National School Lunch Program. Employees are expected to keep information about the participation of students in the program confidential.

The U.S. Department of Agriculture prohibits discrimination against its customers, employees, and applicants for employment on the bases of race, color, national origin, age, disability, sex, gender identity, religion, reprisal, and where applicable, political beliefs, marital status, familial or parental status, sexual orientation, or all or part of an individual's income is derived from any public assistance program, or protected genetic information in employment or in any program or activity conducted or funded by the Department. (Not all prohibited bases will apply to all programs and/or employment activities.)

If you wish to file a Civil Rights program complaint of discrimination, complete the USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form, found online at http://www.ascr.usda.gov/complaint_filing_cust.html, or at any USDA office, or call (866) 632-9992 to request the form. You may also write a letter containing all of the information requested in the form. Send your completed complaint form or letter to us by mail at U.S. Department of Agriculture, Director, Office of Adjudication, 1400 Independence Avenue, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20250-9410, by fax (202) 690-7442 or email at program.intake@usda.gov.

Individuals who are deaf, hard of hearing or have speech disabilities may contact USDA through the Federal Relay Service at (800) 877-8339; or (800) 845-6136 (Spanish).

USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

PLEASE NOTE: As stated above, all protected bases do not apply to all programs. *The first six protected bases of race, color, national origin, age, disability and sex are the six protected bases for applicants and recipients of the Child Nutrition Programs.*

Section 7 Confidentiality of Protected Health Information

It is the policy of the District to develop and implement all necessary practices, policies, and procedures to comply with the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996 (HIPAA) where and to the extent applicable and to maintain the privacy of protected health information (PHI), as that term is defined by HIPAA, that it receives, obtains, or transmits for employees and students. The District designates the Superintendent as its HIPAA privacy officer. Student and employee records containing PHI shall be accessible only to those who require such information to carry out their duties.

Minimum Wage in Nebraska

Effective Date	Minimum Hourly Wage Rate
<u>January 1, 2016</u>	\$9.00
<u>January 1, 2023</u>	\$10.50
<u>January 1, 2024</u>	\$12.00
<u>January 1, 2025</u>	\$13.50
<u>January 1, 2026</u>	\$15.00

Beginning January 1, 2027, the minimum wage will increase based on the cost-of-living increase as measured by the Consumer Price Index.

Except as provided below, every employer or four or more persons at any one time shall pay its employees the minimum wage per hour as listed above.

In the case of employees paid gratuities or services performed, the amount of hourly wage and gratuities given to the employee shall equal the current minimum wage. The hourly wage paid to the employee shall be at least \$2.13 per hour and the employer is responsible for making up the difference between the actual hourly wage and gratuities paid to the employee and the current minimum wage.

An employer employing student-learners as part of a bona fide vocational training program shall pay student-learners' wages at the rate of at least 75% or the minimum wage rate.

An employer may pay a new employee younger than 20 who is out of season or migrant worker the training wage or at least 75% of the regular minimum wage for the first 90 days from the date the new employee was hired, subject to the terms and conditions described in Neb. Rev. Stat. § 18-1203.01.

48-12-0.2. For purposes of the Wage and Hour Act, unless the context otherwise requires:

- Employer shall include independent contractor;
- Employer shall include all individual, partnership, limited liability company, association, corporation, business trust, legal representative, or organization, regardless of the number of persons employing four or more employees at any one time except for seasonal employment of not more than twenty weeks in any calendar year, acting directly or indirectly in the interest of an employer in relation to an employee. It shall not include the United States, the state, or any political subdivision thereof;
Employee shall include any individual employed by any employer but shall not include:
 - Any individual employed in agriculture;
 - Any individual employed as a baby-sitter in or about the private home.
 - Any individual employed in a bona fide executive, administrative, or professional capacity or as a superintendent of a public institution;
 - Any individual employed by the United States or by the state or any political subdivision thereof;
 - Any individual engaged in the civil service of an educational, charitable, religious, or nonprofit organization when the employee's employment relationship does not in fact exist or when the services rendered to such organization are on a voluntary basis;
 - Apprentices and learners otherwise provided by law;
 - Veterans in training under an agreement with the United States Department of Veterans Affairs.
 - A child in the employer's household or his or her dependent in the employment or his or her child; or
 - Any person who, directly or indirectly, is receiving any form of federal, state, county, or local aid or welfare and who is physically or mentally disabled and employed in a program of rehabilitation, who has received the wage at a level consistent with his or her health, efficiency, and ability to perform the work.
- Occupational classification shall mean a classification established by the Dictionary of Occupational Titles prepared by the United States Department of Labor, and
- Wage shall mean all remuneration for personal services, including commissions and bonuses and the cash value of all remuneration in any medium other than cash.

For further information regarding the Nebraska Wage and Hour Act, contact the Nebraska Department of Labor

NEBRASKA

PHONE 402-471-2239

Your Employee Rights Under the Family and Medical Leave Act

What is FMLA leave?

FMLA is a law that gives eligible employees the right to take unpaid leave for certain family and medical reasons. It allows you to take up to 12 weeks of leave in a 12-month period.

Examples of reasons for FMLA leave include:

- The birth, adoption, or foster placement of a child with you.
- The care of a family member who has a serious mental or physical condition.
- Your own serious medical condition.

Not all employees are eligible for FMLA leave. You must have worked for your employer for at least 12 months and be employed for at least 1,250 hours in the 12 months before you take leave.

Employers with 50 or more employees are required to provide FMLA leave. If you are not eligible for FMLA leave, you may still be eligible for other types of leave, such as sick leave or vacation.

For more information about FMLA, visit the Department of Labor's website at www.dol.gov/fmla.

Am I eligible to take FMLA leave?

- You must have worked for your employer for at least 12 months.
- You must have worked at least 1,250 hours in the 12 months before you take leave.
- Your employer must have at least 50 employees.

For more information about FMLA, visit the Department of Labor's website at www.dol.gov/fmla.

If you are eligible for FMLA leave, your employer must provide you with written notice of your rights and the procedures for taking leave. You must also provide your employer with written notice of your intent to take leave as soon as possible.

How do I request FMLA leave?

Generally, to request FMLA leave, you must provide your employer with written notice as soon as possible. You should also provide your employer with a copy of this document.

For more information about FMLA, visit the Department of Labor's website at www.dol.gov/fmla.

If you are not eligible for FMLA leave, you may still be eligible for other types of leave, such as sick leave or vacation.

Employers with 50 or more employees are required to provide FMLA leave. If you are not eligible for FMLA leave, you may still be eligible for other types of leave, such as sick leave or vacation.

What does my employer need to do?

- Provide you with written notice of your rights and the procedures for taking leave.
- Allow you to return to the same pay, benefits, and location at the end of your leave.

If your employer does not follow these rules, you may be able to file a complaint with the Department of Labor.

For more information about FMLA, visit the Department of Labor's website at www.dol.gov/fmla.

If you are not eligible for FMLA leave, you may still be eligible for other types of leave, such as sick leave or vacation.

Where can I find more information?

Call 1-866-487-9243 or visit [dol.gov/fmla](http://www.dol.gov/fmla) to learn more.

If you believe your rights under the FMLA have been violated, you can file a complaint with the Department of Labor or file a lawsuit in court.



For more information about FMLA, visit the Department of Labor's website at www.dol.gov/fmla.



Equal Employment Opportunity is

THE LAW

Employers Holding Federal Contracts or Subcontracts

Applicants to and employees of companies with a Federal government contract or subcontract are protected under the following Federal authorities:

RACE, COLOR, RELIGION, SEX, NATIONAL ORIGIN

Executive Order 11246, as amended, prohibits job discrimination on the basis of race, color, religion, sex or national origin, and requires affirmative action to ensure equality of opportunity in all aspects of employment.

INDIVIDUALS WITH DISABILITIES

Section 503 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended, prohibits job discrimination because of disability and requires affirmative action to employ and advance in employment qualified individuals with disabilities who, with reasonable accommodation, can perform the essential functions of a job.

VIETNAM ERA, SPECIAL DISABLED, RECENTLY SEPARATED, AND OTHER PROTECTED VETERANS

The Vietnam Era Veterans' Readjustment Assistance Act of 1974, as amended, 38 U.S.C., 4212, prohibits job discrimination and requires affirmative action to employ and advance in employment qualified Vietnam era veterans, qualified special disabled veterans, recently separated veterans, and other protected veterans. A recently separated veteran is any veteran during the three-year period beginning on the date of such veteran's discharge or release from active duty in the U.S. military, ground, naval or air service.

RETALIATION

Retaliation is prohibited against a person who files a charge of discrimination, participates in an OFCCP proceeding, or otherwise opposes discrimination under these Federal laws.

Any person who believes a contractor has violated its nondiscrimination or affirmative action obligations under the authorities above should contact immediately:

The Office of Federal Contract Compliance Programs (OFCCP), Employment Standards Administration, U.S. Department of Labor, 200 Constitution Avenue, N.W., Washington, DC 20210, (202) 693-0101 or call an OFCCP regional or district office listed in most telephone directories under U.S. Government, Department of Labor. For individuals with hearing impairment, OFCCP's TTY number is (202) 693-1337.

Private Employment, State and Local Governments, Educational Institutions, Employment Agencies and Labor Organizations

Applicants to and employees of most private employers, state and local governments, educational institutions, employment agencies and labor organizations are protected under the following Federal laws:

RACE, COLOR, RELIGION, SEX, NATIONAL ORIGIN

Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended, prohibits discrimination in hiring, promotion, discharge, pay, fringe benefits, job training, classification, referral, and other aspects of employment, on the basis of race, color, religion, sex (including pregnancy and sexual harassment) or national origin. Religious discrimination includes failing to reasonably accommodate an employee's religious practices where the accommodation does not impose undue hardship.

DISABILITY

Title I and Title V of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA), as amended, protect qualified applicants and employees with disabilities from discrimination in hiring, promotion, discharge, pay, job training, fringe benefits, classification, referral, and other aspects of employment on the basis of disability.

The law also requires that covered entities provide qualified applicants and employees with disabilities with reasonable accommodations, unless such accommodations would impose an undue hardship on the employer.

A

The Age Discrimination in Employment Act of 1967, as amended, protects applicants and employees 40 years of age or older from discrimination on the basis of age in hiring, promotion, discharge, compensation, terms, conditions or privileges of employment.

HX[WAG:J]

In addition to sex discrimination prohibited by Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended, the Equal Pay Act of 1963, as amended, prohibits sex discrimination in payment of wages to women and men

performing substantially equal work, in jobs that require equal skill, effort and responsibility under similar working conditions, in the same establishment.

RETALIATION

Retaliation is prohibited against a person who files a charge of discrimination, participates in a discrimination proceeding, or otherwise opposes discrimination under these Federal laws.

If you believe that you have been discriminated against under any of the above laws, and to ensure that you meet strict procedural timelines to preserve the ability of EEOC to investigate your complaint and to protect your right to file a private lawsuit, you should immediately contact:

The U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC), Washington, DC 20507 or an EEOC field office by calling toll free (1-800) 669-4000. For individuals with hearing impairments, EEOC's toll free TTY number is 1-800 669-6820.

Programs or Activities Receiving Federal Financial Assistance

RACE, COLOR, SEX, NATIONAL ORIGIN

In addition to the protection of Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended, Title VI of the Civil Rights Act prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color or national origin in programs or activities receiving Federal financial assistance. Employment discrimination is covered by Title VI if the primary objective of the financial assistance is provision of employment, or where employment discrimination causes or may cause discrimination in providing services under such programs.

Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 prohibits employment discrimination on the basis of sex in educational programs or activities which receive Federal assistance.

INDIVIDUALS WITH DISABILITIES

Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended, prohibits employment discrimination on the basis of disability in any program or activity which receives Federal financial assistance in the federal government, public or private agency. Discrimination is prohibited in all aspects of employment against persons with disabilities who, with or without reasonable accommodation, can perform the essential functions of a job.

If you believe you have been discriminated against in a program of any institution which receives Federal assistance, you should contact immediately the Federal agency providing such assistance.

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