

GENERAL STATEMENT OF PHILOSOPHY FOR THE ACTIVITIES PROGRAM OF FORT CALHOUN PUBLIC SCHOOLS

The activities program of the Fort Calhoun Public Schools offers a wide-range of opportunities for student participation and benefit. All students are encouraged to become involved in the activities program, with participation restricted only by criteria established by various national, state, and/or local bodies. Those criteria address issues such as: academic status, competitive merit, disciplinary standing, age, and such other factors determined from time to time to be relevant and necessary.

Student participants and their parents are responsible for understanding and abiding by established regulations and procedures. All such regulations and procedures will comply with existing Board policy and other regulatory authority.

The activities program of Fort Calhoun Public Schools serves a variety of purposes, including:

- 1) Supporting academic achievement; **research indicates that students involved in co-curricular activities perform better in the classroom, are more apt to finish school, and are an indicator of success in an individual's chosen career;**
- 2) Teaching students important lessons about dedication, self-discipline, self-confidence, time management, teamwork, a good work ethic, and leadership skills; offering students lessons on dealing with success and failure;
- 4) Providing students with opportunities for safe and healthy social interaction;
- 5) Allowing students an alternative means of achievement and accomplishment;
- 6) Promoting home-school relations through providing a source of entertainment, creating a sense of community pride, and showing students at their best.

SPORTSMANSHIP

At its best, athletic competition can hold intrinsic value for our society. It is a symbol of a great ideal; pursuing victory with honor. **“As Fort Calhoun Pioneers be the leaders in Sportsmanship”**

The love of sports is deeply embedded in our National consciousness. The values of millions of participants and spectators are directly and dramatically influenced by the values conveyed by organized sports.

In the belief that the impact of sports can and should enhance the character and uplift the ethics of our school and athletic program, we have adopted the following: It is therefore agreed:

1. The essential elements of character building and ethics in sports are embodied in the concept of sportsmanship and six core principles: **“Trustworthiness, respect, responsibility, fairness, caring, and good citizenship.** The highest potential of sports is achieved when competition reflects these six pillars of character.”
2. Coaches, and school administrators will take the lead to promote sportsmanship and foster good character by teaching, enforcing, advocating, and modeling these ethical principles.
3. Our sports program will promote sportsmanship by enhancing the mental, social and moral development of athletes and teach them positive life skills that will help them become personally successful and socially responsible.
4. Participation in athletic programs is a privilege, not a right. To earn that privilege, athletes must conduct themselves, on and off the field, as positive role models who exemplify good character.
5. Everyone involved in athletic competition including fans has a duty to treat the traditions of the sport and other participants with respect. We all have the responsibility to model respectful behavior and the duty to refrain from disrespectful conduct, including verbal abuse of opponents and officials, profane and belligerent trash talking, taunting and unseemly celebrations.

PARTICIPATION GUIDELINES

The following regulations and guidelines reflect the framework of the district philosophy. These have been developed to serve as a guide to students, parents, coaches, sponsors, administrators, and Board of Education members in the development and administration of the district's activities program. These guidelines are written for all school activities. Coaches and or sponsors will provide additional information pertaining to each specific activity.

A. VARSITY ACTIVITIES

1. The purpose of varsity activities is to put forth the best competitive effort for the team in question. To that end, coaches will give playing time priority to those players (eligible for varsity competition) demonstrating the greatest ability, competitive nature, and team attitude. Playing time for many participants may be limited.

B. JUNIOR VARSITY ACTIVITIES

1. Junior varsity activities are designed to develop the talent needed for a competitive performance at the varsity level. Each participant at the junior varsity level will have the opportunity to play during each regular season contest provided that he/she has met all other criteria for participation and his/her playing will not create safety or welfare concerns. Coaches will give playing time priority to those players demonstrating the greatest ability, competitive nature, and team attitude.

C. RESERVE ACTIVITIES

1. Activities offered at the reserve level will emphasize the teaching of fundamentals, sportsmanship, teamwork, and competitive spirit.
2. Each participant on a reserve level team will play during each regular season contest provided that he/she has met all other criteria for participation and his/her playing will not create safety or welfare concerns. Coaches will give playing time priority to those players demonstrating the greatest ability, competitive nature, and team attitude.
3. If a reserve team is entered in a tournament, the team's goal will be to win as many tournament games as possible. To that end, participants judged by coaches to be the best qualified will receive playing time priority.

D. JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL ACTIVITIES

1. Activities offered at the junior high level will emphasize the teaching of fundamentals, sportsmanship, teamwork, and competitive spirit.
2. Each participant on a junior high school team will play during each regular season contest provided that he/she has met all other criteria for participation and his/her playing will not create safety or welfare concerns.
3. To the extent possible, the athletic director will schedule contests for junior high school students equal to the maximum number allowable under state law.
4. The junior high activities will be organized using an A, B, and C structure. The top players will be on the "A" Team regardless of grade. The "B" Team will be comprised of the next group of players, and so on. With this structure, there could possibly be 7th and 8th graders playing on any of the three teams.
5. If a junior high school team is entered in a tournament, the team's goal will be to win as many tournament games as possible. To that end, participants judged by coaches to be the best qualified will receive playing time priority.

PHYSICAL EXAMINATIONS

The State Athletic Association rules require all high school athletes and Fort Calhoun Community School requires all junior high athletes to have a physical exam before starting athletic practices each

year. This exam may be any time after May 1, of the preceding school year. There are two means of meeting this requirement: 1. Family physician: 2. Group physicals. When a family physician is used obtain a current school physical form from the high school office.

INSURANCE

All athletic participants are encouraged to be covered by insurance. The school does not carry injury insurance coverage for athletics. However, this can be done in two ways:

- A. By having family insurance at home.
- B. Subscribe to insurance through the school.
 - 1) Football players can get football insurance policies through the school. This covers only football injuries.
 - 2) All other sports are covered by the all-student insurance, which is offered through the school each year at a nominal rate. Forms are available in the high school office.

CONCUSSION AWARENESS

Training to recognize the symptoms of concussions and brain injuries and how to seek their proper medical treatment shall be made available to coaches of the district's athletic teams.

The district will provide information on concussions and brain injuries to athletes and their parents or guardians prior to the beginning of practice or competition including at least:

- 1. The signs and symptoms of concussions;
- 2. The risks poses by sustaining a concussion; and
- 3. The actions a student should take in response to sustaining a concussion including the notification of coaches.

A student participating on a school athletic team shall be removed from a practice or game when reasonably suspected of having sustained a concussion or brain injury in that activity after observation by a coach or a licensed health care professional that is professionally affiliated with or contracted by the school.

The injured student shall not be permitted to participate in any school supervised team athletic activities involving physical exertion, including, but not limited to, practices or games, until the student;

- 1. Has been evaluated by a licensed health care professional;
- 2. Has received written and signed clearance to resume participation in athletic activities from the licensed health care professional;
- 3. Has submitted the written and signed clearance to resume participation in athletic activities to the school accompanied by written permission to resume participation from the student's parent or guardian.

If a student is reasonably suspected after observation of having sustained a concussion or brain injury and is removed from an athletic activity as required above, the parent or guardian of the student shall be notified by the school of the date and approximate time of the injury suffered by the student, the signs and symptoms of a concussion or brain injury that were observed, and any actions taken to treat the student.

CONCUSSION SIGNS, RISKS, ACTIONS AND RETURN TO PLAY INFORMATION

A concussion is a brain injury. Concussions are caused by a bump or blow to the head. Even a "ding," "Getting your bell rung," or what seems to be a mild bump or blow to the head can be serious. You can't see a concussion. Signs and symptoms of concussion may show up immediately after the injury or may not appear to be noticed until days or weeks after the injury.

What are the signs and symptoms of a concussion?

If your child has experienced a bump or blow to the head during a game or practice, look for any of the following signs and symptoms of a concussion:

Signs Observed by Parents or Guardians

- Appears dazed or stunned
- Is confused about assignment or position
- Forgets an instruction
- Is unsure of game, score, or opponent
- Moves clumsily
- Answers questions slowly
- Loses consciousness (even briefly)
- Can't recall events prior to hit or fall
- Can't recall events after hit or fall

Symptoms Reported by Athlete

- Headache or "pressure" in head
- Nausea or vomiting
- Balance problems or dizziness
- Double or blurry vision
- Sensitivity to light
- Feeling sluggish, hazy, foggy, or groggy
- Concentration or memory problems
- Confusion
- Does not "feel right"

How can you help your child prevent a concussion?

Every sport is different, but there are steps that your children and you can take to protect them from injuries such as concussion:

- Ensure that they follow their coach's rules for safety and the rules of the sport.
- Encourage them to practice good sportsmanship at all times.
- Make sure they wear the right protective equipment for their activity such as helmets, padding, shin guards, and eye and mouth guards. Protective equipment should fit properly, be well maintained, and be worn consistently and correctly.
- Learn the signs and symptoms of a concussion.

What should you do when you think your child has suffered a concussion?

1. **Seek medical attention immediately.** A health care professional will be able to decide how serious the concussion is and when it is safe for your child to return to sports.

2. **Keep your child out of play.** Concussions take time to heal. Don't let your child return to play until a health care professional says it's OK. Children who return to play too soon – while the brain is still healing – risk a greater chance of suffering a second concussion. Repeat or later concussions can be very serious. They can cause permanent brain damage and affect your child for a lifetime.

3. **Tell your child's coach about any recent concussion.** Coaches should know if your child had a recent concussion. Your child's coach may not know about a concussion your child suffered in another sport or activity unless you tell him or her.

IT'S BETTER TO MISS ONE GAME THAN THE WHOLE SEASON.

The Risks: Concussions are known to be cumulative. That is, each time you have a concussion it is easier to get another concussion in the future. Repeated concussions can lead to long-term memory loss, psychiatric disorders, brain damage, and other neurological problems. If a person has had a number of concussions, the doctor likely will advise the person to avoid the activities that may put them at risk for future head injuries and to discontinue contact sports.

Return to Play Protocol

The majority of injuries will be simple concussions and such injuries recover spontaneously over several days. In these situations, it is expected that an athlete rapidly through the stepwise return to

play strategy. During this period of recovery in the first few days following an injury, it is important to emphasize to the athlete that physical AND cognitive rest is required. Activities that require concentration and attention may exacerbate the symptoms and result in a delayed recovery. This concept of “cognitive rest” appears to be of significant importance in student athletes.

The return to play following a concussion follows a stepwise process:

1. No activity, complete rest. Once asymptomatic, proceed to step 2.
2. Light aerobic exercise such as walking or stationary cycling, no resistance training.
3. Sport specific exercise (e.g.: running), progressive addition of resistance training at steps 3 or 4.
4. Non-contact training drills.
5. Full contact training after medical clearance.
6. Game play

With this stepwise progression, the athlete should continue to proceed to the next level if asymptomatic level and try to progress again after 24 hours.

In cases of complex concussion, the rehabilitation will be more prolonged and return to play advice should be more circumspect. It is recommended that physicians manage complex cases with a specific expertise in the management of such injuries.

An additional consideration in return to play is that concussed athletes should not only be symptom free but also should not be taking any pharmacological agents/medications that may affect or modify the symptoms of concussion.

Return to Learn

Students who have sustained a concussion and returned to school may need informal or formal accommodations, modifications of curriculum, and monitoring by medical or academic staff until the student is fully recovered. The school’s “return to learn protocol” shall be the guidance provided by the Nebraska Department of Education entitled “Bridging the Gap from Concussion to the Classroom,” and accompanying materials and future supplements. Nothing in this policy or the referenced protocol shall entitle a student who has sustained a concussion to an individualized plan under Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act, although staff will refer students who have sustained a concussion for evaluation under Section 504 as appropriate.

INJURY REPORTS - see page 22

- A. Any student, if injured on the way to school, during school, on the way home from school, or during a school sponsored activity, should make sure an injury report has been filled out and turned in to the office. If the student is covered by school insurance, it is her/his responsibility to report to the office to initiate the insurance claim. Claim forms can be secured at the high school office.
- B. Athletes injured in sports should make sure the coach has filled out and submitted an injury report to the office. Athletes, too, have the responsibility of follow-up - - to initiate the insurance claim, if the injury resulted in ambulance service, doctors care, or hospital expenses. Remember - insurance companies have no way of knowing about an injury unless you inform them through a claim form. Claim forms can be secured in the high school office.

EXTRA - CURRICULAR

DEFINITION

Extra-curricular activities include all school organizations and clubs, which involve performances/activities outside of the regular 8:00AM to 3:10PM school routine.

STUDENT ACTIVITY PARTICIPATION CODE

Before students are allowed to participate in school-sponsored activities, students and parents must sign the Parental Consent Form at the back of the handbook indicating they have read the Student Activities Handbook.

GENERAL RULES

APPEARANCE

- A. All participants will dress in such a manner as to be representative of the student body and community. Dress, which infringes upon the rights of others, will not be permitted.
- B. Any student dressed inappropriately will be sent home to change clothing before they are allowed to be with the activity/organization.

WEDNESDAY NIGHTS

The school will schedule no contests, games, or performances on family night. Practices are expected to be concluded by 5:30PM, with students out of the building by 5:45PM. Occasionally, however activities are held on Wednesday evenings when scheduled at the State or District level (these are beyond the school's control).

CHANGING ACTIVITIES

Students will be allowed to transfer from one activity to another during a given season only upon approval of both sponsors and the athletic director. Before a student will be allowed to compete, there will be a waiting period of five (5) practices.

STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES

- 1. Students must take care of all obligations (equipment, fines, etc.) from their last activity before participating in another activity.
- 2. School owned equipment and uniforms are to be worn only at scheduled practices or games/meets.
- 3. All equipment is to be stored in and issued from equipment rooms. At no time is there to be a student in the equipment room without coaches/sponsors' permission.
- 4. Students are allowed to participate in an event or practice only if they are in school the second half of the day. The principal or athletic director may approve individual exceptions.
- 5. Students are to report to the practice/event area on time as set by the coach/sponsor.
- 6. In most situations, transportation to participate in school activities will be provided by the school District.
 - a) When the school provides transportation, students are required to travel to and from the activity with the team or organization. (See c. below for exceptions)
 - b) Students are expected to behave appropriately while on school buses. The bus riding rules, as explained in the Parent/Student Handbook, will be enforced while being transported for activities.
 - c) Traveling in school transportation is required for safety and liability purposes and for developing team, organizational, and school spirit. The one exception in school transportation is when parents request that their child return from an activity with them or the parent of another student. This request must be in writing and must be given to the sponsor or coach prior to the return trip home. Parents must sign off on the travel list.

*Consequences for violating the student responsibilities are addressed in each activity's specific guidelines.

SPECIFIC RULES

INDIVIDUAL ACTIVITY GUIDELINES

Each activity has specific rules and regulations for the development of sportsmanship and ethical conduct within the parameter of the school's legal responsibilities (i.e. on school grounds or at a school sponsored activity).

All rules of behavior specific to an activity and the possible consequences of violating those rules are approved by the administration and then communicated to the participants and their parents prior to the start of an activity.

SUPERVISION

Each coach/sponsor is responsible for the supervision of students before, during, and after all functions. The coach/sponsor is required to be in the building until all students under his/her supervision are out of the school. Students are not to use facilities or equipment unless under direct supervision of a coach/sponsor or designated adult.

SCHOOL DISTRICT BUS RIDER RULES

Regular school conduct is required of all students. Any violations or causes of misbehavior will be reported to the transportation director. The following procedure will be utilized to ensure that everyone concerned realizes the consequences for inappropriate behavior on the bus:

SCHOOL CODE OF CONDUCT ELIGIBILITY POLICY WILL BE ENFORCED.

Please read and review these rules with your children.

1. While riding the buses, students are under the supervision of the school bus driver and must obey rules at all times. The driver has the responsibility to notify the transportation supervisor of misconduct; the transportation supervisor or the building principal has the authority to temporarily suspend a student from riding the bus.
2. Treat bus equipment as you would valuable furniture in your own home. Damage to seats, etc., will be paid for by the offender. Any damage should be reported to the driver. Knives or sharp objects of any kind are not allowed nor are firearms, pets, or other live animals. Smoking, eating, drinking, and use of profane or immoral language are prohibited on the school bus. The driver may assign the students seats and hold them responsible for their seats.
3. Students are expected to conduct themselves in a manner such that they will not distract the attention of their driver or disturb other riders on the bus. Students should not divert the driver's attention by talking to him, except in the case of an emergency.
4. Bus riders are expected to be courteous to fellow students and the driver. Horseplay, fighting, scuffling or slapping at others will not be tolerated on the bus. Seats may not be reserved.
5. Students should assist in keeping the bus clean, sanitary and orderly at all times. Paper, food or other objects should not be thrown on the floor of the bus. No cans or bottles will be allowed on the bus. Keep aisle and front door walk clear. Do not put feet in aisle. When departing from the bus remove all items, which were carried on to the bus.
6. Students are permitted to open windows if the driver consents. Hands, arms, and heads should be kept inside the bus at all times. No objects of any nature shall be thrown or passed into or from the bus door or windows by passengers or others. Students should refrain from calling out to passersby.
7. Noise on the bus should be kept to a minimum. The same behavior is expected on the school bus as in a classroom. Riders should not change seats while the bus is in motion. Absolute quiet is necessary when the bus is approaching and crossing a railroad track to allow the driver to listen for approaching trains.
8. Never tamper with the bus or any of its equipment, i.e. fire extinguishers, first aid kit, or emergency door. These are to be used only in case of an emergency by an authorized person.

9. If the emergency door or emergency window exits are found open or partially open, the bus driver should be immediately notified. The rear door is an EMERGENCY DOOR and should be used only in an emergency and at the direction of the driver. It is not to be tampered with. In case of an emergency, students are to follow the directions given by the driver and remain on the bus unless told to unload.
10. All school rules apply to buses. This is considered a part of the school day for those students who ride the bus.
12. Students who participate in activities shall ride to and from the activity on school-sponsored transportation. Written requests, **submitted to the coach and or sponsor of the activity**, may be made by parents asking that their student be allowed to go or return from the activity with the parents or with other parents. Such requests may be honored. At no time will students be allowed to ride home with other students or younger adults. While at the activity, students are to remain with the group at the site of the activity or other assigned site or staging area unless excused by the school sponsor. This policy has been created for the safety of students and for the convenience of the parents, instructors, and sponsors

SUSPENSION

Students suspended from school are not permitted to participate in practices or events throughout the duration of the suspension. This applies to in school and out-of-school suspensions.

ELIGIBILITY RULES

IN ORDER TO REPRESENT A NEBRASKA HIGH SCHOOL IN INTERSCHOLASTIC ACTIVITIES COMPETITION, A STUDENT MUST ABIDE BY ELIGIBILITY RULES OF THE NEBRASKA SCHOOL ACTIVITIES ASSOCIATION. A SUMMARY OF THE MAJOR RULES IS GIVEN BELOW. CONTACT THE PRINCIPAL OR ACTIVITIES DIRECTOR FOR AN EXPLANATION OF THE COMPLETE RULE.

- 2.2.1 Student must be an undergraduate.
- 2.2.2 After a student's initial enrollment in grade nine, he/she shall be ineligible after eight semesters of school membership beginning with his/her enrollment in grade nine.
- 2.3 Student is ineligible if nineteen years of age before August 1 of current school year. (Student in grades 7 or 8 may participate on a high school team if he/she was 15 years of age prior to August 1 of current school year.)
- 2.4.1 Student must be enrolled in some high school on or before the eleventh school day of the current semester.
- 2.5.1 Student must be enrolled in at least twenty hours per week and regular in attendance, in accordance with the school's attendance policy at the school he/she wishes to represent in interscholastic competition.
- 2.5.2 Student must have been enrolled and received twenty hours in school the immediate preceding semester.
- 2.6.2.1 **Guardianship does not fulfill the definition of a parent.** If a guardian has been appointed for a student, the student is eligible in the school district where his/her natural parent(s) have their domicile. Individual situations involving guardianship may be submitted to the Executive Director for review and a ruling.
- 2.6.3 A student entering grade nine for the first time after being promoted from grade eight of a two-year junior high, or a three-year middle school, or entering a high school for the first time after being promoted to grade ten from a three-year junior high school is eligible. After a student makes an initial choice of high school's, any subsequent transfer, unless there has been a change of domicile by his/her parents, shall render the student ineligible for ninety school

days. If a student has participated on a high school team at any level as a seventh, eighth, or ninth grade student, he/she has established his/her eligibility at the high school where he/she participated. If the student elects to attend another high school upon entering ninth or tenth grade, he/she shall be ineligible for ninety school days.

Student eligibility related to domicile can be attained in the following manners:

- 2.6.9.1 If the change in domicile by the parents occurs during a school year, the student may remain at the school he/she is attending and be eligible until the end of the school year or transfer to a high school located in the school district where the parents established their domicile and be eligible.
- 2.6.9.2 If the parents moved during the summer months and the student is in grade twelve and the student has attended the high school for two or more years, the student may remain at the high school he/she has been attending and retain eligibility.
- 2.6.9.3 If a student has been attending the same high school since initial enrollment in grade nine, he/she may remain at that high school and retain eligibility, or he/she is eligible at a high school located in the school district where his/her parents established their domicile.
- 2.6.10 If the parents of a student change their domicile from one school district that has a high school to another school district that has a high school, the student shall be eligible immediately in the school district where the parents established their domicile.
- 2.7.7 Transfer students whose name appears on the NSAA transfer list prior to May 1 shall be eligible immediately in the fall. Those students whose name does not appear on the NSAA transfer list prior to May 1 shall be ineligible for ninety school days, with such transfers being subject to hardship waiver guidelines.
- 2.7.8 Other non-enrollment option transfer students must have signed and delivered all forms necessary to make such transfer to the school in which he/she intends to enroll for the 2015-2016 school year prior to May 1, 2016; for the student to be eligible, the school to which the transfer is being made must have notified the NSAA office via an NSAA online transfer form, no later than May 1, 2016. The student would, however, become ineligible for ninety school days the next fall if the student were to change his/her mind and decide not to transfer. If such student were to transfer to the new school, but later decides to return to his/her former district before 90 school days have elapsed, such student will be ineligible in the former district for 90 school days, with the ineligibility period commencing at the start of the fall semester. Those students, who did not have their enrollment forms signed, delivered and accepted prior to May 1, 2016, shall be ineligible for ninety school days, with such transfers being subject to hardship waiver guidelines.
- 3.5/3.1 Once the season of a sport begins, a student shall participate in practices and compete only in athletic contests/meets in that sport, which are scheduled by his/her school. Any other competition will render the student ineligible for a portion of, or all of, the season in that sport. The season of a sport begins with the first date of practice as permitted by NSAA rules. The fall sports season begins August 8, 2016, (August 8 football and softball teams); August 15 (August 15 cross country and volleyball) and ends with the state meets in the fall sports. The winter sports season begins November 14, 2016, and ends with the state meets in the winter sports. The spring sports season begins February 27, 2017, and ends with the state meets in the spring sports.
- 3.5.1 During the season of a particular sport, athletes participating in that sport for a high school may attend, but may not physically take part, either as an individual or as a member of a team, in the sport activity in which instruction is being offered in the clinic, camp or school. *(Refer to 3.5.1.1 for exception in Swimming & Diving.)
- 3.6 A student shall not participate on an all-star team while a high school undergraduate.

3.7 A student must maintain his/her amateur status.

FORT CALHOUN ELIGIBILITY

In addition to the observance of the Nebraska School Activities Association eligibility rules, the following rules are in effect for Fort Calhoun students.

ACADEMIC ELIGIBILITY

Eligibility List: The eligibility list comes out every week. This list of students indicates class work that is failing.

Any pupil becomes ineligible for all extracurricular activities upon receiving a failing mark in two subjects for any one-week period.

An academically ineligible student may still participate in athletic practices, regular club meetings, and class field trips during the period in which that class meets.

Ineligible students are excluded from:

- All athletic competition
- All meetings, conventions outside the local school system
- All field trips, which cause students to miss other classes
- All evenings or after school activities (social or support) of school sponsored clubs, organizations, or groups
- The following music performances: NSAA contests, field contests, solos, ensembles, honor choir, honor band, pep-band, or performances during regular school hours that would require a student to be absent from classes other than music.

Further, the ineligible student will not be allowed to be in uniform for games or contests.

An exception to the Academic Eligibility Rule may be made for students that have qualified for a State contest or who hold a District or State office while being ineligible. The principal or activities director may make exceptions to the rules.

HELP – Homework Enrichment Learning Program a Grade Recovery Intervention Program- Grades 9-12

The purpose of the HELP is to provide extended learning time for students who are failing or are near failing. Therefore when a student has a D or an F they will be placed in the HELP to assist in finishing any incomplete work. The HELP is designed to provide an additional learning environment outside of the normal academic day, with the availability of an individual instructor. Students will be placed in the HELP only when it is seen as helping them academically. Students will not be placed in the program as a punitive action. Once students have completed the required schoolwork, they will be excused from HELP. All students assigned to the HELP must hand in their completed assignment to the HELP supervisor.

The HELP will run on Monday – Thursday from 3:15 – 4:15pm. Designated HELP time will take precedence over extra-curricular events. If student is assigned to the HELP they will not be excused to attend extra-curricular activities until work is completed. If a student has been assigned a 45-minute detention on the same day as HELP the student will report to the HELP and serve their detention the following day.

Skipping assigned HELP time will result in the following punitive action being taken.

- | | |
|----------------|---------------|
| First Offense | Friday School |
| Second Offense | Friday School |

PROHIBITED CONDUCT

All participants in extra-curricular activities are required to observe the Student Code of Conduct as prescribed in the Parent/Student Handbook. A student becomes ineligible for all extra-curricular activities of the school program and suspension from all extra-curricular activities shall result when, during the school year (including fall practice), a sponsor, teacher, administrator or police officer has determined that there has been any violation of the Code of Conduct.

CODE OF CONDUCT FOR ALL STUDENTS OF FORT CALHOUN SCHOOLS

Administrative and teaching personnel may take actions regarding student behavior, other than those specifically provided in this policy and the Student Discipline Act, which are reasonably necessary to aid the student, further school purposes, or prevent interference with the educational process. Such actions may include, but need not be limited to, counseling of students, parent conferences, rearrangement of schedules, requirements that a student remain in school after regular hours to do additional work, restriction of extracurricular activity, or requirements that a student receive counseling, psychological evaluation, or psychiatric evaluation upon the written consent of a parent or guardian to such counseling or evaluation. Disciplinary consequences may also include in-school suspension, Saturday School, and any other consequence authorized by law. District administrators may develop building-specific protocols for the imposition of student discipline.

In this policy, references to "Principal" shall include building principals, the principal's designee, or other appropriate school district administrators.

Any statement, notice, recommendation, determination, or similar action specified in this policy shall be effectively given at the time written evidence thereof is delivered personally to or upon receipt of certified or registered mail or upon actual knowledge by a student or his or her parent or guardian.

Any student who is suspended or expelled from school pursuant to this policy may not participate in any school activity during the duration of that exclusion including adjacent school holidays and weekends. The student activity eligibility of a student who is mandatorily reassigned shall be determined on a case-by-case basis by the principal of the building to which the student is reassigned.

Short-Term Suspension

The Principal may exclude students from school or any school function for a period of up to five school days (short-term suspension) on the following grounds:

1. Conduct constituting grounds for expulsion as hereinafter set forth; or,
2. Other violations of rules and standards of behavior adopted by the Board of Education or the administrative or teaching staff of the school, that occur on or off school grounds, if such conduct interferes with school purposes or there is a connection between such conduct and school.

The following process applies to short-term suspension:

1. The Principal shall make a reasonable investigation of the facts and circumstances. Short-term suspension shall be imposed only after a determination that the suspension is necessary to help any student, to further school purposes, or to prevent an interference with school purposes.
2. Prior to commencement of the short-term suspension, the student will be given oral or written notice of the charges against the student. The student will be advised of what he or she is accused of having done, be given an explanation of the evidence the authorities have, and be given an opportunity to explain the student's version of the facts.

3. Within 24 hours or such additional time as is reasonably necessary following the suspension, the Principal will send a written statement to the student, and the student's parent or guardian, describing the student's conduct, misconduct or violation of the rule or standard and the reasons for the action taken. An opportunity will be given to the student, and the student's parent or guardian, to have a conference with the Principal ordering the short-term suspension before or at the time the student returns to school. The Principal shall determine who, in addition to the parent or guardian, is to attend the conference.
4. Students who are short-term suspended will be given the opportunity to complete classwork, including but not limited to examinations, under the following conditions: All work completed within 5 days of the student returning.

Emergency Exclusion

Students may be emergency excluded from school pursuant to the board's separate policy on emergency exclusion or state law.

Weapons and/or Firearms refer to Board Policy 5049

Students may be disciplined for the possession of weapons and/or firearms pursuant to the board's separate policy on weapons and firearms or state law.

Long-Term Suspension

Students may be excluded by the Principal from school or any school function for a period of more than five school days but less than twenty school days (long-term suspension) for any conduct constituting grounds for expulsion as hereinafter set forth. The process for long-term suspension is set forth below.

Expulsion

1. **Meaning of Expulsion.** Expulsion means exclusion from attendance in all schools, grounds and activities of or within the system for a period not to exceed the remainder of the semester in which it took effect unless the misconduct occurred (a) within ten school days prior to the end of the first semester, in which case the expulsion shall remain in effect through the second semester, or (b) within ten school days prior to the end of the second semester, in which case the expulsion shall remain in effect for summer school and the first semester of the following school year, or (c) unless the expulsion is for conduct specified in these rules or in law as permitting or requiring a longer removal, in which case the expulsion shall remain in effect for the period specified therein. Such action may be modified or terminated by the school district at any time during the expulsion period.
2. **Summer Review.** Any expulsion that will remain in effect during the first semester of the following school year will be automatically scheduled for review before the beginning of the school year. The review will be conducted by the hearing officer who conducted the initial expulsion hearing, or a hearing officer appointed by the Superintendent in the event no hearing was previously held or the initial hearing officer is no longer available or willing to serve, after the hearing officer has given notice of the review to the student and the student's parent or guardian. This review shall be limited to newly discovered evidence or evidence of changes in the student's circumstances occurring since the original hearing. This review may lead to a recommendation by the hearing officer that the student be readmitted for the upcoming school year. If the school board or board of education or a committee of such board took the final action to expel the student, the student may be readmitted only by action of the board. Otherwise the student may be readmitted by action of the Superintendent.
3. **Suspension of Enforcement of an Expulsion:** Enforcement of an expulsion action may be suspended (i.e., "stayed") for a period of not more than one full semester in addition to the balance of the semester in which the expulsion takes effect, and as a condition of such

suspended action, the student may be assigned to a school, class, or program/plan and to such other consequences which the school district deems appropriate.

4. **Alternative School or Pre-expulsion Procedures.** The school shall either provide an alternative school, class or educational program for expelled students or shall follow the pre-expulsion procedures outlined in NEB. REV. STAT. 79-266.

Grounds for Long-Term Suspension, Expulsion or Mandatory Reassignment:

The following conduct constitutes grounds for long-term suspension, expulsion, or mandatory reassignment, subject to the procedural provisions of the Student Discipline Act, NEB. REV. STAT. § 79-254 through 79-296, when such activity occurs on school grounds, in a vehicle owned, leased, or contracted by a school being used for a school purpose or in a vehicle being driven for a school purpose by a school employee or by his or her designee, or at a school-sponsored activity or athletic event:

1. Use of violence, force, coercion, threat, intimidation, or similar conduct in a manner that constitutes a substantial interference with school purposes;
2. Willfully causing or attempting to cause substantial damage to property, stealing or attempting to steal property of substantial value, or repeated damage or theft involving property;
3. Causing or attempting to cause personal injury to a school employee, to a school volunteer, or to any student. Personal injury caused by accident, self-defense, or other action undertaken on the reasonable belief that it was necessary to protect some other person shall not constitute a violation of this subdivision;
4. Threatening or intimidating any student for the purpose of or with the intent of obtaining money or anything of value from such student;
5. Knowingly possessing, handling, or transmitting any object or material that is ordinarily or generally considered a weapon (*see also board policy on weapons and firearms*);
6. Engaging in the unlawful possession, selling, dispensing, or use of a controlled substance or an imitation controlled substance, as defined in section 28-401, a substance represented to be a controlled substance, or alcoholic liquor as defined in section 53-103.02 or being under the influence of a controlled substance or alcoholic liquor (*note: the term "under the influence" for school purposes has a less strict meaning than it does under criminal law; for school purposes, the term means any level of impairment and includes even the odor of alcohol on the breath or person of a student; also, it includes being impaired by reason of the abuse of any material used as a stimulant*);
7. Public indecency as defined in section 28-806, except that this prohibition shall apply only to students at least twelve years of age but less than nineteen years of age;
8. Engaging in bullying as defined in section 79-2,137 and in these policies;
9. Sexually assaulting or attempting to sexually assault any person if a complaint has been filed by a prosecutor in a court of competent jurisdiction alleging that the student has sexually assaulted or attempted to sexually assault any person, including sexual assaults or attempted sexual assaults which occur off school grounds not at a school function, activity, or event. For purposes of this subdivision, sexual assault means sexual assault in the first degree as defined in section 28-319, sexual assault in the second degree as defined in section 28-320, sexual assault of a child in the second or third degree as defined in section 28-320.01, or sexual assault of a child in the first degree as defined in section 28-319.01, as such sections now provide or may hereafter from time to time be amended;
10. Engaging in any other activity forbidden by the laws of the State of Nebraska which activity constitutes a danger to other students or interferes with school purposes; or
11. A repeated violation of any of the following rules, or a single violation if the conduct is forbidden by Nebraska law, if such violations constitute a substantial interference with school purposes:

- a. The use of language, written or oral, or conduct, including gestures, which is profane or abusive to students or staff members. Profane or abusive language or conduct includes, but is not limited to, that which is commonly understood and intended to be derogatory toward a group or individual based upon race, gender, national origin, or religion;
- b. Dressing or grooming in a manner which violates the school district's dress code and/or is dangerous to the student's health and safety, a danger to the health and safety of others, or which is disruptive, distracting or indecent to the extent that it interferes with the learning and educational process;
- c. Violating school bus rules as set by the school district or district staff;
- d. Possessing, using, selling, or dispensing tobacco, drug paraphernalia, or a tobacco imitation substance or packaging, regardless of form, including cigarettes, chewing tobacco, and any other form of tobacco or imitation, such as electronic cigarettes, vapor pens, etc.;
- e. Possessing, using, selling, or dispensing any drug paraphernalia or imitation of a controlled substance regardless of whether the actual substance possessed is a controlled substance by Nebraska law;
- f. Possession of pornography;
- g. Sexting or the possession of sexting images (a combination of sex and texting - the act of sending sexually explicit messages or photos electronically);
- h. Engaging in initiations, defined as any ritualistic expectations, requirements, or activities placed upon new members of a school organization for the purpose of admission into the organization, even if those activities do not rise to the level of "hazing" as defined below. Initiations are prohibited except by permission of the superintendent.
- i. Engaging in hazing as defined by state law and this policy Hazing is defined as any activity by which a person intentionally or recklessly endangers the physical or mental health or safety of an individual for the purpose of initiation into, admission into, affiliation with, or continued membership in any school organization. Under state criminal law, hazing activities include, but are not limited to, whipping, beating, branding, an act of sexual penetration, an exposure of the genitals of the body done with the intent to affront or alarm any person, a lewd fondling or caressing of the body of another person, forced and prolonged calisthenics, prolonged exposure to the elements, forced consumption of any food, liquor, beverage, drug, or harmful substance not generally intended for human consumption, prolonged sleep deprivation, or any brutal treatment or the performance of any unlawful act that endangers the physical or mental health or safety of any person. For purposes of school rules, hazing also includes any activity expected of someone joining a group, team, or activity that humiliates, degrades or risks emotional and/or physical harm, regardless of the person's willingness to participate; personal servitude; restrictions on personal hygiene; yelling, swearing and insulting new members/rookies; being forced to wear embarrassing or humiliating attire in public; consumption of vile substances or smearing of such on one's skin; binge drinking and drinking games; sexual simulation and sexual assault;
- j. Bullying which shall include cyber-bullying, defined as the use of the internet, including but not limited to social networking sites such as Facebook, cell phones or other devices to send, post or text message images and material intended to hurt or embarrass another person. This may include, but is not limited to; continuing to send e-mail to someone who has said they want no further contact with the sender; sending or posting threats, sexual remarks or pejorative labels (i.e., hate speech); ganging up on victims by making them the subject of ridicule in forums, and posting false statements as fact intended to humiliate the victim; disclosure of personal data, such as the victim's real name, address, or school at websites or forums; posing as the identity of the victim for the purpose of publishing material in their name that defames or ridicules them; sending

- threatening and harassing text, instant messages or emails to the victims; and posting or sending rumors or gossip to instigate others to dislike and gang up on the target;
- k. Violation of the district's computer acceptable computer use policy are subject to discipline, up to and including expulsion; and
 - l. Any other violation of a rule or regulation established by a school district staff member pursuant to authority delegated by the board.

Due Process Afforded to Students Facing Long-term Suspension or Expulsion

The following procedures shall be followed regarding any long-term suspension, expulsion or mandatory reassignment

1. On the date of the decision to discipline, the Principal shall file with the Superintendent a written charge and a summary of the evidence supporting such charge.
2. The Principal shall serve the student and the student's parents or guardian with a written notice by registered or certified mail or personal service within two school days of the date of the decision to recommend long-term suspension or expulsion. The notice shall include the following:
 - a. The rule or standard of conduct allegedly violated and the acts of the student alleged to constitute a cause for long-term suspension, expulsion, or mandatory reassignment, including a summary of the evidence to be presented against the student;
 - b. The penalty, if any, which the principal has recommended in the charge and any other penalty to which the student may be subject;
 - c. A statement that, before long-term suspension, expulsion, or mandatory reassignment for disciplinary purposes can be invoked, the student has a right to a hearing, upon request, on the specified charges;
 - d. A description of the hearing procedures provided by the act, along with procedures for appealing any decision rendered at the hearing;
 - e. A statement that the principal, legal counsel for the school, the student, the student's parent, or the student's representative or guardian has the right (i) to examine the student's academic and disciplinary records and any affidavits to be used at the hearing concerning the alleged misconduct and (ii) to know the identity of the witnesses to appear at the hearing and the substance of their testimony; and
 - f. A form on which the student, the student's parent, or the student's guardian may request a hearing, to be signed by such parties and delivered to the principal or superintendent in person or by registered or certified mail.
3. When a notice of intent to discipline a student by long-term suspension, expulsion, or mandatory reassignment is filed with the superintendent, the student may be suspended by the principal until the date the long-term suspension, expulsion, or mandatory reassignment takes effect if no hearing is requested or, if a hearing is requested, the date the hearing examiner makes the report of his or her findings and a recommendation of the action to be taken to the superintendent, if the principal determines that the student must be suspended immediately to prevent or substantially reduce the risk of (a) interference with an educational function or school purpose or (b) a personal injury to the student himself or herself, other students, school employees, or school volunteers.

4. Nothing in this policy shall preclude the student, student's parents, guardian or representative from discussing and settling the matter with appropriate school personnel prior to the hearing stage.
5. If a hearing is requested within five days after receipt of the notice, the Superintendent shall appoint a hearing officer who shall follow the "hearing procedures" outlined below.
6. If a hearing is requested more than five school days following the receipt of the written notice, but not more than thirty calendar days after receipt, the Superintendent shall appoint a hearing officer who shall follow the "hearing procedures" outlined below, except that the time constraints set forth may differ as provided by law and this policy. The student shall be entitled to a hearing but the consequence imposed may continue in effect pending final determination.
7. If a request for hearing is not received within thirty calendar days following the mailing or delivery of the written notice, the student shall not be entitled to a hearing.

In the event a hearing is requested, the hearing, hearing procedures, the student's rights and any appeals or judicial review permitted by law shall be governed by the applicable provisions of the Nebraska Student Discipline Act (NEB. REV. STAT. § 79-254 to 79-294). The school district will provide parents with copies of the relevant statutes upon request.

PENALTIES FOR VIOLATING THE CODE OF CONDUCT

First Offense = Suspension from all privileges or participation in extra-curricular activities for two calendar weeks or the next 2 activities, beginning on the date from which the violation has been substantiated, or the duration of any suspension or expulsion under the Code of Conduct, whichever is longer. The student must continue to attend and participate in all practices during the suspension.

Second Offense = Suspension from all privileges or participation in extra-curricular activities for two calendar weeks or the next 2 activities, beginning on the date from which the violation has been substantiated, or the duration of any suspension or expulsion under the Code of Conduct, whichever is longer. The student must continue to attend and participate in all practices during the suspension. A second offense includes both a second violation of the same provision of the Code of Conduct and violations of two separate (different) provisions of the Code of Conduct.

Third Accumulated Offense = Expulsion of all privileges or participation in all extra-curricular activities for the remainder of the school year.

PROCEDURE REQUIREMENTS

Activity suspension may be imposed only after the principal or designee has made an investigation of the alleged prohibited conduct. The principal or designee will hold a conference with the student involved to review the participation rules for all activities and the provision of the Code of Conduct which the student is suspected of having violated. The student shall be given oral or written notice of the alleged prohibited conduct and an explanation of the evidence the principal or designee has to support the allegations and the student shall be given the opportunity to present his or her version. The principal or designee shall send a written statement to the student and to the student's parents or guardian describing the prohibited conduct, the reasons for the suspension, and the terms of the suspension.

COACHES' AND SPONSORS' DISCIPLINE

Notwithstanding the foregoing, any head coach or sponsor has the right to discipline students in any reasonable manner including suspension from practice for up to two days and for suspension from

participation in one activity for any conduct the coach or sponsor deems to be inappropriate. In the event such incident is not reported and acted upon, it shall not constitute a first suspension under the activity code.

GENERAL STATEMENT

Activities sponsored and supervised by the Fort Calhoun High School are subject to all guidelines set forth by the Parent/Student Handbook.

FEES INFORMATION

ASSESSMENT OF FEES FOR STUDENTS ATTENDING THE FORT CALHOUN COMMUNITY SCHOOLS - 5045

The school district shall provide free instruction in accordance with the Nebraska State Constitution and the Nebraska statutes. The district also provides activities, programs, and services that extend beyond the minimum level of constitutionally required free instruction. Under the Public Elementary and Secondary Student Fee Authorization Act, the district is permitted to charge students fees for these activities or to require students to provide specialized equipment and attire for certain purposes. This policy is subject to further interpretation or guidance by administrative or board regulations. Students are encouraged to contact their building administration, their teachers or their coaches, and sponsors for further specifics.

A. Definitions

1. "Students" means students, their parents, guardians or other legal representatives.
2. "Extracurricular activities" means student activities or organizations that (1) are supervised or administered by the district; (2) do not count toward graduation or advancement between grades; and (3) are not otherwise required by the district.
3. "Post-secondary education costs" means tuition and other fees associated with obtaining credit from a post-secondary educational institution.

B. Listing of Fees Charged by this District

1. Guidelines for Clothing Required for Specified Courses and Activities

Students are responsible for complying with the district's grooming and attire guidelines and for furnishing all clothing required for any special programs, courses or activities in which they participate. The teacher, coach, or sponsor of the activity will provide students with written guidelines that detail any special clothing requirements and explain why the special clothing is required for the specific program, course or activity.

2. Safety Equipment and Attire.

The district will provide students with all safety equipment and attire that is required by law. Building administrators will assure that (a) such equipment is available in the appropriate classes and areas of the school buildings, (b) teachers are directed to instruct students in the use of such devices, and (c) students use the devices as required. Students are responsible for using the devices safely and as instructed.

3. Personal or Consumable Items.

The district does not provide students with personal or consumable items for participation in courses and activities including, but not limited to, pencils, paper, pens, erasers and notebooks. Students who wish to supply their own personal or consumable items may do so, as long as those items comply with the requirements of the district. The district will provide students with facilities, equipment,

materials and supplies, including books. Students are responsible for the careful and appropriate use of such property. Students will be charged for damage to school property caused by the student and will be held responsible for the reasonable replacement cost of any school property that they lose.

4. Materials Required for Course Projects.

The district will provide students with the materials necessary to complete all curricular projects. In courses where students produce a project that requires more than minimal cost for materials, the finished product will remain the property of the district unless the students either furnish or pay for the reasonable cost of materials required for the course project.

The maximum dollar amount charged by the district for course materials shall be:

- Art Classes \$20.00
- Industrial Technology Classes \$400.00
- Robotics \$50.00
- Woods (8th Grade) \$20.00

5. Extracurricular Activities.

The district may charge students a fee to participate in extracurricular activities to cover the district's reasonable costs in offering such activities. The district may require students to furnish specialized equipment and clothing that is required for participation in extracurricular activities, or may charge a reasonable fee for the use of district-owned equipment or attire. Attached to this policy is a list of the fees charged for particular activities. The coach or sponsor will provide students with additional written guidelines detailing the fees charged, the equipment and/or clothing required, or the usage fee charged. The guidelines will explain the reasons that fees, equipment and/or clothing are required for the activity.

The following list details the maximum dollar amount of all extracurricular activities fees and the specifications for any equipment or attire required for participation in extracurricular activities:

- Student activity card \$30.00
Covers admission to all home extracurricular events; excluding Conference, district or state competitions
- Future Business Leaders of America \$25.00
- National Honor Society \$10.00
- Cheerleading and Dance Students must purchase uniforms and shoes selected by the sponsor and/or student group. The maximum dollar amount charged by the school district for these items will be \$1,400.00
- Football Students must provide their own football shoes, undergarments, and mouth guards. The maximum dollar amount charged by the school district for these items will be \$400.00

- Golf Students must provide their own golf shoes, undergarments, and clubs. The maximum dollar amount charged by the school district for these items will be \$600.00
- Softball and Baseball Students must provide their own shoes, gloves, and undergarments. The maximum dollar amount charged by the school district for these items will be \$200.00
- Track, Volleyball, Wrestling, Cross Country, Basketball Students must provide their own shoes and undergarments. The maximum dollar amount charged by the school district for these items will be \$150.00
- SkillsUSA Student must purchase their own jackets. The maximum dollar amount charged by the school district for these items will be \$25.00
- Drama \$25.00
- Speech \$50.00
- Quiz Bowl \$50.00
- Spanish Club \$30.00
- POPP (Pioneers Overcoming Peer Pressure) \$10.00

6. Post-Secondary Education Costs.

Some students enroll in postsecondary courses while still enrolled in the district's high school. As a general rule, students must pay all costs associated with such post-secondary courses. However, for a course in which students receive high school credit or a course being taken as part of an approved accelerated or differentiated curriculum program, the district shall offer the course without charge for tuition, transportation, books, or other fees. Students who chose to apply for post-secondary education credit for these courses must pay tuition and all other fees associated with obtaining credits from a post-secondary educational institution. The maximum dollar amount of post-secondary education charged by this district shall be \$325.00.

7. Transportation Costs.

The district will charge students reasonable fees for transportation services provided by the district to the extent permitted by federal and state statutes and regulations.

The maximum dollar amount of the transportation fee charged by this district shall be \$N.A.

8. Copies of Student Files or Records.

The district will charge a fee for making copies of a student's files or records for the parents or guardians of such student. The Superintendent or the Superintendent's designee shall establish a schedule of student record fees. Parents of students have the right to inspect and review the students' files or records without the payment of a fee, and the district shall not charge a fee to search for or retrieve any student's files or records.

The district will charge a fee of \$N.A. per page for reproduction of student records.

9. Pre-Kindergarten Services.

The district will charge reasonable fees for participation in before-and-after school or pre-kindergarten services offered by the district pursuant to statute.

The maximum dollar amount charged by the district for these services shall be \$130.00 monthly.

10. Participation in Summer School or Night School.

The district will charge reasonable fees for participation in summer school or night school and may charge reasonable fees for correspondence courses.

The maximum dollar amount charged by the district for summer and night school shall be \$50.00 per class.

11. Charges for Food Consumed by Students.

The district will charge for items that students purchase from the district's breakfast and lunch programs. The fees charged for these items will be set according to applicable federal and state statutes and regulations. The district will charge students for the cost of food, beverages, and the like that students purchase from a school store, vending machine, booster club or from similar sources. Students may be required to bring money or food for field trip lunches and similar activities.

The maximum dollar amount charged by the district for the breakfast and lunch programs is as follows:

Breakfast Program – Grades K-6
Regular Price \$1.50
Reduced Price .30

Lunch Program – Grades K-6
Regular Price \$2.25
Reduced Price .40

Breakfast Program – Grades 7-12
Regular Price N/A – not offered
Reduced Price N/A – not offered

Lunch Program – Grades 7-12
Regular Price \$2.60
Reduced Price .40

Lunch Program – Grades K-6
Regular Price \$2.25
Reduced Price .40

12. Charges for Musical Extracurricular Activities.

Students who qualify for fee waivers under this policy will be provided, at no charge, the use of a musical instrument in optional music courses that are not extracurricular activities. For musical extracurricular activities, the school district will require students to provide the following equipment and/or attire:

- Band

Students must provide their own instruments and marching band shoes, which must be white, rubber-soled

sneakers. The maximum dollar amount charged by the district for these materials will be \$150.00

- Vocal Music/Swing Choir

Students must purchase outfits and shoes selected by the sponsor and/or student group. The maximum dollar amount charged by the district for these materials will be \$200.00

13. Contributions for Junior and Senior Class Extracurricular Activities.

Students are eligible to participate in a number of unique extracurricular activities during their last two years in high school, including prom, various senior recognitions, and graduation. In order to fund these extracurricular activities, the school district will ask each student to make a contribution to their class's fund. This contribution is completely voluntary. Students who chose not to contribute to the class fund are still eligible to participate in the extra activities. The suggested donation to the class fund will be \$70.00.

C. Waiver Policy

Students who qualify for free or reduced-price lunches under United States Department of Agriculture child nutrition programs shall be provided a fee waiver or be provided the necessary materials or equipment without charge for (1) participation in extracurricular activities, (2) materials for course projects, and (3) the use of a musical instrument in optional music courses that are not extracurricular activities. Actual participation in the free or reduced-price lunch program is not required to qualify for the waivers provided in this section. The district is not obligated to provide any particular type or quality of equipment or other material to eligible students. Students who wish to be considered for waiver of a particular fee must submit a completed fee waiver application to their building principal.

D. Distribution of Policy

This policy will be published in the Student Handbook or its equivalent that will be provided to students at no cost.

E. Voluntary Contributions to Defray Costs

The district will, when appropriate, request donations of money, materials, equipment or attire from parents, guardians and other members of the community to defray the costs of providing certain services and activities to students. These requests are not requirements and staff members of the district are directed to clearly communicate that fact to students, parents and patrons.

F. Fund-Raising Activities

Students may be permitted or required to engage in fund-raising activities to support various curricular and extracurricular activities in which they participate. Students who decline to participate in fund-raising activities are not eligible under this policy for waiver of the costs or fees which the fund-raising activity was meant to defray.

G. Student Fee Fund

The school board hereby establishes a Student Fee Fund. The Student Fee Fund shall be a separate school district fund that will not be funded by tax revenue, and that will serve a depository for all monies collected from students for (1) participation in extracurricular activities, (2) post-secondary education

costs, and (3) summer school or night school courses. Monies in the Student Fee Fund shall be expended only for the purposes for which they were collected from students.

NOTICE OF NON-DISCRIMIINATION – (Also refer to Board Policy 4001)

Fort Calhoun Community Schools do not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, age, disability, marital status, disability, or age or in admission or access to, or treatment of employment or educational programs and activities. The following has been designated to handle inquiries regarding the School District's non-discrimination policies: Dr. Donald Johnson, who may be contacted in writing at 5876 County Road P43, PO Box 430, Fort Calhoun, NE 68023, at djohnson@ftcpioneers.org by email or by telephone at (402) 468-5596. Any person may also contact the Office for Civil Rights, U.S. Department of Education: by email at OCR.KansasCity@ed.gov; by telephone at (816) 268-0550; or by fax at (816) 268-0599, regarding compliance with regulations implementing Title VI, Title IX, Section 504 or any other applicable Laws.

*"You must learn to make the choices and accept the consequences.
(Good or Bad) of your choices."*