



WACONIA
PUBLIC SCHOOLS ISD 110

2023-24 Waconia Middle School Student & Family Handbook



Explore Your Passions. Create Your Success.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Topic	Page
Welcome Letter from Principal & Helpful Links.....	3
District Strategic Roadmap.....	4
Contact Information.....	5
Online Tools.....	6
School Closings.....	7
School Procedures – General Information.....	8–14
School Procedures – Academics.....	15–18
School Procedures – Rules & Discipline.....	19–29
School Procedures – Health & Safety.....	30–32
District Policies.....	33–42

WELCOME!

Dear Parents and Students,

Waconia Middle School is committed to a high quality, inclusive educational environment where learning is our core priority.

As the building principal, I have great personal pride to have the opportunity to lead our amazing students, collaborate with our talented staff, and build strong relationships with our caring community. Waconia Middle School is a great place to learn and grow.

Students in Grades 6–8 will experience many opportunities for creative and unique learning experiences, learn in a safe and caring environment, collaborate with talented and dedicated staff, experience high levels of rigor and achievement, and build many lifelong memories and positive relationships.

Waconia Middle School’s student enrollment continues to grow annually and currently varies between 915–950 students. We often experience the most growth in 6th grade with many new students joining the school district at the start of middle school. With three ISD 110 elementary schools combining in 6th grade, it is an opportune time to become a Wildcat!

Please come by the school office or contact me directly with any questions or concerns. Thank you again for the continued opportunity to work with your children.

Shane Clausen
Waconia Middle School Principal

HELPFUL LINKS

[2023–2024 ISD 110 ACADEMIC CALENDAR](#)

[2023–2024 WMS CALENDAR](#)

[2023–2024 WMS DAILY SCHEDULES](#)

[ISD 110 STAFF DIRECTORY](#)

Mission Statement

ISD110 empowers students to explore their passions and create their success by providing opportunities for academic, social, and emotional growth.

Vision Statement

ISD110 students will:

- Achieve academic success through choice, rigor, and relevance
- Be inspired to explore who they are and who they will become
- Feel they belong in school and in the community

Core Values

Respect

We honor the perspectives of others and we own our individual actions.

Collaboration

We work and learn together.

Inclusiveness

We reach beyond our selves to value and connect with others.

Empathy

We respond to others with authentic care.

Resilience

We work through challenges and setbacks with courage, persistence, and optimism.

Theory of Action

If we...

- Believe all students have the ability to learn and achieve to their potential, and
- Create an environment of safety and belonging, and
- Respond to our students' social, emotional, and academic needs, and
- Build trust and genuine partnerships with students, parents, and colleagues, and
- Achieve learning through high expectations, effective instruction, and established outcomes, and
- Inspire and engage students through a shared responsibility for learning, and
- Commit to continuous learning and improvement, then all students will...
...EXPLORE THEIR PASSIONS and CREATE THEIR SUCCESS!

CONTACT INFORMATION

School Administration

Principal

Shane Clausen
sclausen@isd110.org



Assistant Principal

Irv Andrews
iandrews@isd110.org



Dean of Students

Jamie Hise
jhise@isd110.org



Main Office: 952-442-0650
WMS Attendance Line: 952-442-0660
Fax: 952-442-0659

District Contacts

Superintendent Brian Gersich | 952.856.4515 | bgersich@isd110.org
Director of Finance and Operations Ra Chhoth | 952.442.0602 | rchhoth@isd110.org
Director of Human Resources Enid Schonewise | 952.442.0645 | eschonewise@isd110.org
Director of Special Education Paul Tordoff | 952.442.0628 | ptordoff@isd110.org
Director of Communications Matt Thomas | 952.856.4531 | mthomas@isd110.org
Director of Community Education Steven Jensen | 952.442.0615 | sjensen@isd110.org
Director of Educational Services Erika Nesvig | 952.856.4610 | enesvig@isd110.org
Director of Buildings and Grounds Tim Bisek | 952.442.9657 | tbisek@isd110.org
Director of Nutritional Services Barb Schank | 952.856.4512 | bschank@isd110.org
Technology Coordinator TBD | 952.442.0606 |
Transportation Provider | Koch Bus Company | 952.442.3370

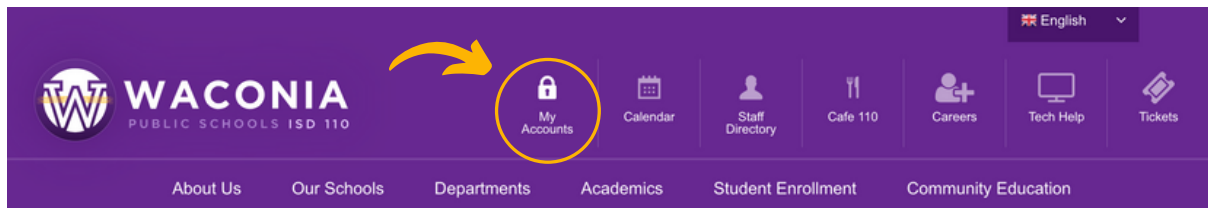
School Board Contacts

All seven members of the ISD 110 School Board can be contacted at once by sending an email to schoollboardmembers@isd110.org.

ONLINE TOOLS

My Accounts Portal

The “My Accounts” portal is a single sign-on feature that can be accessed on the District homepage (isd110.org) and gives families access to a variety of online tools including Infinite Campus, Schoology, back to school forms, activities registration, student meal accounts, and more.



Infinite Campus Family Portal (Grades K–12)



Waconia Public Schools provides Infinite Campus Family Portal to students, and parents/guardians of students attending our schools. Campus Family Portal allows you to better understand, monitor, and participate in the educational process with real-time access to student information for the current school year. Parents and students can access announcements, assignments, attendance, grades, report cards, schedules, and more.

To access your Infinite Campus account, first log into the My Accounts Portal with your district issued username and password. After enrolling, parents/guardians receive an email containing My Accounts Portal access instructions. Once logged into the My Accounts Portal, click on the Infinite Campus Family Portal tile to access your account.

Schoology Learning (Grades 3–12)



Schoology learning allows parents to view specific digital resources being used in the classroom. Schoology is available to students and families in grades 3–12. Once logged into Schoology, you can view digital handouts, presentations, as well as tests and class announcements. Staff will communicate Schoology expectations with students and families.

To access your Schoology account, first log into the My Accounts Portal with your district issued username and password. After enrolling, parents/guardians receive an email containing My Accounts Portal access instructions. Once logged into the My Accounts Portal, click on the Schoology tile to access your account.

SCHOOL CLOSINGS

General Information

If inclement weather forces District leaders to cancel in-person instruction during the 2023–24 school year, the first two instances would result in no-school days for students. Any subsequent weather-related closures would result in the District implementing a flex-learning day. Students in grades 5–12 would use their devices to access learning plans on Schoology. Families with students in grades K–4 would receive learning plans via email from teachers that morning.

Cancellations

School will be cancelled if heavy snow and/or icy conditions make it extremely hazardous or impossible for school buses to travel their routes and for employees to get to work safely. The Superintendent makes the decision in consultation with the district's school bus company, the National Weather Service, and superintendents in neighboring school districts.

Every effort will be made to make a decision by 6:00 a.m. on the morning of a cancellation. Notification will be sent directly to families through Infinite Campus by phone, email, and text message. Information will also be posted on the district website and the district's social media channels. Notification will also be sent to local television media outlets (KARE–11, KSTP–5, FOX–9, WCCO–4).

Inclement weather cancellations typically include the following:

- Classes and programs at all Pre K–12 schools, and Waconia Learning Center
- Early Childhood Family Education (ECFE)
- Early Childhood Special Education (ECSE)
- Before & after-school programs and extra-curricular activities
- Field trips and school events
- Community Ed classes, events, practices, and games
- Kids' Company childcare
- Building events (open houses, conferences, etc)
- Permits held by outside organizations (i.e. Girl Scouts, Associations, Clubs, etc) for meetings and activities in a school building are canceled. Contact the organizer with questions.
- Athletics cancellations are decided on an individual basis. Schedule changes are posted online at metrowestconference.org.

Late Starts / Early Dismissals

It's possible that District leaders will decide to start school late or dismiss students early and cancel after-school activities due to weather conditions that are expected to worsen throughout the school day. Parents and guardians will be notified in the same manner as described above in the cancellations section. If a two-hour late start is called, a student's bus will arrive at their bus stop exactly two hours after their normally scheduled pick-up time.

Update Your Contact Information

Families are reminded to login to Infinite Campus to make sure their contact information is up to date and accurate in order to ensure that they receive timely weather-related information via phone, text and email.

Core Values

RESPECT

- We create safe environments by treating all persons with dignity, equity, and compassion.
- We know all property, private and public, is an extension of its owner and is likewise to be treated with thoughtfulness and care.
- We treat others the way we would want to be treated.

RESPONSIBILITY

- We value motivation, hard work, self-direction, and success.
- We know time is our most perishable resource and should not be wasted but rather invested.
- We recognize school should be fun and that having fun while learning is our collective goal.

INTEGRITY

- We value honesty and employ it in all endeavors.
- We recognize fair does not always mean equal. Treating unequal people equally is not fair.
- We make ethical choices and actions that are representative of our families and our community.

KINDNESS

- We value teamwork, cooperation, courtesy, positivity, and inclusion.
- We are each capable of more than we expect, and we are even more capable when we work together.
- We intentionally make choices and take actions to make someone's day better and brighter.

Operating according to our core values is always defensible. Operating contrary to our core values will hurt individuals and our school community. If students are behaving in ways that are contrary to our core values, expect to be corrected.

Administrative Discretionary Action Disclaimer

It is impossible to anticipate and address every circumstance that may occur in the course of a school year. To ensure safety and order, students and others are subject to all school rules, regulations and policies, and the reasonable and prudent interpretation, therefore, by responsible school officials, regardless of whether or not they are specifically addressed in this handbook. Students are required to provide accurate information when asked by school personnel. Failure to do so may result in detention or suspension.

Parental Curriculum Review

It is the policy of the school district to provide evidence-based curricula aligned to Minnesota Standards as determined by the Minnesota Department of Education (MDE). Per Minnesota Statute 120B.20, each school district shall have a procedure for a parent, guardian, or an adult student (18 years of age or older), to review the content of the instructional materials. If objections are made to the content, the school district shall make reasonable arrangements with school personnel for alternative instruction. Alternative instruction may be provided by the parent, guardian, or adult student if the alternative instruction, if any, offered by the school district does not meet the concerns of the parent, guardian, or adult student. The school district is not required to pay for the costs of alternative instruction provided by a parent, guardian, or adult student. School personnel may not impose an academic or other penalty upon a student merely for arranging alternative instruction. School personnel may evaluate and assess the quality of the student's work.

Privacy and Access to School Records

The school has on file your grades, attendance, standardized test scores, etc., since you began school. If you have attended several different schools, these records have followed you to this school and are on file here. You and/or your parent/guardian may see the contents of these records by making an appointment with the principal or counselor. You may have copies made of anything in the school record, at a cost to you of ten cents per sheet, but you are not permitted to take the original record out of the office. You and/or your parent/guardian may place any statement or items in your record that you wish to, if it pertains to your schoolwork.

You may also request that items be removed from your file. In the event that you and/or your parent/guardian make such a request, the person in charge of the record may or may not grant the request. In the event the request is denied, you may appeal the decision to the next highest school official, and ultimately, to the school board. Your records, or any part thereof (except directory information), cannot be transferred in writing or orally to any other place without the written consent of you and/or your parent/guardian, with the exception of another public school in the state in which you have already enrolled after transferring from this school.

This means that your school will not, and cannot by law, without first receiving written consent from you and/or your parent/guardian:

1. Send a transcript of your school record to a college, vocational school, or university;
2. Give information from your record to a prospective employer (except directory information).

Written consent can be given by using a form available in the office of the principal or counselor, or by writing a letter to the office, requesting the transfer of such records. Students who are eighteen years of age or older need not seek consent of their parent/guardian to exercise their rights of access or control of transfer of their records. These laws and the resulting procedures described on this page also apply to the records of all graduates of this school.

School Publications & News Media

Student pictures and identifying names will be printed in the school yearbook and given to the local news media on those occasions that warrant it. However, any student, or the student's parent/guardian, if the student is under the age of eighteen, may request that his/her picture and name not be published in the media or in the school yearbook. To make this request, please complete the form on the family portal of Infinite Campus. This does not cover pictures taken by the news media unless we specifically have signed statements to the contrary.

Student & Parent Communication During School Day

A phone for student use is available in the main office. Telephone use should be limited to emergencies only. Students should not leave a message for a return call except from the office with adult permission. Students will not be called out of class for non-emergency messages. If it is essential for a student to get a message from home, it will be delivered during lunch, between classes, or after school. Students are not allowed to use their cell phones or smart watches to communicate during the school day without the staff's permission. Parents should not expect students to receive or respond to text messages or personal calls during the school day. Parents should also help conserve secretarial time by communicating messages with their student(s) outside of school time whenever possible.

Process for Addressing Concerns

Please follow the following protocol to address concerns:

1. Contact the person directly in charge of the area of concern. Ex: the classroom teacher.
2. If the concern is not addressed to your satisfaction, contact the supervisor of the person directly in charge. Ex: the building principal.
3. If the concern is still not addressed to your satisfaction, contact the next person in the chain of command. Ex: the superintendent of the school district
4. Finally, if the concern is still not addressed to your satisfaction, contact the school board chair or a school board member of your choice.

Title IX Information

As required by Title IX of the Education Amendments Act of 1972 and other state and federal nondiscrimination laws, Waconia Public Schools does not discriminate on the basis of sex in its education programs, activities, or employment. The school district is committed to maintaining an education and work environment that is free from discrimination based on sex, including sexual harassment.

Waconia Public Schools does not tolerate sexual harassment and will take prompt and reasonable action in response to instances of sexual harassment. Any employee, student, parent, or guardian having questions regarding the application of Title IX or the District's Title IX Sexual Harassment Grievance Process should discuss them with the Title IX Coordinator.

ISD 110 Title IX Coordinator
Enid Schoenwise, Director of Human Resources
Waconia Public Schools
512 Industrial Boulevard
Waconia, MN 55387
Telephone: (952) 442-0645
Email: TitleIXCoordinator@isd110.org

Questions relating solely to Title IX and its regulations may also be referred to the [Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights of the United States Department of Education](#)

Athletics and Activities

Sports and Fine Arts activities are organized through the District 110 Athletic and Activities Office. Most sports activities at the sixth-grade level are largely intramural and sponsored by District 110 Community Education. Student participation in athletics and activities programs of the school is governed by a student eligibility policy. Generally, students must be achieving success in their regular school program academics to remain eligible for extracurricular involvement. A copy of the eligibility policy will be distributed at each sport and activity interest meeting. Participants in any interscholastic activities program must turn in a sport-qualifying physical examination form and register online at www.waconiawildcatactivities.com

Seventh and eighth grade students are eligible to try out for high school teams in the following sports: boys and girls cross country, boys and girls swimming & diving, wrestling, dance, gymnastics, and girls lacrosse. Eighth graders are also eligible to try out for girls hockey.

Special Services

Special education support programs are provided in math, reading, oral and written language, speech, science, social studies, and transition subjects. Support with emotional, behavioral, social, and other disability services are also provided.

Concerns about the need for special help may be alleviated by a pre-referral meeting with the SAT (Student Assistance Team). The SAT will consist of counselors, school psychologist, school nurse, building administration, social worker, and regular and special education teachers. The SAT will attempt to provide help to the student within the classroom setting and without the aid of the special service department. If this process does not resolve the concerns, the student may be referred to the special education department for evaluation.

Requests for special education evaluations and potential services may be made by parents/guardians, teachers, counselors, etc., on behalf of a student. Please contact a teacher, counselor, principal, or the Director of Secondary Student Support Services (Paul Tordoff) if you believe special education evaluation is needed.

Students with special needs remain with their classmates and classroom teachers as much as possible. Specialists may provide services by team-teaching classes with regular education teachers, meeting with individuals or small groups in a resource room, or a combination of both.

If your child receives or will be evaluated for special education services, Waconia Public Schools will share your child's name and date of birth with the Minnesota Department of Human Services (DHS) in order to determine if your child is on Medical Assistance or MinnesotaCare. If you do not wish to share your child's name and date of birth with the DHS, you must inform Waconia Public Schools in writing no later than October 1.

Send your request to:
Sara Eischens, Health Services Manager
seischens@isd110.org
952-442-0625
512 Industrial Blvd. Waconia, MN 55387

Student Fee Regulations

The Minnesota Legislature enacted the "Minnesota Public School Fee Law," which went into effect on July 21, 1975. In accordance with the law and school board policy, the following guidelines are set up for fees in Waconia Middle School.

Permitted Fees:

A school board may charge fees in the following areas:

1. In any program where the resultant product, in excess of minimum requirements and at the pupil's option, becomes the property of the pupil.
2. Admission fees or charges for extra-curricular activities, where attendance is optional.
3. A security deposit for the return of materials, supplies, or equipment. A student may be charged a security deposit for items such as locks, keys, tools, and science, athletic, or audio-visual equipment.
4. Personal physical education and athletic equipment and apparel, although any pupil may provide his/her own if it meets reasonable requirements and standards relating to health and safety established by the school board.
5. Items of personal use or products that a student may purchase at his/her own option, such as student publications, class rings, yearbooks, and graduation announcements.
6. Field trips considered supplementary to a district's educational program.
7. Any authorized voluntary student health and accident benefit plan.
8. For the use of musical instruments owned or rented by the district, a reasonable rental fee not to exceed either the rental cost to the district or the annual depreciation plus the actual annual maintenance cost for each school-owned instrument.
9. Students may be required to furnish personal or consumable items, including pencils, paper, pens, erasers, and notebooks.
10. Fees may be charged for lost books and/or intentionally damaged books and/or supplies and equipment.
11. Fees specifically permitted by any other statute.

Students are required to furnish their own paper, pencils, pens, notebooks, graph paper, sketch pads, gym suits, tennis and athletic shoes, and other items of personal equipment. These procedures are in accordance with and governed by the Minnesota Public School Fee Law, MSA 120.71 – 120.76.

The Board of Education has determined that student activity fees are necessary and has taken action to formally put the system into action. The coach or activity director will inform participants of the fee and collection terms. All high school sports and extra-curricular fine arts activities are included in the fee structure.

SCHOOL PROCEDURES

GENERAL INFORMATION

Lost and Found

Each year, hundreds of articles of clothing and miscellaneous items are left unclaimed at school. Please label coats, jackets, mittens, caps, boots, etc. Lost and found items are kept in the physical education locker rooms and the cafeteria. Students may identify and reclaim items from those locations. If items remain in the lost and found without being claimed, they will be donated to charity during winter break and summer break.

School Communications

Report Cards

Report cards are generated electronically a week after the end of each quarter-length grading period. Report cards include grades, comments, attendance information, and teacher names. Report Cards will be found online through the parent portal. We will be happy to mail a paper copy of the report card to parents/guardians upon request.

Parent Conferences

Each year, multiple evenings are designated for parent/teacher conferences. Please see the student calendar for specific dates. In addition, the faculty and the administration of Waconia Middle School are ready to conference with parents at any time a concern is identified.

School Mailings

We are in the process of eliminating as many school mailings as possible and relying on the Parent Portal, Schoology, WMS Website, and email messages. Families can expect to receive an electronic weekly newsletter with information about school-wide events and highlights.

Student and Parent/Guardian Communication During the School Day

A phone for student use is available in the main office. Telephone use should be limited to emergencies only. Students should not leave a message for a return call except from the office with adult permission. Students will not be called out of class for non-emergency messages. If it is essential for a student to get a message from home, it will be delivered during lunch, between classes, or after school. Students are not allowed to use their cell phones or smart watches to communicate during the school day without the staff's permission. Parents should not expect students to receive or respond to text messages or personal calls during the school day. Parents should also help conserve secretarial time by communicating messages with their student(s) outside of school time whenever possible.



Food Service / Cafe #110 Nutritional Services

Waconia Public Schools participates in the National School Breakfast and Lunch Program. Cafe #110 is all about emphasizing the importance of balancing healthy eating and physical activity for our kids! We offer our students a wide variety of fruits, vegetables, whole grains, and we're using more and more locally-grown ingredients. Our menus and recipes are inspired by our students, staff and current trends and can be found at cafe110.org. Most often there are a minimum of three lunch choices each day. A peanut/tree nut-free table is available for daily student use in the lunchroom.

Free Meals

Beginning with the 2023–24 school year, every student will be eligible to receive one free breakfast and one free lunch meal per school day. In order to qualify as a free meal, the student must take a serving of a fruit or vegetable. Families may want to consider placing funds in their student's meal account to pay for guest meals, a la carte items and extra meals and portions.

Snacks / Celebration Treats

To keep a clean school environment, candy, snacks, pop, energy drinks, coffee drinks, or other treats should not be consumed in the halls or locker area commons. With the exception of water in resealable containers, food and drinks other than water should only be consumed in the lunchroom. Gum is at the discretion of classroom teachers. Improper disposal of gum will result in a loss of gum privileges.

Do not send cupcakes, birthday cakes, or other celebration-type food to school with your child. Students will not be allowed to distribute these food items during the school day. Students are prohibited from ordering food and have it delivered by a company.

Picking Students Up After School

If you are picking up students after school, park in the main parking or line up in a single file line in the pick-up/drop-off lane. We cannot allow our driveway to become blocked to emergency vehicles. Idling in a double row and idling in the parking lot aiseways must be avoided. Childcare services before and after those hours may be provided by Community Education's Kids Company Program. Contact CE at 952-442-0610 to make arrangements.

Daily Schedules

The school does not provide student supervision before 8:05 AM or after 3:20 PM. Students should not be on-site unless students are present as part of an organized school activity or have a prearranged plan to work with a teacher. [Click here](#) to review all WMS schedules.

Testing & Standardized Assessment

District 110 uses a variety of standardized assessment tests to help evaluate student performance. Results of these tests provide data to schools, teachers, students, and parents that show areas of strength and areas requiring improvement.

How important are these tests? For students in grades K–8, these tests assess student achievement with regard to the Minnesota Academic Standards. They also measure academic growth from year to year.

[Click this link](#) for specific testing dates.

What if I choose not to have my student participate in statewide assessments?

Parents/guardians have a right to not have their student(s) participate in state-required standardized assessments. Minnesota Statutes require the department to provide information about statewide assessments to parents/guardians and include a form to complete if they refuse to have their student participate (see link below). All forms should be completed and returned to the student's site by January 15 to best support district planning. Your student's district may require additional information.

[Parent/Guardian Guide and Refusal for Student Participation in Statewide Testing Form](#)

[Parent/Guardian Guide and Refusal for Student Participation in Statewide Testing Form Spanish](#)

Protection of Pupil Rights Amendment

The Protection of Pupil Rights Amendment (PPRA), 20 U.S.C. § 1232h, requires Waconia Public School District (ISD110) to notify you and obtain consent or allow you to opt your child out of participating in certain school activities. These activities include a student survey, analysis, or evaluation that concerns one or more of the following eight areas ("protected information surveys"):

1. Political affiliations or beliefs of the student or student's parent;
2. Mental or psychological problems of the student or student's family;
3. Sex behavior or attitudes;
4. Illegal, anti-social, self-incriminating, or demeaning behavior;
5. Critical appraisals of others with whom respondents have close family relationships;
6. Legally recognized privileged relationships, such as with lawyers, doctors, or ministers;
7. Religious practices, affiliations, or beliefs of the student or parents; or
8. Income, other than as required by law to determine program eligibility.

This requirement also applies to the collection, disclosure or use of student information for marketing purposes ("marketing surveys"), and certain physical exams and screenings. The Waconia Public School District (ISD110) will provide parents, within a reasonable period of time prior to the administration of the surveys and activities, notification of the surveys and activities and be provided an opportunity to opt their child out, as well as an opportunity to review the surveys. (Please note that this notice and consent/opt-out transfers from parents to any student who is 18 years old or an emancipated minor under State law.)

SCHOOL PROCEDURES

ACADEMICS

Grading

Rationale/Philosophy

Our goal is to provide students and parents with an accurate measurement of student achievement. Waconia Middle School recognizes that grading, practice work, make-up opportunities, report cards, and reporting practices, in general, should be consistent, accurate, fair, meaningful, research-based, and connected to state and national standards. Through this, we hope to provide students with opportunities for self-evaluation and growth as a means to create lifelong learners. Students will receive an academic grade each trimester for core and encore classes. Support and enrichment type classes may be graded as pass/fail based on participation. Academic grades will measure the level of content mastery.

Academic Grades

In order to balance formative and summative evidence, grades will be calculated based on two categories: Summative Assessments ($\geq 60\%$) and Formative Assessments ($\leq 40\%$). These will be the categories in Infinite Campus. This balance reflects our school's emphasis on assigning quarter grades on a majority of summative evidence so that grades are more indicative of content knowledge, rather than the learning process. All classes at Waconia Middle School will weigh the scores collected in the grade book according to the Waconia Middle School Guidelines for Weighting Academic Grades (see chart below). Grade-level content teams will communicate the agreed-upon grading parameters for their classes.

Waconia Middle School Guidelines for Weighting Academic Grades	
<u>Summative ($\geq 60\%$)</u>	<u>Formative ($\leq 40\%$)</u>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The focus on these items will be an assessment of content knowledge aligned to standards. A minimum of 4 summative items will be recorded in the grade book each quarter. Students will be able to complete retakes for priority standards. Retakes for non-priority standards will be offered at the teacher's discretion. Unit Assessments, including Mid-Unit Assessments (quizzes/tests) for long units Major Performance Tasks, including products, performances, and projects (i.e. essays, artwork, visual representations, models, multimedia, oral presentations, lab reports, live or recorded performances) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The focus of these items will provide practice for learning. Note that not all practices will be scored or reported. Retakes or the ability to redo these items may be offered at the teacher's discretion. Independent practice on daily work (daily assignments and practice), including online programs that are student-driven and managed Collaborative group tasks that receive a shared grade Brief progress checks used to inform instruction (i.e. short quizzes, reviews, warm-ups, cool-downs)

Grading

Grade point averages (GPAs) are computed electronically. The numerical point equivalents for marks are as follows:

A	4.0
A-	3.67
B+	3.33
B	3.00
B-	2.67
C+	2.33
C	2.00
C-	1.67
D+	1.33
D	1.00
D-	0.67

P (Pass) No numerical computation.

NG (No Grade) No numerical computation.

I Incomplete. A plan must be worked out with the teacher to complete the coursework.

F Fail. Does affect numerical computation

Grade Level Promotion

Student promotion to the next grade level is based upon the combination of school staff and family recommendations at the end of each school year. Students failing multiple classes during the school year may be recommended to repeat the school year or complete specific courses during summer school.

In order to assure promotion to the next successive grade level, a student is expected to pass all assigned classes. Passing grades of D- and above earn completion credit whereas failing grades of F or Incomplete do not. Students are advised to assure promotion to the next grade level by passing all assigned classes.



Student Recognition

Honor Rolls

At the end of each grading period, students are recognized for their efforts in the classroom.

Quarter honor rolls for all Waconia Middle School students, grades 6–8, will be based upon a 4.00 GPA (grade point average). All student marks will be included in the grade point average. "Incomplete" marks seriously reduce the GPA and may prevent quarter honor roll recognition.

Honor rolls will be published each quarter, with the names of those students earning a 3.000 or higher GPA for that grading period (Honor II) and the names of those students earning a 3.665 or higher GPA for that grading period (Honor I).

In addition, a male and female 8th grade graduate with the highest combination of GPA and standardized test achievement in their class over all their years at WMS will be recognized with the Principal's Academic Achievement Award at the 8th–grade farewell celebration. Additional academic achievement awards may also be presented based on administrative discretion.

Wildcat Way Tickets

As part of Waconia Middle School's PBIS (Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports) implementation, students can be recognized using a positive ticket system in real time by staff for demonstrating the building's core values or Kindness, Respect, Responsibility and Integrity. Tickets are turned into the front office and further recognition comes from drawings that occur every other week.

Character Counts

Waconia Middle School's student character recognition program for all WMS students includes monthly recognition for students displaying remarkable character.

Character actions recognized for nomination by WMS staff members include incidents of going above and beyond the daily expectation or consistently demonstrating actions aligned to Waconia Middle School's Core Values of RESPECT, RESPONSIBILITY, INTEGRITY, and KINDNESS.

In addition, a male and female 8th–grade graduate will be recognized for the Waconia Middle School Character Award for continual, positive contributions to the culture at WMS at the 8th–grade farewell celebration.

Student Behavior Management

Our purpose in student behavior management is twofold: first, to maintain a safe and productive learning environment for all students, faculty, and staff that adheres to our WMS Core Values; second, to encourage student self-management as a life skill. Therefore, our discipline practices are intended to be instructive and protective rather than punitive.

Students are required to participate and answer questions on investigative matters regarding student conduct that involves a violation of school expectations.

Corrective measures will be applied on the basis of the level of severity of the student's behavior infraction and will take into consideration the number of times the student has been reported violating a behavior expectation. If a student is sent to the administration, families will be contacted to be informed of the incident(s) and partner on solutions.

Level 1 Behaviors

Any of the following actions may result in a behavior ticket, removal of privileges, lunch or after-school detention, and/or in-school suspension.

- Disrespectful language and/or actions toward peer(s), adult(s), or property
- Running in the building
- Profanity and/or vulgar language
- Lunchroom/recess misbehavior
- Unauthorized snacks or gum
- Unauthorized beverages
- Selling non-school sponsored items
- Disrupting the learning of others
- Public display(s) of affection
- Unexcused tardy to class
- Before/After-school misbehavior
- Insubordination (repetitive negative behaviors after intervention)
- Other like or similar infractions

Level 2 Behaviors

Any of the following actions may result in lunch or after school detention, behavior intervention program, in-school suspension, and/or out-of-school suspension.

- Threatening or intimidating language and/or actions
- Insubordination (repetitive negative behaviors after intervention)
- Harassment/Bullying
- Physical aggression
- Forgery and/or academic dishonesty
- Possession of obscene or threatening material
- Absence without permission/Skipping
- Other like or similar infractions

Student Behavior Management

Level 3 Behaviors

Any of the following actions may result in lunch or after school detention, behavior intervention program, in-school suspension and/or out-of-school suspension, and/or expulsion.

- Possession or use of alcohol, tobacco, nicotine, or other illegal drugs and/or paraphernalia
- Physical attack or fighting
- Extortion
- False alarms or reports
- Fireworks, smoke/stink bombs, snaps
- Vandalism
- Harassment/Bullying after administrative intervention
- Electronic impersonation of students and/or school staff (social media sites and/or unauthorized site login)
- Use of an image capturing device such as a cell phone in a restroom and/or locker rooms
- “Pantsing” or the intentional removal of another student’s clothing
- Other like or similar infractions

Grounds for Dismissal

No school shall dismiss any pupil without attempting to provide alternative educational services before dismissal proceedings, except where it appears that the pupil will create an immediate and substantial danger to self or to surrounding persons or property.

A pupil may be dismissed on any of the following grounds:

1. willful violation of any reasonable school board regulation. Such regulation must be clear and definite to provide notice to pupils that they must conform their conduct to its requirements;
2. willful conduct that significantly disrupts the rights of others to an education, or the ability of school personnel to perform their duties, or school-sponsored extracurricular activities; or
3. willful conduct that endangers the pupil or other pupils, or surrounding persons, including school district employees, or property of the school.

If a pupil’s total days of removal from the school exceeds ten cumulative days in a school year, the school district shall make reasonable attempts to convene a meeting with the pupil and the pupil’s parent or guardian before subsequently removing the pupil from school and, with the permission of the parent or guardian, arrange for a mental health screening for the pupil. The district is not required to pay for the mental health screening. The purpose of this meeting is to attempt to determine the pupil’s need for assessment or other services or whether the parent or guardian should have the pupil assessed or diagnosed to determine whether the pupil needs treatment for a mental health disorder.

Behavior Tickets

Our first step in correcting the behavior of students is the use of a “Behavior Ticket.” The procedure for the use of the Behavior Ticket System is as follows:

1. An adult observes improper behavior.
2. That adult will make the student aware of the behavior observed and inform him/her that a Behavior Ticket will be written.
3. The student is expected to sign the behavior ticket and tell his/her parents about the misbehavior and the warning ticket that was issued. (These tickets do not go home with students).
4. The behavior ticket is given to a grade-level teacher for recording.
5. If or when a second behavior ticket is recorded for a particular student, that student will receive a written reminder that they have two recorded behavior tickets. The written reminder will be carried home by the student to his/her parents. A teacher will use the occasion of this warning to conference with the student to remind him/her of the needed improvement in behaviors.
6. If a student receives a third behavior ticket, he/she will be assigned a Lunch or After-School-Detention(s). A copy of the behavior tickets issued will be attached to the detention.
7. If a student receives multiple detentions during a quarter length-grading period as a result of repetitive behavior tickets, they may be assigned to a period of time in school time detention or In-School-Suspension.

Note: Student behavior that is not just a violation of school rules but is also a violation of law, may be reported to the police.

Weapons Policy

All weapons are prohibited anywhere on school property. Items considered weapons may include the following: guns, look-alike guns/weapons, pellet guns, stun guns, splat guns, explosives, ammunition, mace, knives, clubs, metal knuckles, nunchucks, throwing stars, etc. Any item when used as a weapon in the school will also constitute a violation of the Weapons Policy.

Bullying Policy

An act of bullying, by either an individual student or a group of students, is expressly prohibited at all Waconia Public Schools. This policy applies not only to students who directly engage in an act of bullying but also to students who, by their indirect behavior, condone or support another student’s act of bullying.

A. Bullying Definition

“Bullying” means any written or verbal expression, physical act or gesture, or pattern thereof, by a student that is intended to cause or is perceived as causing distress to a student or a group of students and which substantially interferes with another student’s educational benefits, opportunities, or performance. Bullying includes, but is not limited to, conduct by a student against another student or a group of students that a reasonable person under the circumstances knows or should know has the effect of:

1. Harming a student or a group of students
2. Damaging a student’s or a group of students’ property
3. Placing a student or a group of students in reasonable fear of harm to a person or property
4. Creating a hostile educational environment for a student or a group of students
5. Intimidating a student or a group of students.

Bullying Policy

B. Cyber Bullying

The misuse of technology including, but not limited to, teasing, intimidating, defaming, threatening, or terrorizing another student, teacher, administrator, volunteer, or other employees of the school district by sending or posting email messages, instant messages, text messages, digital pictures or images, or website postings, including blogs, also may constitute an act of bullying regardless of whether such acts are committed on or off school district property and/or with or without the use of school district resources. Retaliation against a victim, good faith reporter, or witness to bullying is prohibited, as are false accusations or reports of bullying against another student.

C. Reporting Bullying

A student who believes he or she has been the victim of bullying or any person with knowledge or belief of conduct that may constitute bullying shall report the alleged acts immediately to a staff member. A person may report bullying anonymously; however, the ability to take action against an alleged perpetrator based solely on an anonymous report may be limited. WMS students and families are encouraged to complete the Bullying/Harassment reporting form available from a principal, a counselor, or located on the Waconia Middle School website.

D. Investigation

The WMS administration will act to investigate all complaints of bullying. Upon completion of the investigation, the school administration will take appropriate disciplinary action(s) and supportive actions for all students involved.

E. Disciplinary Actions

WMS administration will discipline any student who engages in an act of bullying, retaliation or false reporting of bullying. Consequences for students who commit acts of bullying may include but are not limited to, warning, remediation, suspension, exclusion, or expulsion. Disciplinary consequences will be sufficiently severe to try to deter future violations and to appropriately discipline prohibited behavior.

F. Board Policy

The above information provides a summary of Waconia Public School's Bullying Policy. A complete Bullying Prohibition Policy (Board Policy #514) is located in Waconia Middle School's Electronic Student Handbook or on the school district's main website.

Student Dress Policy

The appearance of a student is primarily the responsibility of the individual and his/her parents/guardians in accordance with School Board policy number 504. District 110 students are expected to maintain an appearance that is not distracting to other students or the learning environment. It is important to communicate and maintain fair and consistent expectations for all students.

The school does not permit symbols, emblems, badges, signs, words, objects, and pictures on clothing, jewelry, or personal items that represent swear words, sexual inferences, alcohol or tobacco advertising, demeaning phrases, gangs, or discriminatory references to sex, race, or religion or that are lewd, vulgar or obscene. It is not the intention of this dress code to limit a student's right to express political, religious, philosophical, or similar opinions by wearing such apparel on which such messages are stated. Such messages are acceptable as long as they are not lewd, vulgar, obscene, defamatory, or profane; do not advocate violence or harassment of others, and do not promote products or activities that are illegal for use by minors.

Clothing must cover areas from one armpit across to the other armpit, down to approximately mid-thighs, applicable to front and back. Tops must have shoulder straps. See-through or mesh garments must not be worn without appropriate coverage underneath that meet the requirements of the dress requirements.

When, in the judgment of the administration, a student's appearance, grooming, or mode of dress interferes with or disrupts the educational process of school activities, or poses a threat to the health or safety of the student or others, the student will be directed to make modifications. The school administration reserves the right to allow or prohibit student attire.

Examples of prohibited attire include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Going without shoes;
- Wearing undergarments as outer garments;
- Wearing shirts without sleeves or straps;
- Wearing clothing that does not provide coverage from armpit to armpit to approximately mid-thighs applicable to front and back;
- Wearing see-through or mesh garments without appropriate coverage underneath that meet the requirements of the dress requirements;
- Wearing headwear during the school day including but not limited to hats, caps, bandanas, or hoods worn up during school hours unless approved on a school-wide dress-up day, religious needs, or approved health reasons;
- Wearing clothing with language that is lewd, vulgar or obscene;
- Wearing apparel promoting products or activities that are illegal for use by minors (including tobacco, use of drugs, and/or alcohol advertising);
- Wearing objectionable emblems, items, signs, words, objects, or pictures on clothing communicating a message that is racist, sexist, or otherwise derogatory to a protected minority group; which connotes gang membership; or that approves, advances, or provokes any form of religious, racial, or sexual harassment and/or violence against other individuals.

Student Dress Policy continued on next page.

Student Dress Policy

Inappropriate dress consequences:

- 1st Offense
 - Student is reminded of expectations
 - Incident is documented in student information system
 - Clothing modifications are made as necessary
- 2nd Offense
 - Student is reminded of expectations
 - Incident is documented in student information system
 - Clothing modifications are made as necessary
 - Parent/Guardian is notified
- 3rd Offense
 - Student is reminded of expectations
 - Incident is documented in student information system
 - Clothing modifications are made as necessary
 - Parent/Guardian is notified
 - Detention or appropriate consequence
- Additional offenses
 - After the third incident within one school year, the behavior will be considered insubordination. When situations arise that are not specifically covered in this policy, the building administrator(s) will interpret the situation in light of the spirit and/or intent of this policy.

School Locker Policy

School lockers are the property of the school district. At no time does the school district relinquish its exclusive control of lockers provided for the convenience of students. Inspection of the interior of lockers may be conducted by school authorities for any reason at any time, without notice, without student consent, and without a search warrant. The personal possessions of students within a school locker may be searched only when school authorities have a reasonable suspicion that the search will uncover evidence of a violation of law or school rules. As soon as practicable after the search of a student's personal possessions, the school authorities must provide notice of the search to students whose lockers were searched unless disclosure would impede an ongoing investigation by police or school officials.

Personal Property, Cell Phones & Electronic Devices

The School District will not be responsible for, nor can it insure against damages or losses to personal property brought onto school property and/or at school-sponsored activities and trips. Therefore, students are advised that they bring personal property to school at their own risk.

Backpacks cannot be utilized between classes without specific staff permission. Protection/carrying cases for personal devices should be utilized and appropriately sized for the personal device.

Each year student property is taken from locker rooms and other common areas within the school building. This often happens because a student fails to place his/her property in the locker provided and/or lock the locker. If you do not lock your property in the locker provided, do not expect it to be present when you return.

Laser lights, external speakers, gaming systems, skateboards, roller wheels, cell phones, smart watches, etc. are subject to damage and theft, as well as being personally distracting and potentially bothersome to others. These items should not be brought to school.

If a cell phone, smartwatch, music device, or video game must be brought to school for before or after-school use, it must be kept off and in the student's locker from 8:30 AM–3:10 PM. Students must receive staff permission if any of these devices are to be utilized during the school day. Students that are using electronics without staff permission will be asked to turn off the device before giving it to a staff member and will experience the following consequences:

- First offense: The device is turned into the main office and picked up by the student at the end of the day.
- Second offense: The device is turned into the office and a parent or guardian is contacted to pick up the device. Devices will be locked in a safe location for parents and guardians to pick up at their convenience. Detention may also be assigned.
- Third offense: The device is turned into the main office and a parent is contacted to pick up the device and meet with the school administration. Devices will be locked in a safe location for parents and guardians to pick up at their convenience. Detention or suspension will be assigned for repeated insubordination.

Students are prohibited from photographing, recording, or making any electronic record of other students, staff, or visitors without the express consent of the individual that is the subject of the recording, photograph, or electronic record. This policy applies to students during the school day, during instructional and non-instructional time, or while participating in school events.

Student Owned Laptops and Chromebooks

1. All students are expected to arrive at school with a fully charged, labeled mobile device and a set of headphones.
2. Students should be on the school WIFI, and signed into their school Google account in Chrome.
3. During classes, devices are to remain closed and stored until a teacher provides instructions.
4. Use of any electronic devices is not permitted in bathrooms, locker rooms, gyms, the cafeteria or while walking in the hallways.
5. Devices should be secured in a classroom, locker, or backpack when not in use.
6. Any violations of the above will follow the existing school behavior policy on device use. This includes but is not limited to: verbal warnings, behavior tickets, parent notification, and /or referrals to school administration.

Attendance Policy

In accordance with the regulations of the Minnesota Department of Education and the Minnesota Compulsory Instruction Law, Minn. Stat. § 120.101, the students of the school district are required to attend all assigned classes every day school is in session.

Waconia Public Schools believes regular school attendance is directly related to success in academic work, benefits students socially, provides opportunities for important communications between teachers and students, and establishes regular habits of dependability important to the future of the student. This policy also recognizes that class attendance is a joint responsibility to be shared by the student, parent or guardian, teacher, and administrators.

Some eye-opening statistics:

- If your student misses 15 days of school for each of their three middle school years, they have missed the equivalent of one quarter of a middle school year.
- If your student misses 10 days of school per year Kindergarten through 8th grade, they have missed the equivalent of a half a year of school.
- A student is considered chronically absent when they have missed 10% or more of the school year. That equates to 17 school days or more at WMS.

Students that accrue seven days of excused or unexcused absences will be contacted by the school administration to discuss and develop an attendance plan for their student. They will also receive an attendance letter. The plan may require parents to provide medical documentation for repeated instances of illness.

When a student is absent or tardy for school, a written note or phone call is required from the parent/guardian. A phone message can be left on our attendance voice mail at: (952) 442-0660. If we have not received notice of a child's absence by midmorning, a phone call will be made to a parent/guardian.

If a student needs to leave during the school day for an appointment, the student should come to the office before school starts to get a pass for the time they need to leave. A parent must come into the school in order to sign out their child for early release.

Excused Absences

- Family-Authorized Absences:
- Illness
- Family death or emergency
- Medical – dental appointments
- Pre-arranged family business or vacation

School-Authorized/Approved Excused Absences:

- Field trips
- Musical sectionals
- Interscholastic events and competitive events
- Ceremonies in which student is being recognized, honored, or presented with an award
- Major religious holidays
- Support groups
- Suspensions from school

Attendance Policy

Students whose absences are excused are required to make up all assignments missed or to complete alternative assignments as deemed appropriate by the classroom teacher. Students and parents should find missed assignments on the Schoology Website associated with their child's classrooms or at the online "Parent Portal" section of our Infinite Campus Student Information Management Computer System. Work missed because of absence(s) must be made up in accordance with the expectations of the individual classroom teacher. A minimum of 2 days will be given. School administration or the classroom teacher may extend the time allowed for completion of make-up work in the case of an extended illness or other extenuating circumstances. It is best to allow teachers time to reteach and adjust assignments for the student when they have returned to health and have returned to school.

Unexcused Absences

- Truancy – An absence by a student that was not approved by the parent and/or the school district.
- Any absence in which the student failed to comply with any reporting requirements of the school district's attendance procedures.
- Vacations with family for which no prior arrangements have been made.
- Absences resulting from accumulated unexcused tardies to school (3 tardies equal one unexcused absence).

Unexcused absences may receive disciplinary actions in the form of lunch or after-school detentions and/or exclusion from school activities and events.

5 Unexcused Absences

School will send home the 1st notification letter to the parent/legal guardian.

7 Unexcused Absences: Truancy Pre-Diversion

School will send a 2nd notification to the parent/guardian AND the school will contact Carver County Truancy to schedule a pre-diversion meeting.

10 Unexcused Absences: Truancy Diversion

The school files the truancy paperwork with intake at Carver County Social Services and a Truancy contract meeting will be scheduled.

Bus Information & Expectations

Student bus transportation in District 110 is provided by the Koch School Bus Company on a contract basis. Koch Bus Company's phone number is as follows: Koch Bus Co-(952) 442-3370

The following rules of operation are established as School Board Policy related to the safe and responsible operation of the bus transportation program. The District 110 bus transportation policy is guided by a code of ethics which outlines the responsibilities of students, drivers, and parents.

Safety and Management Expectations:

1. The bus driver is the responsible authority on the bus. Students and parents must respect their need to be in charge of the bus at all times.
2. Students must board and leave the buses only at specified bus stops.
3. Students must remain at a safe distance from the pickup point when buses are arriving.
4. Pickup times are established, and students must be on time at designated stops.
5. Students must go directly to their seats after entering the bus. Standing or walking on the bus while it is in motion is dangerous.
6. Books, backpacks, lunch bags, sports, and duffel bags, and other objects must be kept out of the aisles. Backpacks, musical instruments, and other large items must be handled by students in a way so as to not come into contact with other students.
7. Students must not consume food or drinks other than water on the bus. Lollipops and suckers are also prohibited for reasons of safety and cleanliness.
8. Only authorized students may ride the school buses. All riders must ride the buses to which they are assigned. Permission from the bus owners must be secured in advance if non-regular riders are to be admitted to the buses.
9. Reserving places in line and "saving seats" on buses is not allowed.
10. When crossing a highway after leaving a bus, students must walk in front of the bus when the driver signals that it is safe to cross.

Student Bus Behavior Expectations:

1. Students must not tamper with emergency doors or safety devices.
2. Students must not throw, shoot, or spit objects in, out, or at a bus.
3. Students must not engage in noisy conduct that might distract the driver.
4. Students must not damage or deface the buses in any manner.
5. Students must not use profane or indecent language.
6. Students must not use or possess alcohol, tobacco, or any other kind of illicit drug on the bus.
7. Students must not transport dangerous, objectionable, or offensive objects on the bus. Transportation of animals on the bus is prohibited.
8. Students must not fight, push, shove, or engage in any other type of physically aggressive behavior on the bus or at bus stops.
9. Students must not repeatedly violate a Safety and Bus Management Rule after having been warned.

Bus Information & Expectation continued on next page.

Bus Information & Expectations

Dismissal from the Bus:

Students in violation of expectations listed above may be excluded from riding the bus according to the following schedule below. Administration may use discretion to skip steps in this process based on the severity and impact of the behavior.

- First Offense: Written warning combined with an assigned seat for up to four weeks.
- Second Offense: The student will be excluded from the bus for one to five school days.
- Third Offense: The student will be excluded from the bus for six to 10 school days.
- Fourth Offense: The student will be recommended to the superintendent for removal from the bus for the remainder of the school year.

A parent or guardian may request a conference with the bus driver, the bus owner, and the school principal at any of these steps of exclusion. The purpose of the conference would be to establish the facts of the specific case.

Video Cameras on Buses:

Video cameras may serve as a monitoring tool to assist in providing quality and safe transportation services. The cameras are the property of the bus contractors.

Bus Transportation is a Privilege:

The transportation of students to and from school is a privilege provided by District 110. If a student has been excluded from a bus due to a violation of Student Behavior Rules, the district cannot and will not arrange or provide alternate transportation arrangements. The transportation of that student then becomes the responsibility of the student's family. Also, a student's nonattendance during a time of bus exclusion, for no other reason than the bus exclusion, will not be an excused absence.

Bus Assignments:

Students are assigned to a specific route to and from school, from their place of residence. Bus stops are established by the district administration in cooperation with the bus owners. Concerns about bus assignments or stops should be directed to the administration. Students are not allowed on a different bus unless the bus driver knows of the arrangement in advance from a parent/guardian.

WMS Health Services

The WMS Health Services office can be reached at (952) 442-0654.

Communications

The Emergency Contact and Health Census forms, found online, are our best source of information to help us communicate with parents/guardians and obtain current medical information. In case of an illness, injury, or medical emergency, the school uses this to reach you or your designated emergency contact. Please remember to contact the school to update any changes that occur during the school year.

Accidents

Every accident in the school building, on the school grounds, at practice sessions, or at any athletic event sponsored by the school, must be reported immediately to the supervisor in charge or to the administration.

Illness

Please do not send your child to school with any of the following symptoms:

- Temperature of 100.0 F or higher– needs to be fever-free for 24 hours
- Vomiting – 24 hours after the last episode
- Diarrhea – 24 hours after the last episode
- Undiagnosed rash
- Breathing difficulties

If your child has been diagnosed with a communicable disease, please notify Health Services immediately. Follow specific return guidance from your health care provider or follow the Infectious Diseases in Childcare Settings and Schools Manual <https://www.hennepin.us/daycaremanual>

Medications

District Medication Policy states that students are allowed to take medication at school through Health Services. Prescription medications require signatures from a parent and a medical provider on a Medication Authorization form. Non-prescription medications require a parent/guardian signature and a medical provider's signature is recommended. Health Services can help in obtaining the doctor's signature for you. If you do not have a medical clinic to obtain a medical provider's signature, please contact Health Services.

In accordance with the Minnesota Department of Health's recommendations, Waconia Public Schools WILL NOT provide any over-the-counter medications (including ibuprofen, Tylenol, or aspirin). Medications are administered by the School Nurse, Health Associate, or school-trained designated employee under the following conditions:

1. Prescription and non-prescription medication prescribed for longer than two school days require a completed and signed authorization from the student's parent/guardian and physician. Written notification must include: student name, dosage and route of administration, name of medication, termination date of administration, time and frequency of administration, reason for medication and possible side effects.

Medications

2. Prescription and non-prescription medication must be in the prescription or over-the-counter container. The pharmacy, if requested, will divide the medication for home and school into two bottles with proper labels.

3. If you have arranged to have daily medication at school, the parent/guardian is encouraged to bring medication to the Health Office (especially controlled substances such as ADHD medication). If a parent/guardian is unable to bring the medication to school, please contact the Health Office and alert the staff to the type and amount of medication being sent to school.

4. Students will not be allowed to self-administer or carry medications without a written plan that is agreed upon between the district Licensed School Nurse, Heath Associate, and parent/guardian. Self-carry medications are limited to prescription asthma, epinephrine auto-injectors and other emergency medications. Secondary students are allowed to self-carry non-prescription pain relievers such as ibuprofen or Tylenol.

[Link for Medication Authorization Form](#) or see District 110 website for Medication Authorization Form under Health Services.

Required Immunizations

State law requires parents/guardians to present proof that all immunizations are up to date before the first day of school. Students can be exempt for medical reasons, but this requires a physician's signature. Conscientious objection to immunizations requires a notary public signature and seal. Waiver forms are available through Health Services.

- Tetanus, Diphtheria, and Pertussis – complete series and booster on or after age 11, required for seventh grade
- Measles, Mumps, and Rubella – 2 doses given after first birthday
- Polio – at least 3 doses
- Hepatitis B – series of 3 shots given over six-month period
- Varicella (chicken pox)– series of 2 doses or physician signature documenting the date of disease.
- Meningococcal (meningitis) – required for seventh-grade

Screenings

Vision or hearing screenings are done if a parent/guardian or teacher requests a screening.

Questions

Any questions regarding health issues, medications, immunizations, or screenings, please contact Health Services at 952-442-0654 or email wmsnurse@isd110.org.

Adult & Student Visitors

Student visitors to our school are not allowed unless prearranged with the office. Unless a student is visiting as a prospective enrollee, we will not assume responsibility for having visitors in our school. For the protection of all students, adult visitors must report to the office upon entering the building, sign-in, and wear a visible visitor's badge.

Fire, Severe Weather & Lockdown Drills

Emergency drills are scheduled periodically, in accordance with State Fire Marshal regulations and state statute. As soon as the alarm sounds, students should follow established building protocols and act according to the directions of the supervisor and/or safety maps posted in each classroom. When outside for fire drills, students are to remain at least fifty feet from the building and wait for verbal approval from the administration before returning to their classes. Setting off false fire alarms is a violation of state law, and student violators will be suspended and prosecuted.



DISTRICT POLICIES

The following policies are part of the 500 series of district policies that pertain to students. The descriptions included in this document are purpose and/or general statements regarding the policy. The full version of each policy can be viewed by clicking the links below. Policies are regularly reviewed and approved by the ISD 110 School Board.

Policy 501 – School Weapons

No student or nonstudent, including adults and visitors, shall possess, use or distribute a weapon when in a school location except as provided in this policy. The school district will act to enforce this policy and to discipline or take appropriate action against any student, teacher, administrator, school employee, volunteer, or member of the public who violates this policy. [View full policy.](#)

Policy 502 – Search of Student Lockers, Desks, Personal Possessions & Student’s Person

Pursuant to Minnesota statutes, school lockers are the property of the school district. At no time does the school district relinquish its exclusive control of lockers provided for the convenience of students. Inspection of the interior of lockers may be conducted by school officials for any reason at any time, without notice, without student consent, and without a search warrant. The personal possessions of students within a school locker may be searched only when school officials have a reasonable suspicion that the search will uncover evidence of a violation of law or school rules. As soon as practicable after the search of a student’s personal possessions, the school officials must provide notice of the search to students whose lockers were searched unless disclosure would impede an ongoing investigation by police or school officials.

School desks are the property of the school district. At no time does the school district relinquish its exclusive control of desks provided for the convenience of students. Inspection of the interior of desks may be conducted by school officials for any reason at any time, without notice, without student consent, and without a search warrant.

The personal possessions of students and/or a student’s person may be searched when school officials have a reasonable suspicion that the search will uncover a violation of law or school rules. The search will be reasonable in its scope and intrusiveness.

A violation of this policy occurs when students use lockers and desks for unauthorized purposes or to store contraband. A violation occurs when students carry contraband on their person or in their personal possessions. [View full policy.](#)

Policy 503 – Student Attendance

The school board believes that regular school attendance is directly related to success in academic work, benefits students socially, provides opportunities for important communications between teachers and students, and establishes regular habits of dependability important to the future of the student. The purpose of this policy is to encourage regular school attendance. It is intended to be positive and not punitive. B. This policy also recognizes that class attendance is a joint responsibility to be shared by the student, parent or guardian, teacher, and administrators. This policy will assist students in attending class. [View full policy.](#)

DISTRICT POLICIES

Policy 504 – Student Dress and Appearance

The purpose of this policy is to enhance the education of students by establishing expectations of dress and grooming that are related to educational goals and community standards. [View full policy.](#)

Policy 505 – Distribution of Non-School Sponsored Materials on School Premises

The school district recognizes that students and employees have the right to express themselves on school property. This protection includes the right to distribute, at a reasonable time and place and in a reasonable manner, non-school sponsored material. To protect First Amendment rights, while at the same time preserving the integrity of the educational objectives and responsibilities of the school district, the school board adopts the following regulations and procedures regarding distribution of non-school sponsored material on school property and at school activities. [View full policy.](#)

Policy 506 – Discipline Policy

The purpose of this policy is to ensure that students are aware of and comply with the school district's expectations for student conduct. Such compliance will enhance the school district's ability to maintain discipline and ensure that there is no interference with the educational process. The school district will take appropriate disciplinary action when students fail to adhere to the Code of Student Conduct established by this policy. Each school has handbook to explain disciplinary procedures. [View full policy.](#)

Policy 507 – Corporal Punishment

No employee or agent of the school district or charter school shall cause corporal punishment to be inflicted upon a student to reform unacceptable conduct or as a penalty for unacceptable conduct. As used in this policy, the term "corporal punishment" means conduct involving hitting or spanking a person with or without an object, or unreasonable physical force that causes bodily harm or substantial emotional harm. [View full policy.](#)

Policy 508 – Extended School Year for Students with IEP

The purpose of this policy is to ensure that the school district complies with the overall requirements of law as mandated for certain students subject to individualized education programs (IEPs) when necessary to provide a free appropriate public education (FAPE). [View full policy.](#)

Policy 509 – Enrollment of Non-resident Students

The school district desires to participate in the Enrollment Options Program established by Minn. Stat. § 124D.03. The purpose of this policy is to set forth the application and exclusion procedures used by the school district in making said determination. [View full policy.](#)

DISTRICT POLICIES

Policy 510 – Student Activities

District 110 recognizes that the Student Activities program is an integral part of the school district’s total educational program. Student activities are intended to provide educational experiences not otherwise provided in the instructional curriculum. They complement the curriculum by providing students with additional opportunities for growth and development. [View full policy.](#)

Policy 511 – Student Fundraising

The school board recognizes a desire and a need by some student organizations for fundraising. The school board also recognizes a need for some constraint to prevent fundraising activities from becoming too numerous and overly demanding on employees, students, and the general public. [View full policy.](#)

Policy 512 – School Sponsored Student Publications and Activities

The purpose of this policy is to protect students’ rights to free speech in production of official school publications and activities while at the same time balancing the school district’s role in supervising student publications and the operation of public schools. [View full policy.](#)

Policy 513 – Student Promotion Retention and Program Design

The purpose of this policy is to provide guidance to professional staff, parents, and students regarding student promotion, retention, and program design. The school board expects all students to achieve at an acceptable level of proficiency. Parental assistance, tutorial and remedial programs, counseling, and other appropriate services shall be coordinated and utilized to the greatest extent possible to help students succeed in school. [View full policy.](#)

Policy 514 – Bullying Prohibition

A safe and civil environment is needed for students to learn and attain high academic standards and to promote healthy human relationships. Bullying, like other violent or disruptive behavior, is conduct that interferes with a student’s ability to learn and/or a teacher’s ability to educate students in a safe environment. The school district cannot monitor the activities of students at all times and eliminate all incidents of bullying between students, particularly when students are not under the direct supervision of school personnel. However, to the extent such conduct affects the educational environment of the school district and the rights and welfare of its students and is within the control of the school district in its normal operations, the school district intends to prevent bullying and to take action to investigate, respond to, and to remediate and discipline for those acts of bullying which have not been successfully prevented. The purpose of this policy is to assist the school district in its goal of preventing and responding to acts of bullying, intimidation, violence, reprisal, retaliation, and other similar disruptive and detrimental behavior. [View full policy.](#)

Policy 515 – Protection and Privacy of Pupil Records

The school district recognizes its responsibility in regard to the collection, maintenance, and dissemination of pupil records and the protection of the privacy rights of students as provided in federal law and state statutes. [View full policy.](#)

DISTRICT POLICIES

Policy 516 – Student Medication

The school district acknowledges that some students may require prescribed drugs or medication during the school day. The school district's licensed school nurse, trained health associate, principal, trained school staff, or teacher will administer prescribed medications, except any form of medical cannabis, in accordance with law and school district procedures. All medications administered by school staff must be FDA approved and listed in the Physician's Desk Reference (PDR). The school district will not administer medications, including herbal medicines that are not approved by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) Prescription medications as used in this policy does not include any form of medical cannabis as defined in Minn. Stat § 152.22, Subd. 6. [View full policy.](#)

Policy 517 – Student Recruiting

The purpose of this policy is to prevent school district employees from exerting undue influence for purposes of securing or retaining the attendance of a student in a school. [View full policy.](#)

Policy 518 – DNR and DNI Orders

The school district recognizes that it is serving students with complex health needs. The school district also recognizes that school district staff may be confronted with requests to withhold emergency care of a student in the event of a life threatening situation at school or school activities or be presented with Do Not Resuscitate/Do Not Intubate (DNR–DNI) orders. The purpose of this policy is to provide guidance to school district staff and parents or guardians in these situations. [View full policy.](#)

Policy 519 – Interviews of Students by Outside Agencies

There are occasions in which persons other than school district officials and employees find it necessary to speak with a student during the school day. Student safety and disruption of the educational program is of concern to the school district. The purpose of this policy is to establish the procedures for access to students by authorized individuals during the school day. [View full policy.](#)

Policy 520 – Student Surveys

Occasionally the school district utilizes surveys to obtain student opinions and information about students. The purpose of this policy is to establish the parameters of information that may be sought in student surveys. [View full policy.](#)

Policy 521 – Student Disability Nondiscrimination

The purpose of this policy is to protect disabled students from discrimination on the basis of disability and to identify and evaluate learners who, within the intent of Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (Section 504), need services, accommodations, or programs in order that such learners may receive a free appropriate public education. [View full policy.](#)

DISTRICT POLICIES

Policy 522 – Student Sex Nondiscrimination

Students are protected from discrimination on the basis of sex pursuant to Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 and the Minnesota Human Rights Act. The purpose of this policy is to provide equal educational opportunity for all students and to prohibit discrimination on the basis of sex. [View full policy.](#)

Policy 524 – Internet Acceptable Use

The purpose of this policy is to set forth policies and guidelines for access to the school district computer system and acceptable and safe use of the Internet, including electronic communications. In making decisions regarding student and employee access to the school district computer system and the Internet, including electronic communications, the school district considers its own stated educational mission, goals, and objectives. Electronic information research skills are now fundamental to preparation of citizens and future employees. Access to the school district computer system and to the Internet enables students and employees to explore thousands of libraries, databases, bulletin boards, and other resources while exchanging messages with people around the world. The school district expects that faculty will blend thoughtful use of the school district computer system and the Internet throughout the curriculum and will provide guidance and instruction to students in their use. [View full policy.](#)

Policy 525 – Violence Prevention Applicable to Students and Staff

The purpose of this policy is to recognize that violence has increased and to identify measures that the school district will take in an attempt to maintain a learning and working environment that is free from violent and disruptive behavior. The school board is committed to promoting healthy human relationships and learning environments that are physically and psychologically safe for all members of the school community. It further believes that students are the first priority and they should be protected from physical or emotional harm during school activities and on school grounds, buses, or field trips while under school district supervision. [View full policy.](#)

Policy 526 – Hazing Prohibition

The purpose of this policy is to maintain a safe learning environment for students and staff that is free from hazing. Hazing activities of any type are inconsistent with the educational goals of the school district and are prohibited at all times. [View full policy.](#)

Policy 527 – Student Use and Parking of Motor Vehicles, Patrols, Inspections and Searches

The purpose of this policy is to provide guidelines for use and parking of motor vehicles by students in school district locations, to maintain order and discipline in the schools, and to protect the health, safety, and welfare of students and school personnel. [View full policy.](#)

Policy 528 – Student Parental Family and Marital Status Nondiscrimination

Students are protected from discrimination on the basis of sex and marital status pursuant to Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 and the Minnesota Human Rights Act. This includes discrimination on the basis of pregnancy. The purpose of this school district policy is to provide equal educational opportunity for all students and to prohibit discrimination on the grounds of sex, parental, family, or marital status. [View full policy.](#)

DISTRICT POLICIES

Policy 529 – Staff Notification of Violent Behavior by Students

In an effort to provide a safe school environment, the assigned classroom teacher and certain staff members should know whether a student to be placed in the classroom has a history of violent behavior. Additionally, decisions should be made regarding how to manage such a student. The purpose of this policy is to address the circumstances in which data should be provided to classroom teachers and other school staff members about students with a history of violent behavior and to establish a procedure for notifying staff regarding the placement of students with a history of violent behavior. [View full policy.](#)

Policy 530 – Immunization Requirements

The purpose of this policy is to require that all students receive the proper immunizations as mandated by law to ensure the health and safety of all students. All students are required to provide proof of immunization, or appropriate documentation exempting the student from such immunization, and such other data necessary to ensure that the student is free from any communicable diseases, as a condition of enrollment. [View full policy.](#)

Policy 531 – Pledge of Allegiance

The school board recognizes the need to display an appropriate United States flag and to provide instruction to students in the proper etiquette, display, and respect of the flag. The purpose of this policy is to provide for recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance and instruction in school to help further that end. Students in this school district shall recite the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag of the United States of America one or more times each week. [View full policy.](#)

Policy 532 – Use of Peace Officers and Crisis Teams to Remove Students with IEP's from School Grounds

The purpose of this policy is to describe the appropriate use of peace officers and crisis teams to remove, if necessary, a student with an individualized education program (IEP) from school grounds. If a student with an IEP engages in conduct which, in the judgment of school personnel, endangers or may endanger the health, safety, or property of the student, other students, staff members, or school property, that student may be removed from school grounds in accordance with this policy. [View full policy.](#)

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DISTRICT POLICIES

Policy 533 – Wellness

The purpose of this policy is to set forth methods that promote student wellness, prevent and reduce childhood obesity, and assure that school meals and other food and beverages sold and otherwise made available on the school campus during the school day are consistent with applicable minimum local, state, and federal standards.

[View full policy.](#)

Policy 534 – School Meals

The purpose of this policy is to ensure that students receive healthy and nutritious meals through the school district's nutrition program and that school district employees, families, and students have a shared understanding of expectations regarding meal charges. The policy of the school district is to provide meals to students in a respectful manner and to maintain the dignity of students by prohibiting lunch shaming or otherwise ostracizing the student. The policy seeks to allow students to receive the nutrition they need to stay focused during the school day and minimize identification of students with insufficient funds to pay for school meals as well as to maintain the financial integrity of the school nutrition program. [View full policy.](#)

Policy 535 – Accommodation of Students with Life Threatening Allergies

The purpose of this policy is to establish a safe environment for students with severe, potentially life-threatening allergies. The District will provide the opportunity for students with severe allergies to participate in all school programs and activities through the use of communication, prevention strategies, and emergency preparedness identified in an individual plan. [View full policy.](#)

DISTRICT POLICIES

The following policies are additional policies that Waconia Public Schools will like to call the reader's particular attention to. The descriptions included in this document are purpose and/or general statements regarding the policy. The full version of each policy can be viewed by clicking the links below. Policies are regularly reviewed and approved by the ISD 110 School Board.

Policy 102 – Equal Educational Opportunity

The policy of the school district is to provide equal educational opportunity for all students. The school district does not unlawfully discriminate on the basis of race, color, creed, religion, national origin, sex, marital status, parental status, status with regard to public assistance, disability, sexual orientation, including gender identity and expression, or age. The school district also makes reasonable accommodations for students with disabilities. [View full policy.](#)

Policy 103 – Complaints – Students, Employees, Parents, Other Persons

The school district takes seriously all concerns or complaints by students, employees, parents or other persons. If a specific complaint procedure is provided within any other policy of the school district, the specific procedure shall be followed in reference to such a complaint. If a specific complaint procedure is not provided, the purpose of this policy is to provide a procedure that may be used. [View full policy.](#)

Policy 401 – Equal Employment Opportunity

The policy of the school district is to provide equal employment opportunity for all applicants and employees. The school district does not unlawfully discriminate on the basis of race, color, creed, religion, national origin, sex, marital status, status with regard to public assistance, disability, sexual orientation, including gender identity or expression, age, family care leave status, or veteran status. The school district also makes reasonable accommodations for disabled employees. [View full policy.](#)

Policy 404 – Employment Background Checks

The purpose of this policy is to maintain a safe and healthful environment in the school district in order to promote the physical, social, and psychological well-being of its students. To that end, the school district will seek a criminal history background check for applicants who receive an offer of employment with the school district and on all individuals, except enrolled student volunteers, who are offered the opportunity to provide athletic coaching services or other extracurricular academic coaching services to the school district, regardless of whether any compensation is paid, or such other background checks as provided by this policy. The school district may also elect to do background checks of other volunteers, independent contractors, and student employees in the school district. [View full policy.](#)

Policy 413 – Harassment and Violence

The purpose of this policy is to maintain a learning and working environment that is free from harassment and violence on the basis of race, color, creed, religion, national origin, sex, age, marital status, familial status, status with regard to public assistance, sexual orientation, including gender identity or expression, or disability. [View full policy.](#)

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Policy 419 – Tobacco-Free Environment

The purpose of this policy is to maintain a learning and working environment that is tobacco free. A violation of this policy occurs when any student, teacher, administrator, other school personnel of the school district, or person smokes or uses tobacco, tobacco-related devices, or carries or uses an activated electronic delivery device in a public school. [View full policy.](#)

Policy 421 – Gifts to Employees and School Board Members

The purpose of this policy is to avoid the appearance of impropriety or the appearance of a conflict of interest with respect to gifts given to school district employees and school board members. [View full policy.](#)

Policy 609 – Religion

The purpose of this policy is to identify the status of religion as it pertains to the programs of the school district. The school district shall neither promote nor disparage any religious belief or nonbelief. Instead, the school district encourages all students and employees to have appreciation for and tolerance of each other's views. [View full policy.](#)

Policy 613 – Graduation Requirements

The policy of the school district is that all students entering grade 9 in the 2012–2013 school year and earlier must satisfactorily complete, as determined by the school district, all credit requirements, all state academic standards, or local standards where state standards do not apply, and successfully pass graduation examinations, as required, in order to graduate. For students entering grade 9 in the 2013–2014 school year and later, the school district's policy is that students must demonstrate, as determined by the school district, their satisfactory completion of the credit requirements and their understanding of academic standards on a nationally normed college entrance exam. The school district must adopt graduation requirements that meet or exceed state graduation requirements established in law or rule. [View full policy.](#)

Policy 698 – Teaching of Controversial Topics

The District has a responsibility to include, in various curriculum areas and at all grade levels, content dealing with critical topics and using materials, some of which will be controversial or raise objections within the community. The school board has the final authority to give or withhold consent for any school activity or program. [View full policy.](#)

Policy 709 – Student Transportation Safety Policy

The purpose of this policy is to provide safe transportation for students and to educate students on safety issues and the responsibilities of school bus ridership. [View full policy.](#)

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Policy 801 – Equal Access to Facilities

The purpose of this policy is to implement the Equal Access Act by granting equal access to secondary school facilities for students who wish to conduct a meeting for religious, political, or philosophical purposes during noninstructional time. [View full policy.](#)

Policy 806 – Crisis Management Policy

The purpose of this Crisis Management Policy is to act as a guide for school district administration, school employees, students, school board members, and community members to address a wide range of potential crisis situations in the school district. The step-by-step procedures suggested by this Policy will provide guidance to each school building in drafting crisis management plans to coordinate protective actions prior to, during, and after any type of emergency or potential crisis situation. [View full policy.](#)

Policy 903 – Visitors to School District Buildings Sites

The school board encourages interest on the part of parents and community members in school programs and student activities. The school board welcomes visits to school buildings and school property by parents and community members provided the visits are consistent with the health, education and safety of students and employees and are conducted within the procedures and requirements established by the school district. [View full policy.](#)