WRENTHAM PUBLIC SCHOOLS



FAMILY AND STUDENT HANDBOOK

School Committee Approved, 8/20/2024

2024 - 2025

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Vision Statement

The vision of Wrentham Public Schools is to prepare our students to become reflective, lifelong learners who are respectful and responsible contributors to a global society.

Mission Statement

The mission of Wrentham Public Schools is to collaborate with students' families to provide all students with learning experiences through highly effective, consistent teaching practices and curriculum in a safe environment.

Strategic Objectives

The strategic objectives are the priorities Wrentham Public Schools focuses on to implement the mission and fulfill the vision.

- 1. Sustain a culture of continuous growth and learning that fosters equity and excellence.
- 2. Strengthen family connections and community partnerships.
- 3. Ensure the schools are safe, innovative, and inclusive.

Core Values

All members of the Wrentham Public Schools' community are expected to demonstrate the core values of Respect, Communication, Collaboration, Responsibility, and Continuous Growth and Learning.

The Three R's

We expect all members of the Wrentham Public Schools' community to be **Respectful**, **Responsible**, and **Ready to Learn**!

Translation Message

If you require any portion of this handbook translated into your native language, or require an interpreter at school-based meetings, please contact the Wrentham Public Schools Superintendent at 508-384-5430.

Spanish:

MANUAL FAMILIAR Y ESTUDIANTIL.

Portuguese:

MANUAL DA FAMÍLIA E DO ESTUDANTE.

Chinese:

家庭和学生手册

Thai:

ถ้าคุณต้องการให้ส่วนใดส่วนหนึ่งของคู่มือเล่มนี้แปลเป็นภาษาแม่ของคุณหรือต้องการล่ามในที่ประชุมตามโรงเรียนโปรด ติดต่อผู้กาก บของ

Wrentham Public Schools ที่ 508-384-5430.

Arabic:

بتكم لصتا ،ةسردملا تاعامتجا للاخ كدعاسل مجرتم بلا تجاتحا اذا وأ ،كتغل بلا مجرت ليلدلا اذه ءزخ يأ بلا تجاتحا اذ مقر لا بلع نوريماك نلاا روتكد ٥٥٤-٤٣٩. ٥٨٣٨٤٥٤٣٩ مقر لا بلع نوريماك نلاا روتكد

Telugu:

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Tamil:

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Non-discrimination Statement

Wrentham Public Schools is committed to maintaining a work and learning environment free from discrimination on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, pregnancy, gender identity, sexual orientation, marital/civil union status, ancestry, place of birth, age, citizenship status, veteran status, political affiliation, genetic information or disability, as defined and required by state and federal laws. Additionally, we prohibit retaliation against individuals who oppose such discrimination and harassment or who participate in an equal opportunity investigation.

Superintendent's Welcome Message

August 26, 2024

Dear WPS Families,

On behalf of the Wrentham School Committee and my colleagues at Delaney and Roderick, it is my pleasure to welcome you to Wrentham Public Schools. We developed this handbook to provide you with the information you need for the upcoming school year. All students are expected to observe the procedures set forth in this handbook.

Wrentham Public Schools is invested in the success of each one of our students. Students benefit when students, parents/guardians, teachers, administrators, school staff members, and members of the community collaborate to support continuous growth and learning. We look forward to working with you throughout the school year.

Please contact your child's teacher with questions or concerns. If you have additional questions or need further clarification, please contact Delaney School Principal Kathleen Maloney, Roderick School Principal Kevin Martes, or Assistant Principal Laura Dietz. You can find their contact information on the following pages.

Yours truly,

Allan Cameron
Superintendent of Wrentham Public Schools
camerona@wrenthamschools.org

District Information

Delaney Elementary School: Delaney Main Office, Pre-K through Grade 3, Student Services, and Food Services

Janelli Annex of Delaney School: Superintendent's Office, Curriculum Office, and Business Office

Vogel Wing of Delaney School: Technology Department, BICO Classrooms, WPD Substation

Roderick Elementary School: Roderick Main Office, Grades 4, 5, and 6

School Committee Members

Philip Jordan, Chair, jordanp@wrenthamschools.org

Erin Greaney, Vice Chair, greaneye@wrenthamschools.org

Veronica Gonzalez, Secretary, gonzalezv@wrenthamschools.org

Paul Lashway, lashwayp@wrenthamschools.org

Sheena Clutterbuck, clutterbucks@wrenthamschools.org

The Wrentham School Committee meets at least once per month during the school year. The meetings start at 7:00 p.m. and are open to the public. Meeting dates, agendas and meeting minutes are listed on the <u>Wrentham Public</u> Schools website.

School Committee Policies

This is a link to the WPS School Committee policies.

Superintendent's Office

Phone: 508-384-5430 Fax: 508-384-5444

Dr. Allan Cameron, Superintendent - camerona@wrenthamschools.org

Ms. Laurie Green, Administrative Assistant - greenl@wrenthamschools.org

Curriculum Office

Dr. Vanessa Beauchaine, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum & Instruction- <u>beauchainev@wrenthamschools.org</u>
Ms. Laurie Green, Administrative Assistant - <u>greenl@wrenthamschools.org</u>

Business Office

Ms. Shannon Shepherd, Business Manager - shepherds@wrenthamschools.org

Mrs. Nancy Nickerson, Assistant Business Manager - nickersonn@wrenthamschools.org

Delaney Elementary School Office

Phone: 508-384-5430 Fax: 508-384-5445

Miss Kathleen Maloney, Principal - maloneyk@wrenthamschools.org

Mrs. Laura Dietz, Assistant Principal - dietzl@wrenthamschools.org

Mrs. Toni Rando, Administrative Assistant - randot@wrenthamschools.org

Ms. Jill Goddard, Administrative Assistant - goddardj@wrenthamschools.org

Mrs. Julie Cashman, Lead School Nurse - cashmani@wrenthamschools.org

Mrs. Kristin Loreaux, School Nurse - loreauxk@wrenthamschools.org

Roderick Elementary School Office

Phone: 508-384-5430 Fax: 508-384-5446

Dr. Kevin Martes, Principal - martesk@wrenthamschools.org

Ms. Lori Blake, Administrative Assistant - blakel@wrenhtamschools.org

Mrs. Christina Monti, School Nurse - montic@wrenthamschools.org

Student Services Department

Phone: 508-384-5430 Fax: 508-384-9632

Mrs. Ellen White, Director of Student Services - whitee@wrenthamschools.org

Ms. Casey Geary, Special Education Coordinator - gearyc@wrenthamschools.org

Ms. MaryAnn Mackin, Administrative Assistant - mackinm@wrenthamschools.org

Technology Department

Phone: 508-384-5430 Fax: 508-384-5445

Mr. Sean Ahern, Director of Technology - aherns@wrenthamschools.org

Mr. Scott Massey - Network Specialist - masseys@wrenthamschools.org

Mrs. Christina Eaton- Data Specialist - gilbertc@wrenthamschools.org

Mx. Moth Drakeheart - IT Technician - drakeheartt@wrenthamschools.org

Food Services Department

Ms. Lisa Luce, Food Service Director - lucel@wrenthamschools.org

Maintenance Department

Phone: 508-384-5430 Fax: 508-384-5444

Mr. Glenn Gillespie, Facilities Manager - gillespieg@wrenthamschools.org

General Information

We look to the "Three R's" to help remind students to embody the core values in all that they do. We expect that students will be *Respectful*, *Responsible*, and *Ready to Learn*. Wrentham students are:

- **Respectful** of themselves, of others, of school property, and respectful of their own need to learn.
- **Responsible** to one another and for one another.
- **Ready to learn** skills and concepts to build their knowledge and ready to learn strategies to collaborate and communicate effectively. Students should be ready to learn from their teachers, their peers, and through their own explorations.

All students and staff members of Delaney and Roderick Schools follow district-wide expectations in the hallways and other common areas, cafeteria, recess, and on the bus. In addition, each classroom community agrees upon the ways in which they can be respectful and responsible students who are ready to learn. There are reminders of the expectations posted throughout the buildings.

In order to start off the new school year on a positive note, students, their families, and the school staff can work together to support student success each day.

Wrentham students are **respectful** when they:

- Arrive on time to school each day
- Listen to their teachers, other students, and their families
- Talk to others kindly
- Follow the directions of all school staff
- Turn off cell phones, refrain from eating, and pay attention to learning

Wrentham students are **responsible** when they:

- Complete assignments with their best effort
- Use their time wisely
- Ask their teacher(s) questions when they have a question or do not understand
- Report "unexpected" or unkind situations to their teacher privately

Wrentham students are **ready to learn** when they are prepared for learning opportunities and:

- Have their materials ready
- Follow through on all of their assignments
- Participate actively in class discussions and activities

School Attendance

Attendance

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts requires that <u>any person of elementary school age</u> attend school each day that it is in session except for illness, family emergency, or religious observance. School districts are required to take attendance for all students. Students should arrive at school on time each day. If a student will be absent or tardy for any portion of the school day, a parent/guardian should email their teacher and the main office staff at either the Delaney at <u>randot@wrenthamschools.org</u> or Roderick at <u>blakel@wrenthamschools.org</u>. If your child will be absent from school due to illness, please email the Delaney School Nurse, Julie Cashman at <u>cashmanj@wrenthamschools.org</u>, or Roderick School Nurse, Christina Monti, at <u>montic@wrenthamschools.org</u> to inform the school and provide any necessary details.

When a student is absent from school for two consecutive days and the school has not been notified as to the reason for the absence, the school will contact the student's home. Parents of students who are continually absent (six or more days per term) will be contacted in writing by the school to notify the family and develop a plan to improve attendance.

Kindergarten Enrollment Age

Students must be 5 years old on or before August 31 to enroll in kindergarten in Wrentham.

Tardiness

Students who arrive late to school must report to the appropriate office. Kindergarten and grade 1 students report to the Delaney Main Office, students in grades 2 and 3 report to the Superintendent's Office in the Janelli Annex of the Delaney School, and students in grades 4, 5, and 6 report to the Roderick School Main Office.

Regular School Hours

Delaney School and Roderick School regular hours are 8:20 a.m.to 2:45 p.m. Monday through Friday.

Early Release Day School Hours

The district dismisses students at 11:30 a.m. on certain days for parent/teacher conferences and professional development. We do not serve lunch on early release days. Please refer to the <u>school calendar</u> for the exact dates.

Vacations

There are three scheduled weeks of vacations during each school year. These vacations take place during December, February, and April. Please refer to the <u>WPS School Calendar</u> for the exact dates. We ask parents to make every effort to plan family vacations according to the school schedule. Vacations taken during school time will be counted as unexcused absences. Parents should notify the school in writing prior to any vacation. Students are responsible for any make-up work which will be provided by the teacher when the student returns to school. Vacations taking during school days are counted as unexcused absences.

School Cancellations and Delays

The school district uses a telephone and email service to notify parents/guardians of school cancellations and/or delays. The district will also notify local radio and television stations. Preschool students will follow the same cancellation and delay schedule as the rest of the students unless otherwise indicated in the announcement from the superintendent.

Withdrawal of Students

Parents/guardians who are moving or withdrawing students from school should contact the main office a few days prior to the withdrawal date in order to complete the necessary paperwork.

Home Education Application

Parents/guardians who wish to withdraw their children from school and teach them at home must complete the application procedure outlined in Wrentham School Committee Policy Guide, Policy IF: Home Education Policy. The policy is available on the <u>School Committee Page</u> of the Wrentham Public Schools website. Please contact the Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction Vanessa Beauchaine at <u>beauchainev@wrenthamschools.org</u> if you have any questions about the process.

Arrival and Dismissal

Bus Transportation

The district contracts with Holmes Transportation of Norfolk for our bus transportation and VanPool for transportation of some of our special education students. Students will use the same bus stop before school and after school. The district is not able to accommodate requests for students to have bus stops at different locations on different days.

Bus Assignments, Routes, Stops

Students are assigned to ride school buses that will pick them up and drop them off in close proximity to their homes. Students are not allowed to ride a bus other than their assigned bus. Bus routes and stops are developed each school year by the bus company and school district. We strive to minimize the total time a student spends on the school bus and establish bus stops in places where students may be loaded, unloaded, cross roads, and wait for the arrival of buses under the safest possible conditions. Please contact Assistant Principal Laura Dietz if you have questions about bus routes or stops.

School Bus Expectations

Massachusetts state law requires all students to stay seated until the bus comes to a complete stop. Students are expected to follow the WPS core values of respect, communication, collaboration, responsibility, and continuous growth and learning while riding the bus.

School Bus Security Cameras

Wrentham school buses are equipped with security cameras. The buses have signs advising students and the public that security cameras are in use. The recordings are stored in a secure location accessible only by the superintendent, superintendent's designee, and law enforcement personnel. The recordings are saved for up to one week and used for investigations, security, or law enforcement purposes. Please report any incidents on the bus to Assistant Principal Laura Dietz at dietzl@wrenthamschools.org or by calling the school office at 508-384-5430. Reports of inappropriate

behavior will be investigated. Consequences for inappropriate behavior vary by situation and range from a verbal warning to permanent loss of bus riding privileges.

Waiting for the Bus

Students should be on time and safe while waiting for the bus to arrive at the bus stop.

Loading the Bus

Students should line up at least six feet off the road/street while waiting for the bus to stop. Students should not approach the bus until it has stopped and the driver has opened the door. Students should board the bus quickly, take a seat, and make sure the aisle is clear.

Riding on the Bus

Students should follow all directions issued by the driver. They should not eat food on the bus, throw anything, or extend arms or any other body parts out of the windows. They should remain in their seats while the bus is moving. Students should use an indoor voice when talking and be courteous to other students and to the driver.

Getting off of the Bus

Students should remain in their seats until the bus has come to a complete stop and the driver has opened the door. They should leave the bus safely and walk away from the road. Students who must cross a street should wait for the driver to tell them it is safe, then walk in front of the bus at a distance of at least 12 feet out from the front of the bus.

Bus Accident Procedure

School buses are very safe and accidents are very rare. However, if an accident occurs, students should remain calm and quiet and listen carefully to the driver's instructions. All students practice evacuating a school bus at least two times each school year. The district will notify families of any accident involving a school bus.

Bicycles

Students may ride bicycles to school if they have written permission from their parents/guardians. Students riding bicycles must:

- Wear a bicycle helmet as required by Massachusetts General Law.
- Stay out of the bus circle.
- Use a bicycle rack located by the Roderick School or the Janelli Annex to store their bicycles during school hours. The school recommends that all students lock their bicycles before entering school.

The bicycle privilege may be denied or rescinded at the principal's discretion. Wrentham Public Schools is not responsible for the safety or care of bicycles. School staff members are not responsible for students riding bicycles after school hours.

Student Arrival

Students may arrive at the drop-off locations at Delaney School, Janelli Annex, and Roderick School from 8:10 to 8:20. All locations are supervised by paraprofessionals, non-classroom teachers, and

administrators. Teachers will monitor hallway movement while greeting students at classroom doors. The School Resource Officer will be on campus during arrival and dismissal to help with traffic.

Delaney School Student Drop-Off

- Parents/guardians are asked to remain in their vehicles. Students will be helped out of cars by school staff members.
- The arrival time for students in kindergarten through grade 3 is from 8:10-8:20. Families may drop-off students at Delaney any time in that window.
- Students in kindergarten and grade 1 will be dropped off at the Delaney School main entrance.
- Students in grade 2 and grade 3 will be dropped off at the Janelli Annex entrance.
- Families with students in both kindergarten or grade 1 AND grade 2 or grade 3 will drop-off their students at the Delaney School cafeteria. This will prevent families from having to make two stops.
- Families may drop-off preschool students between 8:25-8:35 either in front of the Delaney School or in front of the Annex. Class assignments will dictate drop-off locations, and parents/guardians will be informed ahead of time.

Roderick School Student Drop-Off

- The arrival time for students in grade 4 through grade 6 is from 8:10-8:20. Families may drop-off students at Roderick any time in that window.
- Roderick students will be dropped off at the Randall Road entrance to Roderick School, across from the Fiske Library.

Delaney and Roderick Student Drop-Off (students in both schools)

- Families with children in both schools should drop-off all of the students at the Delaney School.
- Roderick students will walk through the Delaney building and follow the directions of the crossing guard to safely cross the bus circle to enter Roderick.

Bus Drop-Off

• The school buses will use the bus loop to drop-off students at Roderick School and Delaney School.

Student Dismissal

The students will be dismissed from school at 2:45. Since it takes time to prepare for dismissal, we will not be able to dismiss students from the office after 2:00. Families must plan accordingly if they want to dismiss students early from school.

Delaney Student and Roderick Student Pick-Up

- The dismissal time is 2:45. Parents/guardians are asked to arrive at school NO EARLIER THAN 2:40. Students will not be sent out to cars until 2:45.
- Families who pick-up students from school will have a school issued sign to display in the vehicle windshield with their child's name. Families will not leave their vehicles to meet their

- students. Staff members will call for students to be dismissed as cars pull up in front of designated areas.
- Students in kindergarten, grade 1, 2, and 3 will be dismissed from the Delaney Cafeteria (doors facing the playground).
- Students in grades 4 through 6 will be dismissed from the Randall Road entrance of Roderick School, across from the Fiske Library.
- Roderick students with siblings at Delaney will join the youngest sibling in their assigned locations so parents/guardians can pick them up at one location.

Bus Dismissal

• Bus dismissal continues at the bus circle for both Delaney and Roderick students.

Early Dismissal by Parent/Guardian

Students' parents/guardians should notify the school office of the dismissal time and reason for the appointment by emailing the school at delaneydismissal@wrenthamschools.org or roderickdismissal@wrenthamschools.org. They may also complete the form on the website or complete the form on the WPS App. They should call the school office at 508-384-5430 when they arrive.

Health Services

Medical Emergency Response Plans (MERPs)

Delaney Elementary School and Roderick Elementary School have Medical Emergency Response Plans (MERPs). The MERPS were developed with school, police, fire, and emergency personnel, and outline the protocols for responding to medical emergencies in the schools. All classrooms and offices have direct access to 911 and both schools have at least one nurse in the building during the school day.

Delaney Elementary School Medical Emergency Response Plan

Roderick Elementary School Medical Emergency Response Plan

School Nurses

The Delaney School and Roderick School has nurses available to all students:

Mrs. Julie Cashman, Lead School Nurse - cashmani@wrenthamschools.org

Mrs. Kristin Loreaux, School Nurse - loreauxk@wrenthamschools.org

Mrs. Christina Monti, School Nurse - montic@wrenthamschools.org

Parents/guardians are encouraged to contact the school nurse to inform them of medical conditions, particularly if medication must be administered at school. The school nurse may be reached by calling the school office at 508-384-5430.

Emergency Information

Each September, parents/guardians are required to update emergency information for each student via the Aspen Parent Portal. Please contact the school office if you need a hard copy of the form. We ask

parents/guardians to notify the school as soon as possible when changing addresses, telephone numbers, or e-mail addresses during the school year.

Physical Examination Requirements in Kindergarten and Grade 4

All students entering kindergarten and fourth grade are required to have a current physical examination on file with the school. This should be completed by the student's physician. Written verification of the physical examination is required to be part of every student's Health Record.

Immunization Requirements

In accordance with state law, all students must be successfully vaccinated against diphtheria, pertussis, tetanus, measles, mumps, rubella, varicella, and poliomyelitis. Therefore, no student may enter Wrentham Public Schools until the school nurse has all of the necessary immunization certifications. Dates are required, including both month and year of the immunizations and the physician's signature. State law also requires that every student entering kindergarten must present evidence of being screened for lead poisoning.

Screenings

The following screening tests are mandated by state law: vision, hearing, postural screening (5th and 6th graders), and Body Mass Index (1st and 4th graders). The school will notify a student's parents/guardians if there are concerns as a result of the screening:

Life Threatening Allergy (LTA)

Parents/guardians of students with an LTA must contact the school nurse to implement the procedures outlined in our Life Threatening Allergy Policy. See section JR of the School Committee Policy here.

Illness

Students who are ill may not attend school. Students returning to school following an illness should be completely recovered (24 hours since the fever went away without fever reducing medications and/or the vomiting stopped) and able to participate in school, including physical education and recess. Upon a student's return to school, parents/guardians must send in a note explaining the nature and duration of the illness.

Please **do not** send your student to school for at least 24 hours if they have any of the following symptoms of illness:

- Fever is a temperature of 100 degrees Fahrenheit or higher.
- **Vomiting** is the forceful expulsion of stomach contents through the mouth.
- **Diarrhea** is a sudden onset of three or more loose stools in a day. Students will be sent home if they come to school with any of the above symptoms.

Students will be sent home if they come to school with any of the above symptoms in the prior 24 hours.

Head Lice

When a student is suspected of having head lice, the school nurse will examine the student. If the results are positive, the parents/guardians will be notified by the nurse. All of the students in that class will then be examined. The nurse will also examine any siblings attending Wrentham Public Schools.

A student will not be readmitted until he/she has been examined by the nurse and is free of nits. A notice will be sent home with all students in the classroom.

Medication

Medicating students in preschool through grade six is the responsibility of the students' parents/guardians and physicians. All parents/guardians who require that their students be medicated during school hours must contact the school nurse. Medication cannot be administered to students without a Medication Administration Form signed by a parent or guardian and, in the case of prescription medications, by the licensed prescriber. The medication must be delivered to the school nurse by the parent/guardian with the appropriate form and the medication must be in an original, clearly marked container. Under no circumstances should any medication be brought to school without first contacting the school nurse. The medicine is to be in a prescription bottle from the pharmacy, bearing the student's name, name and dosage of the medication, and the name of the prescriber.

In the case of students who have known adverse reactions to insect bites, and the parents/guardians have provided the school with the medication (Epi-pen or ANA kit), the nurse will instruct the teacher and principal in the proper administration if the nurse is not in the building when needed. Medication on field trips is the responsibility of the parents/guardians. Teachers are not responsible for administering daily medication to students while out of school on a field trip.

Wellness Policy and Procedures

Wrentham Public Schools recognizes the important relationship between wellness, academic success, and lifelong health. The intent of this policy is to outline the school's commitment in support of wellness in the areas of nutrition, physical activity and other school based activities that promote health and wellness. Please visit the School Committee section of the Wrentham Public Schools website to read the policy.

To comply with the expectations outlined in Massachusetts General Law c 111 223 "An Act

Relative to School Nutrition," foster student safety, and promote equitable student experiences in all classes, **no food is allowed in classrooms other than students' individual snacks and lunches**. Teachers and parents/guardians are encouraged to choose non-food items for celebrations.

Exceptions to the above may be made at the discretion of the building principal for special events. Teachers must submit a *WPS Wellness Policy Food Event Request Form* to the principal at least two weeks prior to the event for approval by the principal and school nurse. Food items must be safe for students with food allergies and comply with the expectations outlined in Massachusetts General Law c 111 223 "An Act Relative to School Nutrition":

- Water, low-fat milk, and 4 ounces of 100% juice.
- Fresh fruit and vegetables.
- Snacks made of at least 51% whole grain, 200 calories or fewer per serving, and prepackaged.
- No artificial sweeteners or trans fats.

Accommodations will be made so that all students can participate in classroom events that involve food. Parents/guardians are encouraged to contact the school nurse or principal if they have any

questions or feedback about the Wellness Policy. The Wellness Committee meets throughout the school year to update the Wellness Policy. Please let your nurse or principal know what works well and what we can improve.

Security and Safety

The safety of the people in the schools and the security of the buildings is of utmost importance. School personnel work closely with police, fire, and emergency services to ensure the safety of the community. Please contact Superintendent Allan Cameron if you have any questions about school safety or security. His email address is camerona@wrenthamschools.org.

Security Measures

The district has implemented several measures to secure the buildings and grounds. All exterior doors are locked during the school day and all visitors are background checked, issued IDs, and their visits are logged. All interior doors have internal locks with red lights to indicate that they are locked. All rooms and offices have direct access to 911. We have an emergency notification system called Visiplex, fire alarm boxes, and AEDs located throughout the district. We have security cameras located around the entire perimeter of the campus and in all public spaces inside the schools. All classrooms have emergency kits and both schools have at least one full-time nurse. We have a visible police presence at student arrival, dismissal, and throughout the day.

Safety Protocols

The district works very hard to keep everyone safe at school. We have a Medical Emergency Response Plan and Emergency Response Protocols that we review and practice annually. The Emergency Response Protocols are Evacuation (for example, a fire drill), Stay in Place (for example, a medical situation that is not a threat to the school community), and Active Intruder (someone in the school looking to cause harm). We have a K-6 social competency program called Responsive Classroom and DARE program in grades 4 and 6. We have robust and educational discipline and anti-bullying responses and multiple mental health and physical health professionals in both schools.

Outside of the regular school day, a school building may be open to accommodate the use of school facilities for previously approved school or community events. Only those participating in the approved programs may enter the building. Participants may use only the approved area designated for the event, the direct route to that area, and the nearest restrooms. Adult supervisors of activities are responsible for maintaining proper procedures for the safety and security of participants and for the proper use of school facilities. Access to school buildings and grounds outside of regular operating hours will be restricted. Please contact a school office with questions about accessing the buildings outside of school hours.

School Resource Officer

Wrentham Public Schools works with the Wrentham Police Department to ensure a School Resource Officer is on duty during the school day. WPD Officer Todd Schwable is the School Resource Officer for this school year. He is an armed and sworn police officer who works at Delaney School, Roderick School, and King Philip Regional High School. He is outside of Delaney School every school day during student arrival and dismissal. He is also visible in the schools during the school day and responds to all emergencies. Officer Schwalbe may assist school personnel on legal issues, but he is

not involved in student discipline. Students, staff members, and families with questions or concerns about the School Resource Officer should contact the building principal.

Family/School Partnership

Frequent communication between the students' parents/guardians and teachers is an essential component of an effective education program. Parents/guardians are encouraged to contact teachers when they have questions, concerns, or compliments. All <u>faculty and staff email addresses</u> are located on the district webpage.

School Meals

The Wrentham Public Schools serves breakfast and lunch to all students who wish to participate in the WPS School Lunch Program. This school year, breakfast and lunch are free for all students. However, it is encouraged that families fill out the free and reduced lunch application. Please visit the Food Services section of the district website to learn more about Free or Reduced Cost Meals.

Breakfast Program

Students wishing to purchase breakfast should go to their cafeteria when they arrive at school. Students will take the breakfast to their classroom and eat at their desk while completing their morning work. All meals offered by the school district comply with <u>federal and state nutritional guidelines</u>.

Lunch Program

The students have 20 minutes for lunch every regular school day (lunch is not served on days when the students are dismissed early). Students may purchase a meal or bring lunch from home. All meals offered by the school district comply with <u>federal and state nutritional guidelines</u>.

Purchasing Milk

Milk is free if it is part of a school meal. However, students will be charged fifty cents (\$.50) for milk if they are not getting the meal. This is a state rule, not a WPS decision.

School Visitors and Volunteers

Teachers may invite people to visit and/or volunteer in their classrooms. Please contact your child's teacher if you have questions. All visitors must check-in at the main office, bring a photo identification card (for example, a driver's license), and wear an official name tag throughout the visit. Visitors may only visit the class they were invited to visit.

Volunteer Expectations

To ensure a safe and productive learning environment, we ask all volunteers to adhere to the following expectations:

- Check-in and check-out at the appropriate school office. Bring your driver's license or other state issued identification for screening through the Raptor system.
- Wear the Raptor-created visitor badge during your visit.
- Comply with the directions provided by teachers and other staff members.
- Call the office if you are unable to attend a scheduled volunteer session: 508-384-5430.
- Use the adult bathrooms rather than the student bathrooms.

- Set your mobile phone to "vibrate" when working in a classroom and do not talk on the phone.
- Do not discuss students, students' families, staff members, and/or other volunteers.
- Direct student discipline issues to a staff member.
- Refrain from bringing siblings to the classroom unless prearranged with the classroom teacher.
- Know that you will work with children other than your own child when you volunteer in the
- classroom.

Please call the school office if you have any questions about the Volunteer Expectations. Any breach of the Volunteer Expectations may result in the loss of volunteer privileges.

Mandatory Background Checks for Volunteers

Massachusetts state law requires schools to review the criminal records of all volunteers who will have <u>direct and unmonitored contact with children</u>. People visiting a classroom who will not have direct and unmonitored contact with children, such as to read a story to the class with the teacher present, do not have to complete a background check.

Criminal Offender Record Information (CORI)

Volunteers who may have direct and unmonitored contact with children must obtain a CORI report. The CORI report provides the district with any information held by the Massachusetts Department of Criminal Justice Information Services about the potential volunteer. The superintendent and/or designee reviews all CORI reports. The principal and/or designee determines when a CORI is required. For example, a CORI is required for a field trip chaperone who will lead a small group of children through a museum. A CORI is not required for a volunteer to an art classroom when the volunteer will be in the presence of the art teacher, and not alone with children, during the entire visit. The teacher will notify the potential volunteer when a CORI is required. Potential volunteers should visit the school office, with a photo ID, to complete a CORI form.

Fingerprint-Based National Criminal History Record Investigation (CHRI)

Volunteers who will stay overnight with students must obtain a CORI report and a CHRI report. For this school year, the only volunteers who need to complete a CHRI report are 6th grade camp volunteers. Roderick Principal Kevin Martes will provide these volunteers with information about the process during the school year.

Resolving Classroom Issues

Please contact your child's teacher if you have any questions or concerns. She or he will usually be able to help. If the problem persists after speaking with the teacher, please contact the building principal. If you still have a question or concern after speaking with the teacher and principal, please contact the superintendent.

Class Placement

The principals are responsible for creating classes. They consider many factors and perspectives when placing students in classes. We encourage parents/guardians to share information with principals about class assignments. The principals will consider parent feedback prior to making class placement decisions. While parents/guardians may provide information regarding their child during the placement process, they may not request a specific teacher. After considering input from parents/guardians and the students' sending teacher(s), principals are responsible for making the final class placement determination.

Curriculum Night

At Open House/Curriculum Night, teachers provide an overview of the curriculum, explain classroom rules and procedures, and answer general questions as they pertain to their classroom. The principals will inform parents/guardians of the specific dates and times.

Report Cards and Parent/Teacher Conferences

Teachers of students in preschool through grade 6 provide parents/guardians with feedback on students' progress via report cards and conferences. The dates of the report cards and conferences are available on the school calendar.

PTO

The PTO is a non-profit group that organizes events and raises funds for enrichment programs and materials for the students and schools. Parents/guardians are essential to making the PTO fun and effective. If you are interested in volunteering, please visit the <u>PTO page</u> on the district website.

WEST

The Wrentham Elementary Schools Trust (WEST) is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization incorporated to supplement the Wrentham Public Schools with additional programs and materials for students preschool through grade 6. The organization has a Board of Directors that represents parents/guardians, community members, school committee members, and staff of the Wrentham Public Schools. If you want to learn more about WEST, please visit www.WrenthamWest.org.

Gift Policy

Employees of Wrentham Public Schools adhere to state ethics law regarding gifts. Therefore, no school employee may accept a gift of substantial value from a student, parent, or vendor. The courts and the MA State Ethics Commission have deemed "substantial value" to be \$50 or more. Additional compensation, waived fees, discounts, gift certificates, entertainment event tickets, golf, gift baskets, and payment of travel expenses are considered gifts. In addition, free or discounted services such as construction or accounting work are considered gifts. A number of smaller gifts from one person or family that value more than \$50 may not be accepted unless the money is used to purchase supplies for the school. When families, students or others wish to express appreciation to a teacher or other staff member, the school urges them to find modes of expression that do not involve personal gifts.

Non-Custodial Parents Rights

As required by G.L. Ch. 71, Sec. 34H, a non-custodial parent may have access to the student record in accordance with state law and Department of Education Regulations. The school district will follow the law and the attachments recommended by the Massachusetts Department of Education to standardize the process by which Wrentham Public Schools provides student records to parents who do not have physical custody of their children ("non-custodial parents"). The implementation of this policy will hopefully encourage parents to be involved and informed about the education of their children, while protecting the rights and safety of all parties. For more information, please visit Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 71, Section 34H.

Homeless Assistance

Under the McKinney Vento Act of 1987, the Wrentham Public schools considers a student to be homeless if they meet one or more of the following criteria:

- Do not have a permanent home
- Live in motels, hotels, trailer parks, or campgrounds
- Live in state care and custody
- Live in cars, parks, public places, abandoned buildings, substandard settings
- Share housing of other persons due to loss of housing, economic hardships, or a similar reason
- May be unaccompanied youth (not in physical custody of a parent or guardian)

The Wrentham Public Schools provides students who are considered to be homeless with access to the same public education provided to all other students, no matter where they live or for how long. Students have the right to continue in the school they attended before they became homeless, or the last school they attended, if that is their choice, and is feasible. Students have the right to receive transportation to the school they attended before they became homeless, or the school they last attended, if they request transportation. They also have the right to attend school and participate in school programs with students who are not homeless and enroll in school without giving a permanent address. The district cannot require proof of residency that might prevent or delay school enrollment, and the student may attend classes while the district arranges for the transfer of school and immunization records, or any other documents required for enrollment. Students also have the right to receive the same special programs and services, if needed, as provided to all students served in those programs.

For additional information please visit the <u>Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education</u> website or contact the homeless liaison for the district Director of Students Services Ellen White.

Student Life

Academic Honesty

Students are expected to always uphold academic honesty and integrity when completing classwork, homework assignments and tests/exams. Cheating refers to the giving or receiving of unauthorized aid on individual assignments, including classwork, homework, tests, quizzes, and other written projects. Plagiarism means the copying of words, ideas, and opinions of someone else without giving credit to that person in the form of footnotes or references.

All consequences are at the discretion of the teacher and/or administrator and will vary based on the situation, needs of the student(s) involved, or other factors. Examples include redoing the assignment, receiving a lower grade, or having a conference with the student, teacher, and parent.

Bathroom Expectations

Students are allowed to use the bathroom when necessary, and teachers will schedule bathroom breaks for younger students. Custodians regularly clean bathroom stall doors. If students require specific bathroom accommodations, school nurses will work directly with the student's family.

Cafeteria Expectations

The students have 20 minutes for lunch in the school cafeteria during each regular school day. Students do not have lunch on early dismissal days. Students are expected to wash their hands before eating, use a quiet voice when speaking, and raise their hand when they have a question or need assistance. Students' principals, teachers, and cafeteria monitors will review additional expectations

with the students.

Recess Expectations

The students have 20 minutes for recess each regular school day. Students are expected to play and have fun during recess. They should follow adult directions, include others in games, play safely, and help others when necessary. As always, students should demonstrate the WPS core values of respect, responsibility, communication, collaboration, and continuous growth and learning.

Fresh air and exercise are important parts of the school day. Time spent outdoors gives students the opportunity to engage in activities that allow them to relax from the structure of the classroom. There are times, however, when it is not safe for students to be outside, such as extreme cold or heat and heavy rain.

The district's protocol on participation in outdoor recess maintains that if a child is well enough to come to school, they are well enough to participate in outdoor recess. Accommodations regarding a child's physical safety on the playground due to a chronic or short-term disability may be reflected in a short-term accommodation plan.

Cold Weather Guidelines for Recess and Outdoor Physical Activity

When temperatures fall below 22 degrees including the wind chill ("feels like" temperature based on WPS WeatherBug for zip code 02093), the principals will reconsider outside recess and provide for safe indoor activity. Parents/guardians may be called to bring in appropriate attire or supply replacement clothing when necessary. The schools do not keep a supply of clothing for children.

Heat Advisory Guidelines for Recess and Outdoor Physical Activity

When the temperature index ("feels like" temperature based on WPS WeatherBug for zip code 02093) reaches 95 degrees or above, the principals will reconsider outside recess and provide for safe indoor activity. Any student who shows signs of overheating will have a water break during the recess period.

Teachers are aware of medical conditions such as asthma, diabetes, allergies, etc. which may put individual students at a higher risk of heat illness. There is no reason to limit a student's participation unless a known risk is obvious, if an accommodation is specified in a 504 plan or if the parent has advised the school that their child should not participate. It is the parent/guardian's responsibility to ensure their children come to school dressed appropriately for the weather, including sunscreen.

Field Trips

The students' parents/guardians are required to sign a field trip permission slip in order for their student to go on a trip. Students may be asked to pay a fee to help defray the costs of the trip. PTO funds may be used to offset the cost of buses for most trips. Parents/guardians may also be asked to fill out a walking permission slip. We encourage parents/guardians who cannot afford the cost of a field trip to contact the building principal for a confidential conversation about financial support.

Nuisance Items

Students should not bring anything to school that will disrupt the learning environment for themselves or others. This includes, but is not limited to toys, wearable technology, electronic games, gag gifts, rubber bands, laser pointers, or any other items that may be distracting in class. These "Nuisance

Items" will be confiscated and brought to the main office. A family member will then be contacted to retrieve the items.

Bullying and Cyberbullying Prevention and Intervention Policy

The Bullying and Cyberbullying Prevention and Intervention Plan is a comprehensive approach to ensuring a positive and safe district environment. The district is committed to working with students, employees, families, law enforcement agencies, and the community to prevent and respond to incidents of bullying, cyberbullying, and retaliation. This is an overview of the steps WPS takes to prevent and respond to bullying and cyberbullying. The <u>Bullying Prevention and Intervention Plan</u> is available on the district web page and in the school offices.

The following applies to all members of the district community. This includes, but is not limited to, students, staff, educators, administrators, school nurses, cafeteria workers, custodians, bus drivers, athletic coaches, advisors to an extracurricular activity and paraprofessionals.

Wrentham Public Schools:

- Expects all members of the district community to engage in civil and respectful discourse.
- Is committed to providing a safe learning environment that is free from bullying, cyberbullying, and other harmful and disruptive behaviors that can impede the learning process.
- Understands people may be more vulnerable to becoming targets of bullying, harassment, or teasing based on actual or perceived characteristics, including race, color, religion, ancestry, national origin, sex, socioeconomic status, homelessness, academic status, gender identity or expression, physical appearance, or sensory, disability, or by association with a person who has or is perceived to have one or more of these characteristics. The district will take specific steps to create a safe, supportive environment for vulnerable populations in the school community and provide all students with the skills, knowledge, and strategies to prevent or respond to bullying, harassment, or teasing.
- Does not tolerate any unlawful or disruptive behavior. This includes any form of bullying, cyberbullying, or retaliation, in our school buildings, on school grounds, or in school-related activities. The district will promptly investigate all reports and complaints of bullying, cyberbullying, and retaliation, and take prompt action to end that behavior and restore the target's sense of safety. The district will support this commitment in all aspects of our district community, including curricula, instructional programs, staff development, extracurricular activities, and parent or guardian involvement.

<u>Bullying</u>, as defined in M.G.L. c. 71, § 37O, is the repeated use by one or more students or a member of a school staff of a written, verbal, or electronic expression or a physical act or gesture or any combination thereof, directed at a target that:

- Causes physical or emotional harm to the target or damage to the target's property;
- Places the target in reasonable fear of harm to himself or herself or of damage to his or her property;
- Creates a hostile environment at school for the target;
- Infringes on the rights of the target at school; or

• Materially and substantially disrupts the education process or the orderly operation of a school.

<u>Cyberbullying</u> is bullying through the use of technology or electronic devices such as telephones, cell phones, computers, and the Internet. It includes, but is not limited to, email, instant messages, text messages, and Internet postings. See M.G.L. c. 71, § 37O for the legal definition of cyberbullying.

It is important for all members of the school community to understand that conflict is not synonymous with bullying. For example, arguing, bantering back-and-forth, ignoring, roughhousing and fighting, while all potentially serious forms of conflict, are not automatically defined as instances of bullying. Bullying is characterized by severity and/or repetition, and a power imbalance. Not every conflict meets this criteria.

Students are prohibited from engaging in any form of harassment, intimidation, or bullying of other students or staff members. Harassment or bullying can take many forms, including physical actions, verbal taunts or threats, written or electronic communications, or internet postings or communications, made either directly to the individual, or made to others about the individual. These actions are prohibited where they have the effect of physically or emotionally harming another individual, interfering with another student's education, threatening the overall educational environment, and/or disrupting the operation of school.

Bullying may take a variety of forms. It is unacceptable in a school or work environment. As a result no student or employee shall be subjected to harassment, intimidation, bullying, or cyberbullying in any WPS school.

Dress Code

Students shall dress for school using common sense guidelines. Clothing that distracts from the educational process will not be permitted. The final decision regarding clothing for school shall be at the discretion of the school principal.

Clothing that is disruptive to the educational process, poses safety concerns, and/or interferes with an individual's right to learn, is not permitted. No student will be allowed to wear any style of clothing, footwear, or accessory that may be unsafe or hazardous.

We ask students not to wear the following:

- Hats or other non-religious head-covering (except on spirit days)
- Sunglasses in the school building (unless necessary for a medical condition)
- Shirts that display obscene language, violence; or references to drugs, alcohol or tobacco

Cell Phone Use

Wrentham Public Schools, in cooperation with the families of our students, share the responsibility of teaching students to be responsible and respectful digital citizens. Part of this citizenship requires that they not let personal devices, such as cell phones, disrupt their learning or interfere with the learning of their classmates. Although students may bring cell phones with them to school, their phones must remain in their backpacks at all times throughout the school day. Teachers, support staff, and administration reserve the right to confiscate cell phones from students who are in violation of this cell phone policy. Additionally, cell phones may not be used on the school buses and may be taken away

by bus drivers at their discretion. If a student has their cell phone confiscated, a family member will then be contacted to retrieve the item.

Wearable Technology

Wrentham Public Schools, in cooperation with the families of our students, share the responsibility of teaching students to be responsible and respectful digital citizens. Part of this citizenship requires that they not let personal devices, such as wearable technology (smartwatches, fitbits, Gizmo, Vtech watches, etc.) disrupt their learning or interfere with the learning of their classmates. Although students may bring wearable technology with them to school, their wearable technology must remain in their backpacks at all times throughout the school day. Teachers, support staff, and administration reserve the right to confiscate wearable technology from students who are in violation of this wearable technology policy. Additionally, wearable technology may not be used on the school buses and may be taken away by bus drivers at their discretion. If a student has their wearable technology confiscated, a family member will then be contacted to retrieve the item.

Student Discipline

WPS Approach to Student Discipline

Students usually conduct themselves in accordance with expectations. However, there are instances when students do not adhere to the district's core values. When this happens, teachers and administrators help the student to understand why the behavior was problematic, what the student can do instead in a similar situation in the future, and how the student can make amends for the inappropriate behavior.

State Guidelines for Student Discipline

The following information is from <u>Massachusetts General Law Part I, Title XII, Chapter 71, Section</u> 37H:

- (a) Any student who is found on school premises or at school-sponsored or school-related events, including athletic games, in possession of a dangerous weapon, including, but not limited to, a gun or a knife; or a controlled substance as defined in chapter ninety-four C, including, but not limited to, marijuana, cocaine, and heroin, may be subject to expulsion from the school or school district by the principal.
- (b) Any student who assaults a principal, assistant principal, teacher, teacher's aide or other educational staff on school premises or at school-sponsored or school-related events, including athletic games, may be subject to expulsion from the school or school district by the principal.
- (c) Any student who is charged with a violation of either paragraph (a) or (b) shall be notified in writing of an opportunity for a hearing; provided, however, that the student may have representation, along with the opportunity to present evidence and witnesses at said hearing before the principal. After said hearing, a principal may, in his discretion, decide to suspend rather than expel a student who has been determined by the principal to have violated either paragraph (a) or (b).
- (d) Any student who has been expelled from a school district pursuant to these provisions shall have the right to appeal to the superintendent. The expelled student shall have ten days from the date of the expulsion in which to notify the superintendent of his appeal. The student has the right to counsel at a

hearing before the superintendent. The subject matter of the appeal shall not be limited solely to a factual determination of whether the student has violated any provisions of this section.

- (e) Any school district that suspends or expels a student under this section shall continue to provide educational services to the student during the period of suspension or expulsion, under section 21 of chapter 76. If the student moves to another district during the period of suspension or expulsion, the new district of residence shall either admit the student to its schools or provide educational services to the student in an education service plan, under section 21 of chapter 76.
- (f) Districts shall report to the department of elementary and secondary education the specific reasons for all suspensions and expulsions, regardless of duration or type, in a manner and form established by the commissioner. The department of elementary and secondary education shall use its existing data collection tools to obtain this information from districts and shall modify those tools, as necessary, to obtain the information. On an annual basis, the department of elementary and secondary education shall make district level de-identified data and analysis, including the total number of days each student is excluded during the school year, available to the public online in a machine readable format. This report shall include district level data disaggregated by student status and categories established by the commissioner.
- (g) Under the regulations promulgated by the department, for each school that suspends or expels a significant number of students for more than 10 cumulative days in a school year, the commissioner shall investigate and, as appropriate, shall recommend models that incorporate intermediary steps prior to the use of suspension or expulsion. The results of the analysis shall be publicly reported at the school district level.

Discipline of Students with Disabilities

All students are expected to meet the requirements for behavior as set forth in this handbook. Chapter 71B of the Massachusetts General Laws requires that additional provisions be made for students who have been found by an evaluation team to have a disability, and whose program is described in either an Individualized Education Program (IEP) or a Section 504 plan. The following additional requirements apply to the discipline of students with disabilities.

- When the team determines that, due to a student's disability, the student is unable to meet the requirements of the regular discipline code, it will be clearly indicated on the IEP or Section 504 plan.
- The principal (or designee) will notify the Special Education Office of a suspension for a student with disabilities, and a record will be kept of such notices.
- When it is known that the suspension(s) of a student with a disability will accumulate to ten days in a school year, a review of the IEP or Section 504 plan will be held to determine the appropriateness of the student's accommodations, modifications, and placement of the program.
- The team will make a finding as to the relationship between the student's misconduct and his/her handicapping condition, and revise the IEP or Section 504 plan as necessary.

Suspension from School

Suspension may occur when a student does not follow certain school rules which significantly affect their lives, the lives of others, and the care of school property. The principal or designee will consider

ways to re-engage the student in the learning process and shall not suspend the student until alternative remedies have been considered. Alternative remedies may include, but shall not be limited to: (i) mediation; (ii) conflict resolution; (iii) restorative justice; and (iv) collaborative problem solving. Principals or designees will document the use and results of alternative remedies. Principals or designees do not have to utilize alternative remedies in the following situations: 1) if the alternatives are unsuitable or counter-productive and 2) in cases where the student's continued presence in school would pose a specific, documentable concern about the infliction of serious bodily injury or other serious harm upon another person while in school.

Students may be suspended and/or have an alternative remedy for actions including but not limited to:

- 1. Intentionally causing or attempting to cause damage to school property; or stealing or attempting to steal school property.
- 2. Intentionally causing or attempting to cause damage to private property; stealing or attempting to steal private property.
- 3. Intentionally causing or attempting to cause physical injury to another person except in self-defense.
- 4. Using or copying the academic work of another and presenting it as his/her own without proper attribution.
- 5. Repeatedly and intentionally defying the valid authority of supervisors, teachers, or administrators.

In every case of student misconduct for which suspension may be imposed, the principal shall consider ways to re-engage the student in learning and avoid using long-term suspension from school as a consequence until alternatives have been tried. Alternatives may include the use of evidence-based strategies and programs such as mediation, conflict resolution, restorative justice, and positive behavioral interventions and supports, and trauma-sensitive learning models.

Types of Suspension:

- In-School Suspension The student is required to perform his/her daily work in the office or other location supervised by a staff member.
- External Suspension The student is at home. The student will complete all missed school work.

In-School Suspension – Not More Than 10 Days Consecutively or Cumulatively

The principal may use in-school suspension as an alternative to short-term suspension for disciplinary offenses. In-school suspension is defined as removing a student for a period of time from the regular education setting for disciplinary purposes and providing them with an alternate educational setting within the school where they are allowed to continue and complete work under the supervision of school staff. The principal may impose an in-school suspension for a disciplinary offense under this provision, provided that the principal follows the process set forth in regulation and the student has the opportunity to make academic progress as required by law and regulation.

Notice of Suspension

Except for emergency removal or an in-school suspension of less than 10 days, the principal must provide the student and the parent/guardian oral and written notice, and provide the student an

opportunity for a hearing and the parent/guardian an opportunity to participate in such hearing before imposing suspension as a consequence for misconduct. The principal shall provide both oral and written notice to student and parent/guardian in English and in the primary language of the home if other than English. The notice shall include the rights enumerated in law and regulation. To conduct a hearing without a parent/guardian present, the principal must be able to document reasonable efforts to include the parent/guardian.

Unless there is a need to remove a student immediately from the classroom for safety reasons, suspension is used only after other interventions have been tried.

Emergency Removal

A principal may remove a student from school temporarily when a student is charged with a disciplinary offense and the continued presence of the student poses a danger to persons or property, or materially and substantially disrupts the order of the school, and, in the principal's judgment, there is no alternative available to alleviate the danger or disruption. The principal shall immediately notify the superintendent in writing of the removal including a description of the danger presented by the student.

The temporary removal shall not exceed two (2) school days following the day of the emergency removal. During that time, the principal shall

- Make immediate and reasonable efforts to orally notify the student and the student's parent/guardian of the emergency removal, the reason for the need for emergency removal, and the other matters required in the notice as referenced in the applicable regulation.
- Provide written notice to the student and parent/guardian as required above.
- Provide the student an opportunity for a hearing with the principal that complies with applicable regulations, and the parent/guardian an opportunity to attend the hearing, before the expiration of the two (2) school days, unless an extension of time for hearing is otherwise agreed to by the principal, student, and parent/guardian.
- Render a decision orally on the same day as the hearing, and in writing no later than the following school day, which meets the requirements of applicable law and regulation.

The principal shall also ensure adequate provisions have been made for the student's safety and transportation prior to removal.

Principal's Hearing – Short Term Suspension of up to 10 Days

The hearing with the principal shall be to consider information regarding the alleged incident for which the student may be suspended, provide the student an opportunity to dispute the charges and explain the circumstances surrounding the alleged incident, determine if the student committed the disciplinary offense, and if so, the consequences for the infraction.

At a minimum, the principal shall discuss the disciplinary offense, the basis for the charge, and any other pertinent information.

The student also shall have an opportunity to present information, including mitigating facts, that the principal should consider in determining whether other remedies and consequences may be appropriate as set forth in law and regulation.

The principal shall provide the parent/guardian, if present, an opportunity to discuss the student's conduct and offer information, including mitigating circumstances, that the principal should consider in determining consequences for the student.

The principal shall, based on the available information, including mitigating circumstances, determine whether the student committed the disciplinary offense, and, if so, what remedy or consequence will be imposed.

The principal shall notify the student and parent of the determination and the reasons for it, and, if the student is suspended, the type and duration of suspension and the opportunity to make up assignments and such other schoolwork as needed to make academic progress during the period of removal, as required by law and regulation. The determination shall be in writing and may be in the form of an update to the original written notice.

If the student is in a public preschool program or in grades K through 3, the principal shall send a copy of the written determination to the superintendent and explain the reasons for imposing an out-of-school suspension, before the short-term suspension takes effect.

Principal's Hearing – Long Term Suspension of more than 10 days but less than 90 days (consecutive or cumulative)

The hearing with the principal shall be to hear and consider information regarding the alleged incident for which the student may be suspended, provide the student an opportunity to dispute the charges and explain the circumstances surrounding the alleged incident, determine if the student committed the disciplinary offense, and if so, the consequences for the infraction.

At a minimum, in addition to the rights afforded a student in a short-term suspension hearing, the student shall have the following rights:

- In advance of the hearing, the opportunity to review the student's record and the documents upon which the principal may rely in making a determination to suspend the student or not.
- The right to be represented by counsel or a lay person of the student's choice, at the student's/parent's/guardian's expense.
- The right to produce witnesses on and to present the student's explanation of the alleged incident, but the student may not be compelled to do so.
- The right to cross-examine witnesses presented by the school district.
- The right to request that the hearing be recorded by the principal, and to receive a copy of the audio recording upon request. If the student or parent/guardian requests an audio recording, the principal shall inform all participants before the hearing that an audio record will be made and a copy will be provided to the student and parent upon request.

The principal shall provide the parent/guardian, if present, an opportunity to discuss the student's conduct and offer information, including mitigating circumstances, that the principal should consider in determining consequences for the student.

The principal shall, based on the evidence, determine whether the student committed the disciplinary offense, and, if so, after considering mitigating circumstances and alternatives to suspension as required by law and regulation, what remedy or consequence will be imposed, in place of or in addition to a long-term suspension. The principal shall send the written determination to the student

and parent by hand-delivery, certified mail, first-class mail, email to an address provided by the parent for school communications, or any other method of delivery agreed to by the principal and the parent.

If the principal decides to suspend the student, the written determination shall:

- Identify the disciplinary offense, the date on which the hearing took place, and the participants at the hearing.
- Set out the key facts and conclusions reached by the principal
- Identify the length and effective date of the suspension, as well as a date of return to school.
- Include notice of the student's opportunity to receive education services to make academic progress during the period of removal from school as required by law and regulation.
- Inform the student of the right to appeal the principal's decision to the superintendent or designee, but only if the principal has imposed a long-term suspension. Notice of the right of appeal shall be in English and the primary language of the home if other than English, and shall include the following information: The process for appealing the decision, including that the student or parent must file a written notice of appeal with the superintendent within five (5) calendar days of the effective date of the long-term suspension, provided that within the five (5) calendar days, the student or parent may request and receive from the superintendent an extension of time for filing the written notice for up to seven (7) additional calendar days; and that the long-term suspension will remain in effect unless and until the superintendent decides to reverse the principal's determination on appeal.

If the student is in a public preschool program or in grades K through 3, the principal shall send a copy of the written determination to the superintendent and explain the reasons for imposing an out-of-school suspension before the suspension takes effect.

Superintendent's Hearing

A student who is placed on long-term suspension following a hearing with the principal shall have the right to appeal the principal's decision to the superintendent.

The student or parent/guardian shall file a notice of appeal with the superintendent within the time period noted above (see Principal's hearing - Suspension of more than 10 days). If the appeal is not timely filed, the superintendent may deny the appeal, or may allow the appeal in his or her discretion, for good cause.

The superintendent shall hold the hearing within three (3) school days of the student's request, unless the student or parent/guardian requests an extension of up to seven (7) additional calendar days, in which case the superintendent shall grant the extension.

The superintendent shall make a good faith effort to include the parent/guardian in the hearing. The superintendent shall be presumed to have made a good faith effort if he or she has made efforts to find a day and time for the hearing that would allow the parent/guardian and superintendent to participate. The superintendent shall send written notice to the parent/guardian of the date, time, and location of the hearing.

The superintendent shall conduct a hearing to determine whether the student committed the disciplinary offense of which the student is accused, and if so, what the consequence shall be. The superintendent

shall arrange for an audio recording of the hearing, a copy of which shall be provided to the student or parent/guardian upon request. The superintendent shall inform all participants before the hearing that an audio record will be made of the hearing and a copy will be provided to the student and parent/guardian upon request. The student shall have all the rights afforded the student at the principal's hearing for long-term suspension.

The superintendent shall issue a written decision within five (5) calendar days of the hearing which meets the requirements of law and regulation. If the superintendent determines that the student committed the disciplinary offense, the superintendent may impose the same or a lesser consequence than the principal, but shall not impose a suspension greater than that imposed by the principal's decision. The decision of the superintendent shall be the final decision of the school district with regard to the suspension.

Expulsion

Expulsion is defined as the removal of a student from school for more than ninety (90) school days, indefinitely, or permanently as allowed by law for possession of a dangerous weapon; possession of a controlled substance; assault on a member of the educational staff; or a felony charge or felony delinquency complaint or conviction, or adjudication or admission of guilt with respect to such felony, if a principal determines that the student's continued presence in school would have a substantial detrimental effect on the general welfare of the school.

Any student expelled from school for such an offense shall be afforded an opportunity to receive educational services and make academic progress.

Academic Progress During Suspension or Expulsion

Any student who is suspended or expelled shall have the opportunity to earn credits, make up assignments, tests, papers, and other school work as needed to make academic progress during the period of his or her removal from the classroom or school. The principal shall inform the student and parent/guardian of this opportunity in writing, in English and in the primary language of the home, when such suspension or expulsion is imposed.

Any student who is expelled or suspended from school for more than ten (10) consecutive days, whether in school or out of school, shall have an opportunity to receive education services and make academic progress toward meeting state and local requirements, through the school-wide education service plan.

The principal shall develop a school-wide education service plan describing the education services that the school district will make available to students who are expelled or suspended from school for more than ten (10) consecutive days. The plan shall include the process for notifying such students and their parents/guardians of the services and arranging such services. Education services shall be based on, and be provided in a manner consistent with, the academic standards and curriculum frameworks established for all students under the law.

The principal shall notify the parent/guardian and student of the opportunity to receive education services at the time the student is expelled or placed on long-term suspension. Notice shall be provided in English and in the primary language spoken in the student's home if other than English, or other means of communication where appropriate. The notice shall include a list of the specific education

services that are available to the student and contact information for a school district staff member who can provide more detailed information.

For each student expelled or suspended from school for more than ten (10) consecutive days, whether in-school or out-of-school, the school district shall document the student's enrollment in education services. For data reporting purposes, the school shall track and report attendance, academic progress, and such other data as directed by the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education.

Reporting

The school district shall collect and annually report data to the DESE regarding in-school suspensions, short- and long-term suspensions, expulsions, emergency removals, access to education services, and such other information as may be required by the DESE.

The principal of each school shall periodically review discipline data by selected student populations, including but not limited to race and ethnicity, gender, socioeconomic status, English language learner status, and student with a disability status in accordance with law and regulation. This data will be used by the principal of each school to determine the extent of in-school suspensions, short and long-term suspensions, expulsions and emergency removals and the impact of such disciplinary actions on selected student populations. As part of the review process, the principal of each school will determine whether it is necessary or appropriate to modify disciplinary practices due to an over-reliance on suspensions, expulsions or removals on selected student populations compared with other students.

SOURCE: MASC December 2014

LEGAL REF: M.G.L. 71:37H; 71:37H ½; 71:37H ¾; 76:17; 603 CMR 53.00

School Committee Adopted: March 18, 2021

Civil Rights

Wrentham Public Schools is committed to promoting multicultural understanding, appreciation, and harmony in the schools. We strive to ensure that no student is denied access to any educational program or other activity, including extracurricular activities, for reasons of race, color, educational background, national origin, religion, gender, sexual orientation, homelessness, or other reason that violates the law. We comply with all applicable state and federal law, including state and federal civil rights and anti-discrimination laws relating to the employment practices, the educational programs and all other activities of the Wrentham Public Schools. Students and staff members of the Wrentham Public Schools shall not, at any time, do or say anything that would in any way tend to cast aspersion on the race, color, ethnic background, national origin, religion, gender identity, sexual orientation, or homelessness of any individual or group.

Grievance Procedures

Students are asked to report any act or statement of which they becomes aware that would cast an aspersion on race, color, sexual orientation, ethnic background, national origin, religion, homelessness, or gender identity of any individual, whether or not such statement or behavior is directed toward or otherwise involves him/her or a racial, ethnic, national religious or gender group of which he/she is a member.

Investigative Procedures

- Any violation of this Civil Rights Policy alleged to have been committed by one or more students shall be promptly investigated by the principal or designee to determine whether a violation occurred.
- All members of the staff and all students shall cooperate fully with any investigation or other inquiry pertaining to an alleged violation of the Civil Rights Policy.
- Disciplinary action will be imposed in accordance with procedural requirements in all cases in which a complaint is substantiated. The disciplinary actions may include, but are not limited to oral or written warnings, suspensions or expulsion from school.
- When an investigation has been completed, school personnel will inform the complainant of the results and file a report with the Office of the Superintendent.

Hearing Officer for Discrimination Complaints

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

Ellen White, Director of Student Services 120 Taunton St, Wrentham, MA 02093 (508-384-5430)

Inquiries concerning the application of non-discrimination policies may also be referred to:

Office for Civil Rights, Boston U.S. Department of Education 5 Post Office Square, 8th Floor Boston, MA 02109-3921 Telephone: (617) 289-0111

Facsimile: (617) 289-0150

Nondiscrimination on the Basis of Sex - Title IX (School Committee Policy ACA)

The School Committee, in accordance with Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 (Updated 8/2024), declares that the school district does not and will not discriminate on the basis of sex, sex stereotypes, sex characteristics, pregnancy or related conditions, sexual orientation, and gender identity in the educational programs and activities of the public schools. This policy will extend not only to students with regard to educational opportunities, but also to employees with regard to employment opportunities.

The School Committee will continue to ensure fair and equitable educational and employment opportunities for all of its students and employees, without regard to sex.

Compliance Officer

The district's Title IX Compliance Officer is Ellen White, Director of Student Services, 120 Taunton Street, Wrentham, MA, 02093. 508-384-5430, x1151.

Definition of Sex-Based Discrimination

Title IX prohibits all sex discrimination in education programs or activities. The 2024 Title IX regulations require that schools use the grievance process to address allegations involving any of the following five types of sex-based discrimination:

- 1. **Sex-Based Harassment** unwelcome conduct based on sex, including quid pro quo harassment, hostile environment harassment, sexual assault, dating violence, domestic violence, and stalking.
- 2. **Different Treatment** when an individual or group of individuals is treated differently because of their sex. For example, in the athletics context, if the girls' basketball team has inferior equipment or fewer coaches than the boys' basketball team, despite having a similar or greater number of players.
- 3. **Disparate Impact** when a facially neutral policy, rule, or practice has a disproportionate impact on students of a particular sex, and the school does not have a substantial, legitimate justification for using that policy, rule, or practice. For example, even if a school's dress or grooming code is facially neutral, a particular aspect of it may result in a disproportionate amount of discipline toward one sex or the other. A school might use a single criterion to identify students for a gifted program, which would result in many more female students being identified.
- 4. **Failure to Accommodate** failure to provide reasonable accommodations, such as breaks during class or changes in schedule to a staff member/student who is pregnant or has a pregnancy-related condition.

Definition of Sex-Based Harassment

Sex-based harassment includes unwelcome sexual advances, requests for sexual favors, and other verbal or physical harassment of a sexual nature in the workplace or learning environment.

Sex-based harassment can occur in a variety of circumstances. The harasser can identify with any gender and have any relationship to the victim, including being a direct manager, indirect supervisor, coworker, teacher, peer, or colleague.

Some forms of sexual harassment include:

- Physical acts of sexual assault.
- Requests for sexual favors.
- Verbal harassment of a sexual nature, including jokes referring to sexual acts or sexual orientation.
- Unwanted touching or physical contact.
- Unwelcome sexual advances.
- Discussing sexual relations/stories/fantasies at work, school, or in other inappropriate places.
- Feeling pressured to engage with someone sexually.
- Exposing oneself or performing sexual acts on oneself.
- Unwanted sexually explicit photos, emails, or text messages.
- Sex-based derogatory name-calling online/social media, non-consensual distribution of intimate images, cyberstalking, and sending sex-based pictures or cartoons.

Sex-based harassment is further defined as any unwelcome sexual advance, request for sexual favors or other verbal or physical conduct of a sexual nature where:

1. Submission to such conduct is made either explicitly or implicitly a term or condition of employment or educational development.

- 2. Submission to or rejection of such conduct by an individual is used as the basis for employment or education decisions affecting such individual.
- 3. Such conduct has the purpose or effect of unreasonably interfering with an individual's work or educational performance or creating an intimidating, hostile, or offensive working or educational environment

The Committee will annually appoint a sex-based harassment Grievance Officer who has been trained on what constitutes sex-based harassment and is vested with the authority and responsibility of processing all sexual harassment complaints in accordance with the procedure set out below.

Sex-Based Harassment (School Committee Policy ACAB)

All persons associated with Wrentham Public Schools, including but not necessarily limited to the Committee, the administration, staff, and students, are expected to conduct themselves at all times to provide an atmosphere free from sex-based harassment. Any person who engages in sex-based harassment while acting as a member of the school community will be in violation of this policy. Further, any retaliation against an individual who has complained about sex-based harassment or retaliation against individuals for cooperating in an investigation of a sexual harassment complaint is similarly unlawful and will not be tolerated.

Because the Wrentham School Committee takes allegations of sex-based harassment seriously, we will respond promptly to complaints of sex-based harassment, and where it is determined that such inappropriate conduct has occurred, we will act promptly to eliminate the conduct and impose such corrective action as is necessary, including disciplinary action where appropriate.

Please note that while this policy sets forth our goals of promoting a workplace and school environment that is free of sex-based harassment, the policy is not designed or intended to limit our authority to discipline or take remedial action for workplace or school conduct which we deem unacceptable, regardless of whether that conduct satisfies the definition of sex-based harassment.

The Grievance Officer

Director of Student Services, Ellen White, Director of Student Services, 120 Taunton Street, Wrentham, MA, 02093. 508-384-5430

Appeals should be directed to the Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction, Dr. Vanessa Beauchaine

Grievance Procedure

- 1. Any member of the school community who believes that they have been subjected to sex-based harassment will report the incident(s) to the Grievance Officer. Complaints can be made either orally or in writing. All complaints shall be investigated promptly and resolved as soon as possible.
- 2. The Grievance Officer will attempt to resolve the problem in an informal manner through the following process:
 - a. The Grievance Officer will confer with the charging party in order to obtain a clear understanding of that party's statement of the facts, and may interview any witnesses.
 - b. The Grievance Officer will then attempt to meet with the charged party in order to obtain his or her response to the complaint.
 - c. The Grievance Officer will hold as many meetings with the parties as is necessary to establish the facts.

- d. On the basis of the Grievance Officer's perception of the situation, he or she may:
 - i. Attempt to resolve the matter informally through reconciliation, provided that the complainant is notified of his/her right to end the informal process at any time and begin the formal stage of the complaint process.
 - ii. Report the incident and transfer the record to the Superintendent or their designee, and so notify the parties by certified mail.
- e. The Grievance Officer will ensure that mediation is not to be used to resolve sex-based assault complaints.
- f. After reviewing the record made by the Grievance Officer, the Superintendent, or designee, may attempt to gather any more evidence necessary to decide the case, and thereafter impose any sanctions deemed appropriate, including a recommendation to the committee for termination or expulsion. At this stage of the proceedings the parties may present witnesses and other evidence and may also be represented. If it is determined that inappropriate conduct has occurred, we will act promptly to eliminate the offending conduct. The parties, to the extent permissible by law, shall be informed of the disposition of the complaint.
- 3. All matters involving sex-based harassment complaints will remain confidential to the extent possible. If the district cannot ensure confidentiality, the complainant will be informed.
- 4. Schools must offer **supportive measures** to complainants even if no formal complaint is filed and to respondents, if needed, during grievance procedures as long as they don't substantially burden either party (e.g., counseling, restrictions on contact, leave of absence, increased security).
- 5. Appeal Process: The decision of the Grievance Officer can be appealed to the Assistant Superintendent.

Discrimination Against Employees/Students Based on Pregnancy

- 1. Schools must not discriminate against any employee/student or applicant based on their current, potential, or past pregnancy or related conditions.
- 2. Schools must treat pregnancy or related positions as any other temporary medical conditions for all job-related purposes.
- 3. Schools must treat pregnancy or related positions as a justification for a voluntary leave of absence for a reasonable period of time, as outlined in the CBA between the Employer and the WEA, with job protection.
- 4. Schools must provide reasonable lactation time and access to a lactation space to be negotiated with individual employees.

Civil Rights and Nondiscrimination Resources

In addition to contacting the appropriate building or district administrator, the state agency responsible for enforcing laws prohibiting discrimination and harassment is the <u>Massachusetts Commission Against Discrimination</u>. The federal agency responsible for enforcing federal laws prohibiting discrimination and harassment is the <u>Equal Employment</u> <u>Opportunity Commission</u>.

Student Support Services

Free Appropriate Public Education (FAPE)

The Office of Student Services ensures that all students living in Wrentham receive a free appropriate public education. Wrentham Public Schools offers a comprehensive range of services and programs, beginning with general education screenings and interventions, to address our

students' diverse learning needs. <u>Please click here to read A Parent's Guide to Special Education in Massachusetts from the Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education.</u>

Individualized Education Program (IEP)

Wrentham Public Schools provides special education, supplementary services, and/or related services free of charge to families to all eligible students with disabilities. Special education is specially designed instruction and/or related services to meet the unique needs of students with disabilities so they can access the same educational opportunities as their peers. Special Education services are available to students who meet mandated eligibility criteria. With parent permission, a multi-disciplinary team assesses a student based on their suspected disability. At a meeting with the student's parents/guardians, the team determines eligibility and develops an appropriate Individualized Education Program (IEP) in the least restrictive environment. A continuum of inclusion and pull-out services are available at all grade levels, as well as educationally necessary, school-based related services such as occupational therapy, speech therapy and physical therapy.

Confidentiality of Personally Identifiable Information

Wrentham Public Schools protects the confidentiality of all personally identifiable information. The district ensures such information is collected, used, and/or maintained in accordance with federal and state law.

Child Find and Record Keeping

The district is responsible for identifying any child, beginning at age three, who is a resident of Wrentham and is suspected of having a disability. This applies to all residents, regardless of whether they attend private or public school. Wrentham Public Schools is also responsible for evaluating those students, at no cost to parents/guardians, to determine if they are eligible for special education or related services under IDEA (Individuals with Disabilities Education Act) and 603 CMR 28 (Massachusetts Special Education Regulations); or if they require specific accommodations under Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 to prevent discrimination based on their disability. The district implements procedures to maintain accurate records of students and report them to the state and/or federal government when requested.

Determination of Eligibility

Wrentham Public Schools has an evaluation process to determine whether a student is eligible for an IEP. The process is consistent with federal and state laws. If you suspect that your child may need an evaluation to determine eligibility for special education services, or accommodations under Section 504, you may request an evaluation by contacting the principal of your child's school, or the Office of Student Services at 508-384-5430 x1151. Please click here to read the procedural safeguards for students' parents/guardians.

Least Restrictive Environment (LRE)

Each student with an IEP has a team that creates, implements, evaluates, and updates the student's IEP. One aspect of the IEP creation process is the determination of where the student will receive services. The team, which includes the student's parents/guardians, ensures, to the maximum extent appropriate, that the student with the IEP is placed with students who are not disabled. The team also ensures the student with the IEP has opportunities, to the maximum extent appropriate, to participate with students who are not disabled in non-academic services and activities.

Technology Use Expectations

This document outlines the acceptable use of technology hardware, software, systems, networks, websites, Internet connections and/or other equipment, hereafter referred to as "technology," belonging to, or in possession and/or control of, Wrentham Public Schools (WPS). These expectations shall apply to all WPS students hereinafter referred to as "Users," who utilize WPS technology. All parents/guardians are required to confirm that they read this document, reviewed it with their WPS students, and that the students agree to abide by the expectations.

Protection Measures for Student Safety

WPS uses multiple measures to protect users and data. Students will not be given access to technology that can communicate with anyone outside of a WPS employee or student. Only the first name and the first initial of the last name of a student will be used on the WPS website. The name of a student will not be associated with their picture. Only authorized WPS staff, the State of Massachusetts, and Student Information System (SIS) hosting company will have direct access to the Student Information System (SIS). All material placed on a student created web page must be pre-approved by a WPS teacher. The WPS filtering system attempts to block user access to inappropriate and/or harmful content on the Internet; however, WPS is not liable if a user accesses inappropriate content. If that happens, the student should immediately close the connection to the site and refrain from downloading any material. The student should then report the incident to the classroom teacher. The teacher will then report the incident to the building principal and provide the address of the site to the Director of Technology.

Teachers will supervise any classroom created collaboration and interactive learning tools. Access to the collaboration and interactive learning tools should require a username and password and be limited to staff and students within WPS. Individuals outside the school system will have viewing access only. Students will only share their username and password with their teachers and parents/guardians. They will keep all personal information out of their posts. WPS will maintain compliance with the Children's Internet Protection Act (CIPA) at all times.

Privacy

WPS monitors all device use and no user has an expectation of privacy regarding use of WPS technology. All internet usage, messages, data, and information viewed, created, sent or retrieved through WPS technology or services are the property of the WPS. WPS reserves the right to monitor, inspect, copy, review, delete, destroy, maintain and/or store all Internet usage, messages, data, and information on its network and property. All information maintained on WPS technology is subject to the Massachusetts Public Records law. Limited student and parent/guardian information may be shared with contracted third- parties and school organizations depending on the nature of their service. These services include school district outreach, special education evaluation, and curriculum software.

Personal Responsibility

Users agree to follow all rules outlined in this document and be personally responsible, both legally and financially, for their use of WPS technology, and shall use WPS technology only in conformance

with these expectations. WPS may, acting in its sole discretion, limit or deny the privilege of access to WPS technology to any user at any time. Users of WPS technology are expected to refrain from unacceptable uses. These include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Using the Internet in a manner that would violate any federal, state, or local statute, regulation, rule or policy.
- Using threatening, defamatory, discriminatory, or harassing language or language that constitutes a criminal offense or that is detrimental to or in opposition to the WPS' educational mission in any email message or other Internet communication.
- Displaying or downloading any kind of inappropriate image, document or drawing. In addition, inappropriate material may not be archived, stored, distributed, edited, or recorded using WPS technology.
- Knowingly engaging in any activity that could result in damage to WPS technology.
- Sharing passwords or assigned accounts, without the express authorization of the WPS.
- Engaging in activities designed to or that may potentially expose WPS technology or other computers to computer viruses, other harmful software, attempts to access technology function in unauthorized ways, or other injury or damage.
- School business use of instant messaging, chat room, or social networking (Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, etc.) for communication with staff is prohibited. Please use direct phone or email contact for all school business conversations.
- Unauthorized copying, downloading, or distributing of copyrighted or pirated software, materials or data. This includes, but is not limited to: licensing information, e-mail, text files, program files, image files, database files, sound files, music files, and video files.
- Providing private and/or confidential information about any individual other than the user, or the user's immediate family, over WPS technology.
- Using WPS technology to transmit or display material confidential to the WPS to uninvolved parties without the authorization of the WPS. This includes material posted in chat rooms, newsgroups, blogs, or other public forums.
- Recording or photographing any live online lesson or recorded lesson.
- Posting to social media or any publicly accessible website a recording or photograph of a live online lesson, recorded lesson, online class, individual or small group meeting, classroom event, school event, or any similar WPS activity.
- Downloading/Installing software, programs, or apps on WPS technology.
- Attempting to harm, maliciously modify, or destroy data that has been created by another.
- Plagiarizing.

Failure to Follow the Technology Use Expectations

Violating any of the guidelines listed above may result in restricted technology access, loss of technology access, and/or disciplinary action against the user. Referral to law enforcement personnel and/or legal action including, but not limited to, criminal or civil prosecution and/or penalty under appropriate state and federal laws.

Warranties/Indemnifications

Wrentham Public Schools makes no warranties of any kind, either express or implied, in connection with its provision of access to and use of its technology provided in this document. WPS is not

responsible for any claims, losses, damages, injuries or costs or fees of any kind suffered or incurred, directly or indirectly, by any user arising from use of the WPS' technology.

The user takes full responsibility and agrees to hold harmless and indemnify the WPS, its Internet Service Provider (ISP), the town of Wrentham, and all of the WPS', its ISP's officers, and the town's employees, agents, servants, representatives, administrators, teachers, volunteers and staff from any and all claims, losses, damages, injuries or costs or fees (including attorney's fees) of any kind resulting from the user's access to the WPS' technology, including, but not limited to, any fees or charges incurred through the purchase of goods or services by the user.

Liability

The WPS is not liable for any users' inappropriate use of electronic resources or violations of copyright restrictions, users' mistakes or negligence, or costs incurred by users. The WPS shall not be responsible for ensuring the accuracy, safety, harmlessness, or usability of any information found on the Internet. The WPS shall not be responsible for any claims, losses, damages, injuries, or costs or fees (including attorneys' fees) of any kind suffered or incurred, directly or indirectly, by any user arising from use of the WPS' technology.

Questions Regarding the Handbook

Thank you for taking the time to review the handbook with your students. Please contact Delaney School Principal Kathleen Maloney or Roderick School Principal Kevin Martes if you have any questions. Their contact information is located in the directory on pages 7 and 8 of this handbook.