**Hazleton Area School District**

Freeland Elementary/Middle School



Student Handbook

2024-2025



**Freeland Elementary/ Middle School**

400 Alvin Street Freeland, PA 18224

Phone: 459-3221 Ext. 21500 Fax: (570) 636-1043

Website Address: www.hasdk12.org/FEMS

**HASD Mission Statement**

*The mission of the Hazleton Area School District is to educate all students to become self-directed, life-long learners and responsible, contributing members of society.*

**Principal Assistant Principal**

Mr. Frank L. Walton Mrs. Susan Platek

Ext. 21500 Ext. 21501

**Guidance Counselor School Nurse**

Mrs. Holly Drumn Mrs. Susan Stefanick

Ext. 21516 Ext. 21591

**Secretarial Staff Security**

Mrs. Kathy Regula Ext. 21500 Officer Nick Saullo Ext. 21593

Lauren Karnatski Ext 21500 Mrs. Tina McMinn Ext. 21593

**Bilingual Liason**

Olga Soto-Patino Ext. 21541

# School Mission Statement

*The mission of the Freeland Elementary/Middle School is to enhance student learning by focusing all aspects of the school environment on the intellectual, social, emotional and physical development of students.*

**NON-DISCRIMINATION POLICY**

The Hazleton Area School District does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability or age in its programs or activities and provides equal access to all designated youth groups per the Boy Scouts Act.  Inquiries regarding the non-discrimination policies may be directed to the Title IX Coordinator at (570) 459-3221 ext. 81566 or the Section 504 Coordinator at or (570) 459-3111 ext. 3156 at 1515 West 23rd Street, Hazle Township, PA 18202.

**FREELAND ELEMENTARY/MIDDLE SCHOOL FACULTY**

|  |
| --- |
| **AIELLO, JEANETTE** |
| **ANGELI, JENNIFER** |
| **ARTIM, KRYSTA** |
| **BANNON, KATHRYN** |
| **BARLETTA, ALEXIS** |
| **BEILER, KEANG** |
| **BIANCO, TARA** |
| **BOGANSKY, CHAD** |
| **CHAPIN, JEREMY** |
| **CIPRIANO, ALYSSA** |
| **CORRA, JENNA** |
| **CORRADO, ANN MARIE** |
| **DANIELS, DENISE** |
| **DEBALKO, NATHAN** |
| **DELESE, CARMEN** |
| **DIXON, ROXANNE** |
| **DRUMN, DEAN** |
| **EVERDALE, PAMELA** |
| **FORNATARO, LINDSAY** |
| **FOX, MICAHEL** |
| **FRANTZ, MELINDA** |
| **GASPER, LISA** |
| **GERA, LEE** |
| **GREENISH, KELLY** |
| **HARTZ, COLLEEN** |
| **HARTZ, MARY LYNN** |
| **HIGGS, SARA** |
| **HUNSINGER, TONI** |
| **JADUSH, BECKET** |
| **KAMINSKI, AMBER** |
| **KASARDA, JESSICA** |
| **KAVITSKI, COURTNEY** |
| **KIMMEL, ASHLEY** |
| **KRESGE, MICHELLE** |
| **LAPCHAK, AMY** |
| **LIZBINSKI, GABRIELLE** |
| **LOCHER, ANGELA** |
| **MARHELKO, KAITLYN** |
| **MECKES, NICOLE** |
| **MENCER, JANE** |
| **METZ, LAUREN** |
| **O’BRIEN, RONNEY** |
| **OSADCHY, STACY** |
| **PAIRSE, CHRISTOPHER** |
| **PANZARELLA, JEANNE** |
| **PAVLIK, DEANNA** |
| **PROKIPCHAK, HEATHER** |
| **PURSELL, LORI** |
| **RACHO, CAROL ANN** |
| **RACHO, CYNTHIA** |
| **REGULA, KATHY** |
| **REHILL, JARED** |
| **RUSH, AMY** |
| **SANZI, KATIE** |
| **SEGEDY, KEITH** |
| **SENAPE, TARA** |
| **SMITH, REGINA** |
| **SMOLINSKY, JASON** |
| **SONES, BRIAN** |
| **STARUCH, MICHELE** |
| **STEFANICK, BRITTANY** |
| **TEMCHATIN, MELISSA** |
| **TIGLIO, ERICA** |
| **URSTA, RENEE** |
| **WILLIAMS, JOHN** |
| **WOIKO, JORDAN** |
| **ZEHNER, ALEXIS** |

**ELEMENTARY SCHOOL SCHEDULE**

***\*NOTE: Students are not allowed to enter the building before 8:30 AM.***

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **EVENT/PERIOD** | **TIME (S)** |
| **Teacher Sign In** | **8:10 AM** |
| **Teacher Staff Development** | **8:10 – 8:40 AM** |
| **Breakfast** | **8:30 – 8:55 AM** |
| **Elementary Students Enter** | **8:40 AM**  **Students need to be in Homeroom at 9:00 AM** |
| Homeroom | **9:00 – 9:05** |
| **1st Period** | **9:05 – 9:45** |
| **2nd Period** | **9:45 – 10:25** |
| **3rd Period** | **10:25 – 11:05** |
| **4th Period**  ***(K LUNCH)*** | **11:05 – 11:45**  ***(11:10-11:40)*** |
| **5th Period**  ***(5TH LUNCH)***  ***(6TH LUNCH)*** | **11:45-12:25**  ***(11:50-12:20)***  ***(11:53-12:23)*** |
| **6th Period**  ***(3RD LUNCH)***  ***(4TH LUNCH)*** | **12:25-1:05**  ***(12:28-12:58)***  ***(12:31-1:01)*** |
| **7th Period**  ***(1ST LUNCH)***  ***(2ND LUNCH)*** | **1:05-1:45**  ***(1:05-1:35)***  ***(1:10-1:40)*** |
| **8th Period** | **1:45-2:25** |
| **9th Period** | **2:25-3:05** |
| **Student Dismissal** | **3:08 – 3:40 PM** |
| **Teacher Dismissal** | **3:40 PM** |

**MIDDLE SCHOOL SCHEDULE**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **EVENT/PERIOD** | **TIME (S)** |
| **Teacher Sign In** | **7:20 AM** |
| **Teacher Staff Development** | **7:20 – 7:50 AM** |
| **Breakfast** | **7:30 – 7:50 AM** |
| **Homeroom** | **7:52 – 7:57** |
| **1st Period** | **7:58 – 8:49** |
| **2nd Period** | **8:51 – 9:42** |
| **3rd Period** | **9:44 – 10:35** |
| **4th Period** | **10:38 – 11:08** LUNCH – A **(7, 8)** |
| **5th Period** | **11:11– 12:02** |
| **6th Period** | **12:05 – 12:56** |
| **7th Period** | **12:59– 1:51** |
| **8th Period** | **1:54 – 2:45** |
| **Student Dismissal** | **2:45 PM** |
| **Teacher Dismissal** | **2:50 PM** |

**\* Please be sure to mark Specials by Quarter**

**ARRIVAL/DISMISSAL FROM SCHOOL**

All students are to enter the building from the front entrance. If a student arrives to school after the start of homeroom, she/he must report to the main office. Likewise, all students will be dismissed from the front of the building.

**~When picking up children, parents MUST provide valid current photo identification.**

**EARLY DISMISSAL TIMES**

Middle School (7th & 8th Grade) 11:15am

Elementary School (K-6th) 12:00pm

**SNOW DELAYS AND CANCELLATIONS**

In the event the weather is bad, school may be cancelled or delayed. In the past, school has been cancelled or delayed for snow, ice, and very cold temperatures. Parents are asked to please watch local news channels (WNEP TV–16, WYOU TV – 22, WBRE TV-28) or check the school website ([www.hasdk12.org](http://www.hasdk12.org)) for accurate and timely information regarding delays and cancellations. Announcements will be made at an early hour (starting at approx. 6:00 AM.) and repeated several times.

On a 2 Hour delay the school doors open at 9:55am for middle school and 10:50am for elementary school**. *Please do not send your child early! This is unsafe and the school cannot be held responsible for parents who do not adhere to policy.* PLEASE DO NOT CALL THE SCHOOL TO ASK IF THERE IS A DELAY. Phone lines need to remain open for emergencies.**

**STUDENT ABSENCE REPORTING**

A parent/guardian needs to call the Freeland Elementary/ Middle School when a student will not be attending school. (Call daily). (2) Parents/Guardians need to call between the hours of 4:00 PM to 8:00 AM, 459-3221, Ext. 21500. leave a voice mail. No phone calls from students will be accepted. At this time when leaving a message, request homework, if desired. (3) Student is to bring legal excuses (doctor, dental, court, or funeral) the day he/she returns from absence(s). All doctor’s notes are to be brought to the office within 3 days of the student’s return. (PLEASE BE AWARE OF THE NEW ATTENDANCE POLICY ADOPTED BY THE STATE OF PENNSYLVANIA—IT IS POSTED ON THE DISTRICT WEBPAGE)

Attendance shall be required of all students enrolled in district schools during the days and hours that school is in session, except that a principal or teacher may excuse a student for temporary absences upon receipt of satisfactory evidence of mental, physical, or other urgent reasons that may reasonably cause the student's absence. Urgent reasons shall be strictly construed and do not permit irregular attendance. The Board considers the following conditions to constitute reasonable cause for absence from school:

1. Illness (Medical Note required after three (3) days)

1. Quarantine (Medical note required to be excused and to return to school)

1. Family emergency (Approval of Building Administration)

1. Recovery from accident. (Medical note required to be excused and to return to school)

1. Required court attendance. (Note from Court)

1. Death in family. (Parent Note and Obituary/Mass Card)

A maximum of ten (10) days of cumulative absences verified by written parental notification shall be permitted during a school year. Parent/Guardian signature is required on written notification. All absences beyond these ten (10) cumulative days shall require a legal excuse (see numbers 1 – 6 above).

All absences shall be treated as unlawful until the district receives a written excuse explaining the absence, to be submitted within five (5) days upon return to school. It is the parent’s/guardian’s responsibility to supply the excuse note.

Students who are unable to attend school due to leaving the country, state, or boundaries of the school district will be marked absent. The only exception being when the student is/was educated by another educational entity, in which case the student will be/has been withdrawn from the Hazleton Area School District and enrolled in another verifiable educational entity.

TARDINESS

Elementary School

Students are to enter the school no earlier than 8:30 AM for breakfast or for homeroom, and they are to be in their homeroom by 9:00 AM. Students entering the building after 9:00 AM will be recorded as being tardy. Detention as a disciplinary action will be utilized if tardiness continues. Parents are responsible for transportation from detention.

Middle School

Students are to enter the school no earlier than 7:30 AM for breakfast and 7:55 AM for homeroom.

*All* students are to be in their homeroom by 8:00 AM. Students entering the building after 8:05 AM are recorded as being tardy. For secondary students, any student late for school or class will have that late logged by an administrator for the first offense of each marking period/quarter. Subsequent late arrivals (2nd, 3rd and 4th offenses) will result in after school detention being assigned. A student who is late five (5) times in any quarter will be suspended and each subsequent late arrival will result in additional disciplinary consequences.

**PROCEDURE FOR EXCUSAL FROM SCHOOL**

~ Every effort should be made to make all appointments during non-school time. However, the occasion may arise when it is necessary to obtain an excuse during the school day. Arrangements for such excuses (dental, doctor, etc.) must be made with the office with a written request.

~***NO DISMISSAL OF STUDENTS AFTER 2:15PM WILL BE ALLOWED.***

~ Students leaving school for appointments should report to school with an excuse from home, go to the appointment, and return to school after the appointment with a doctor’s excuse.

~Parents who wish to have their child(ren) excused from school for non-school district sponsored education tours or trips must submit a letter with detailed information at least two weeks prior to the first day of the trip.

~Students may not leave the building at any time during the school day without first securing permission from the office or the school nurse. Any student with permission must first sign out in the main office and upon returning must sign back in. Any student not following the procedure will be considered truant.

**Excusal from School by Nurse:**

If the nurse sends a student home during the day the student will be coded as excused, nurse visit for that day.

**Students are not allowed to text their parents to pick them up if they are ill. Students must follow procedures and if they are ill, they must be seen by the school nurse. The school nurse will determine if the child will be sent home and will contact the parent to pick up their child at school.**

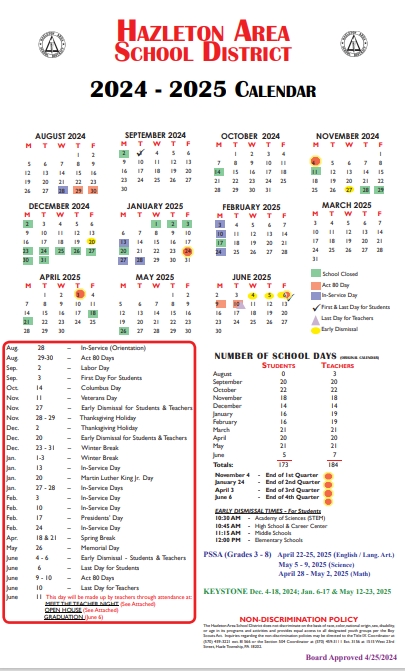
**Parents or guardians must come to the main office and sign a student out of the building anytime a student needs to be excused early.**

## SCHOOL OWNED STUDENT LAPTOPS

The Hazleton Area School District (HASD) will provide students with a computer to use during the school year. These devices are the property of the school district and must be returned immediately upon withdrawal should the student leave HASD.

The student will receive a Chromebook or Laptop computer, a power adaptor, and a carry bag. The computer and power adapter must always travel together in the carry bag. Should there be any issue with the computer, report it to your school immediately.

The student and student’s guardian assume responsibility for the computer, power adaptor, and bag. If the device or any of the provided items is lost or damaged, the student/Guardian will be required to pay for repair or replacement costs. HASD does not provide insurance, but Guardians are free to obtain optional insurance. HASD has worked with School Device Coverage (SDC), owned by U-PIC Insurance Services, to obtain a discounted rate for students attending HASD.



**FREELAND ELEMENTARY/M IDDLE SCHOOL WEBPAGE**

[www.hasdk12.org/Page/1314](http://www.hasdk12.org/Page/1314)

Using the website address shown above you can access a variety of important information about our school and specific school functions. For example, you can find Important Announcements, a Calendar of events, Students of the Month, Current Events and School Performance Data. The website is also accessible by locating Freeland Elementary/Middle School on the “Select a School” navigation bar on the School District Main website.

**HOMEWORK**

During an absence, students are required to make-up missed assignments by notifying a friend or if absence is for three consecutive days or more, parents are to contact the office and assignments will be collected for parental pick-up.

**Elementary School** – The policy for elementary school homework is to be determined by the individual teacher. Request homework, when reporting child absent, by 8:00 AM. Elementary Homework may be picked up after 3:40PM, until 4:00PM only.

**Middle School -** The policy for middle school homework is to be determined by the individual teams. Additionally, Middle School teachers place homework on their Teams page.

**PHONE CALLS**

Please make every effort to let your child know where she/he is to go after school. Notes should be sent whenever possible. In order for us to take the best care of your child(ren), we request that you keep all non-emergency calls to a minimum.

**CHANGE OF ADDRESS, PHONE NUMBER OR E-MAIL**

If you have a change of address, phone number and/or e-mail at any time, notify the main office immediately by sending a note. You must personally provide 1 proof of change of address to the Child Accounting Office at the HASD Administration Building (i.e.: billing statement, Internal Revenue statement, voter registration card, property tax bill, state ID card, vehicle registration, utility statement, W2 form, property deed, driver’s license, insurance statement, current pay stub, bank statement).

**We need to** **have current phone numbers, physical addresses and e-mail addresses at all**

**times.**

**For the safety of your child, we need to have current phone numbers.** Please inform the office (570-459-3221 ext. 21500) of any phone number changes immediately! Emergencies happen and we will need to be able to make parental contact.

**CAFETERIA**

**BREAKFAST AND LUNCH**

Every student will be entitled to one free lunch and breakfast. There will be a charge for any additional breakfast or lunch item after that. There will also be a charge for snack items. Families and students will have an opportunity to deposit money into their account. Checks or cash will be accepted. Checks should be made out to HASD CAFETERIA FUND.

**LUNCH IDENTIFICATION NUMBER**

Every student will be identified by a student number. This number will also be linked to the students lunch account. There will also be a fingerprint system in place to create a more efficient system of providing breakfast and lunch.

**CAFETERIA RULES**

1. All students will walk quietly to and from the cafeteria.
2. Remain seated until called to the serving line.
3. No shouting, throwing items, or physical contact.
4. Demonstrate respect to all staff members.

**STUDENT WELLNESS**

The Hazleton Area School District recognizes that student wellness and proper nutrition are related to student’s physical well-being, growth, and development, and readiness to learn. The Board is committed to providing a school environment that promotes student wellness, proper nutrition, nutrition education, and regular physical activity as part of the total learning experience. In a healthy school environment, students will learn about and participate in positive dietary and lifestyle practices that can improve student achievement.

**WORKING PAPERS**

A Birth Certificate must be brought to the office to receive working papers. A parent is required to come in personally to sign the application or have the application notarized to receive the working papers. A job must already be lined up in order to receive the papers. Student must be 14 years of age to obtain working papers. If students are 16 years or older, they must go to the Hazleton Area High School office.

**GRADING, HONOR ROLL AND RETENTION**

The grading system consists of forty-five day marking periods.

**REPORT CARDS**

Reports of student’s progress are available every nine weeks. Parents are asked to review the progress reports and to consult with the guidance department if they wish to set up a conference with teachers.

**Report cards (K-2) / Report card receipts (3rdthrough 8th**) are to be returned to the homeroom teacher on the school day following the distribution of report cards. If the student does not hand in the report card or receipt within a week following the distribution, detention will be assigned.

**Skyward**: Parents are able to check their student’s progress regularly using their user name and password for Skyward via the Internet. If you have any questions regarding how to access your account, please contact the main office. It is the parent/guardian’s responsibility to frequently monitor your child’s academic progress using the parent portal on Skyward.

Please call the office to schedule parent/teacher conferences. 570-459-3221 ext. 21500.

**Current Grading Scale**

93-100 A

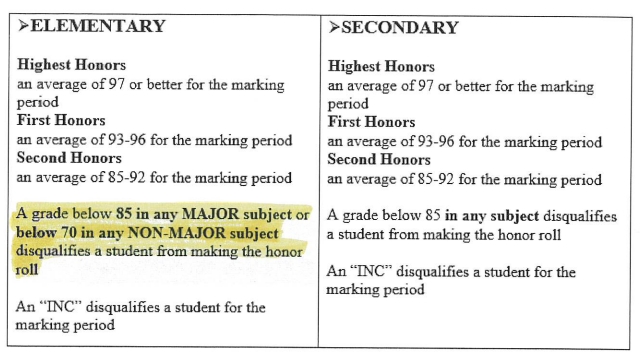
85-92 B

77-84 C

70-76 D

<70 F

**HONOR ROLL POLICY**

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**RETENTION POLICY**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **ELEMENTARY**    A Child Study Team (CST) in each elementary building will determine promotions in grades K-6. Academic retention may occur only once in grades K-3, except in cases where both parent and CST agree that the student may be retained a second time.    In grades 4, 5, and 6 students who have failed two (2) major subjects should be retained. Students should pass two (2) grade levels each of math and reading in grades 4 through 6 in order to be promoted to seventh grade. | **SECONDARY**    In grades 7 and 8 students will be required to successfully complete a minimum of ten (10) total credits before being promoted to ninth grade. The following criteria must be met:     1. Of the ten (10) total credits, six (6) must be passed in one (1) of each Major subject area, three (3) credits must be earned in courses with credit value of less than one (1), i.e. Specials and one (1) credit **must be earned in Reading.** 2. All courses taught in grades 7 and 8 will count for promotion to grade 9. 3. If possible, students will not be scheduled to repeat courses passed in grade 7. 4. A student in grade 7 will be required to accumulate five (5) credits to be listed as a student in grade 8. Of the five (5) credits, three (3) must be passed in Major subjects and two (2) in any area. |

**TEXTBOOKS**

Textbooks are loaned to students for their use during the school year and are to be kept clean and handled carefully. When books are distributed, the classroom teacher notes the condition of the book and the students sign agreeing to that condition. Any questions regarding the condition of the book must be resolved at that time. Students will be responsible to pay for books not personally returned on the last day of school in the condition in which it was issued. Students who damage books will be charged $10.00; students who lose their book or damage it beyond usage will be charged $20.00, unless the book is new that current year. If so, the charge will be the current price for a new book.

**FIRE /RESTRICTED MOVEMENT DRILLS**

The fire drills/restricted movement drills at regular intervals are required by law and are important precautions. It is essential that when the first signal is given, everyone obeys promptly and clears the building as quickly as possible by the route posted above the door in each room. Students are to remain outside the building until a signal is given to return inside. Anyone tampering with the fire alarm system will be prosecuted through the police. Since these drills are very serious in nature, students will be disciplined according to school policy if they display any inappropriate behaviors while taking part in these drills.

**DANCES AND EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES**

Students who attend a dance or other extracurricular function are not allowed to leave and re-enter the function. Once a student leaves the site of the activity, she/he will not be allowed to return. NO STUDENT will be admitted to a dance without having the required dance contract signed by a parent/guardian and the student. Students who are under suspension or absent the day of the dance/extracurricular activity cannot attend or participate in that function.

**POSITIVE BEHAVIOR**

Effective discipline is fundamental to a strong educational program. **We consider the most effective discipline to be self-disciplined.** Setting limits within which students are free to make choices helps children to develop and exercise self-discipline. The Freeland Elementary/Middle School staff believes in developing pro-social skills to create an atmosphere that emphasizes appropriate behavior. The students at Freeland Elementary/Middle School share with the administration and faculty the responsibility of creating an atmosphere that is conducive to education and guards the safety of all students. Students learn social skills in the same way they learn academic skills: instruction, guided practice, application, and evaluation.

The academic and social goal is the same – to become an independent, responsible, contributing adult. In order to accomplish this goal, for elementary students, the BARK program has been implemented at Freeland Elementary/Middle School.



Middle School students at Freeland have a positive behavior program based on a four house program, Red, Yellow, Green, and Blue. Our students are randomly sorted into each house and have the opportunity to compete for points and support one another’s positive behaviors and choices. The house program provides an environment that encourages peer support, accountability, and collaboration. It motivates students to make positive choices while promoting a strong sense of community and responsibility within the school

**HASD CELL PHONE/ELECTRONIC DEVICE PROCEDURES**

-The Board adopts this policy in order to maintain an educational environment that is safe and secure for district students and employees. To see full policy please visit the HASD website.

**-*Electronic devices*** shall include all devices that can take photographs; record audio or video data; store, transmit or receive messages or images; or provide a wireless, unfiltered connection to the Internet. Examples of these electronic devices include, but shall not be limited to, radios, walkmans, CD players, iPods, MP3 players, DVD players, handheld game consoles, Personal Digital Assistants (PDAs), cellular telephones, BlackBerries, and laptop computers, as well as any new technology developed with similar capabilities.

-***The Board prohibits use of electronic devices by students during the school day in district buildings; on district property; on district buses and vehicles; during the time students are under the supervision of the district; and in locker rooms, bathrooms, health suites and other changing areas at any time.***

* 1st & 2nd Incident - **Warning** (return to student at the end of the school day)
* 3rd Incident - Confiscate and parents **MUST** pick phone up from the building administrator.

**ASSIGNMENT TO DETENTION**

Detention will be held from 2:45 to 3:30 PM for middle school and 3:15 to 3:45 PM for elementary school. Students are to report to the assigned room for detention with at least one of their textbooks. A detention accountability sheet will be completed. Parents are responsible for their child’s transportation. The school does not provide transportation for detained students. All detentions are to be served within a reasonable time frame.

**METAL DETECTORS OPERATION**

Therewill be a metal detector set up for screening every morning in the main entrance lobby, prior to school starting. All students will enter school through the main entrance. If your child(ren) bring a “juice box”, “pouch” or thermos to school, please place it in their backpack in order to expedite this process. (This process will be done randomly)

The Board recognizes that the educational environment of the schools is an important factor in the student’s ability to learn and a teacher to teach. Weapons and drugs in the schools, on school grounds and in the surrounding communities are a danger to that environment and learning has suffered as a result. Through this policy, it is the hope and desire of the Board to foster a proper educational environment for all students and to help promote the safety and welfare of students, staff and visitors, by authorizing Security Operations to conduct metal detector screenings of anyone entering the HASD buildings daily.

Searches are conducted for district’s purposes and not for the primary purpose of gathering evidence or instituting criminal proceedings; however, if a weapon and/or illegal item(s) are found, the appropriate law enforcement authorities shall be notified and the student or adult with a weapon and/or illegal item(s) shall face the penalties set forth in the Board policies and State laws.

In conjunction with using the metal detectors, school personnel may inspect the contents of any backpack, book bag, purse, or parcel for the limited purpose of determining whether a weapon is concealed therein, in accordance with Board policy.

**DRESS CODE POLICY**

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| Book | Policy Manual |
| Section | 200 Pupils  Dress and Grooming |
| Number | 221 |
| Status | Active |
| Adopted | September 16, 2010 |
| Last Revised | May 24, 2018 |

# Purpose

The Board recognizes that each student's mode of dress and grooming is a manifestation of personal style and individual preference.

## Authority

The Board has the authority to impose limitations on students: dress in school. The Board will not interfere with the right of students and their parents/guardians to make decisions regarding their appearance, except when their choices disrupt the educational program of the schools or constitute a health or safety Picture 11287

The Board shall require students to wear standard dress, as stipulated in Board policy.fl 2Picture 1420

Students may be required to wear certain types of clothing while participating in physical education classes, technical education, extracurricular activities, or other situations where special attire may be required to ensure the health or safety of the student. [21

**Delegation of Responsibility**

The building principal or designee shall be responsible to monitor student dress and grooming, and to enforce Board policy and school rules governing student dress and grooming.

The Superintendent or designee shall ensure that all rules implementing this policy impose only the minimum necessary restrictions on the exercise of the student's taste and individuality.I.2Picture 11289

Exceptions to the Dress Code may be made by the Superintendent for medical or religious reasons.

Staff members shall be instructed to demonstrate, by example, positive attitudes toward neatness, cleanliness, propriety, modesty, and good sense in attire and appearance.[3]

### **Guidelines**

### *Dress Code*

[https://www.boarddocs.com/pa/hazVBoard.nsffPublic#](https://www.boarddocs.com/pa/hazVBoard.nsffPublic)

The Board has adopted this school Dress Code for all grades K through 12. The Dress Code shall be strictly enforced pursuant to discipline guidelines.

All students shall attend school each day in accordance to the Dress Code.

The Board or the approved dress code committee must approve all changes to this Dress Code.

Embroidery/Monogramming with Hazleton Area School District, HAHS Band, or HAHS Cheerleader or other respective school logo is optional, as sanctioned by the dress code committee.

All clothing must be appropriately sized for the student, that is, clothing must be no more than one (1) regular size larger than the student actually measures. Extra-wide, extra-ful', extra-long, baggy or sagging pants and shorts are not acceptable.

Clothing may be purchased at any store/vendor as long as clothing conforms to this Dress Code.

Shorts as described in this policy, are permitted to be worn from the beginning of the school year until October 1 of that year. In the spring, shorts may be worn starting April 20 until the end of the school year.

Shirts may be worn outside the pants, but the bottom of the shirt cannot extend past the middle of the pants pocket, and dress shirts must be tucked inside the pants. If the shirt exceeds acceptable length, it must be tucked inside the pants. Jeans are permitted as long as there are no holes in them.

**Only clear or mesh backpacks are permitted in K-8 school buildings, in accordance with school guidelines**. Backpacks are not permitted in 9-12 buildings.

Closed shoes or sneakers with socks/stockings must be worn.

### **Articles of Noncompliance**

This list is only a guide and not complete, as other items may not be listed:

**1.** No cargo pants.

**2.** No baggy/skateboard pants.

1. No denim tops or look-alike denim/corduroy stretch pants.
2. Medical-type scrubs or pajama pants will not be allowed.
3. No spandex stretch or legging pants except for medical reasons or if a dress is over top of the described pants
4. No mini/micro skirts (no more than three (3) inches above the knee).
5. No hats, caps, headbands, or bandanas.
6. No bare midriff or low cut, scoop neck tops
7. No tank tops, tube tops, halter tops, or sleeveless shirts.
8. No off-the-shoulder garments.
9. No sheer clothing.
10. No chains, dog collars or spike bracelets/necklaces,
11. No clothing or article deemed sexually suggestive or condoning violence, drug/alcohol [tobacco use, suicide or vulgar language,
12. No dresses, shorts, skirts, or skorts that are more than three (3) inches above the knee.
13. No display of any undergarments.
14. No camouflage clothing.
15. No open-toed shoes or "flip flops" are permitted.

### **Discipline Guidelines**

The following discipline guidelines apply to student in all grades K through 12:

1. First Offense - At the direction of the principal, the student shall be retained in the office until the student/parent/guardian provides a proper change of clothing, not to exceed one (1) day. If a parent/guardian is unable to provide a change of clothing, the school will issue something in compliance, when extra clothing is available.
2. Second Offense - The student shall receive in-school suspension.[4]
3. Third Offense - This and all subsequent violations shall result in loss of privileges and/or out-of-school suspension,[4]

Classes missed because of noncompliance with the Dress Code shall be governed by the attendance policy. [5]

When possible, the school shall attempt to provide a student who is wearing a noncompliant top with a top that is in compliance. Discipline shall still apply.

**Stewart B. McKinney Homeless Assistance Act**

In 1987, Congress passed the Stewart B. McKinney Homeless Assistance Act, (subsequently renamed the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act) to aid homeless persons. The Act defines the term "homeless children and youths" as individuals who lack a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence. On December 10, 2015, the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) was enacted, amending McKinney-Vento.

It is the responsibility of every employee of the Hazleton Area School District to spot signs of children who may be experiencing homelessness and to report the information to the District Homeless Liaison. Per the federal McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act of 1987, these children have the right to immediate enrollment, school stability, access and support to academic success. Following is a summary of the definition(s) of those children who may be considered homeless, signs to look for, events that may create a homeless situation and the responsibilities of the Hazleton Area School District as a whole to, remove any barriers in relation to school enrollment, education, nutrition, transportation, and involvement in extra-curricular activities or field trips. Realize that each homeless situation is unique and should be handled individually.

**DEFINITION(S) OF HOMELESS:** Families and children who lack a fixed, regular and adequate night-time residence including:

• Sharing housing (doubled-up) due to loss of housing or other event

• Living in motels, hotels, trailer parks or camp ground

• Living in emergency shelters, cars, parks, bus or train stations, etc.

• Migratory children living in similar situations

• Unaccompanied youth not in the physical custody of a parent or guardian

**EVENTS THAT CAUSE HOMELESSNESS :**

• Fire

• Eviction

• Abandonment

• Left home (run-away)

• Domestic violence

• Parental job loss or loss of income

• Hospitalization/death of parent or guardian

• Incarceration of parent or guardian

• Other poverty-related issues

**DISTRICT HOMELESS LIAISON:**

Annamarie Williams

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