

Marblehead Veterans Middle School



Family Handbook

2021 - 2022

MVMS MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of Marblehead Veterans Middle School is to set high standards for scholastic excellence and to empower students to be self-motivated life-long learners. We strive to ensure that all students will develop a mastery of skills, the capacity for critical thinking and the adaptability to be successful in a changing world. We seek to create an environment that teaches respect for the community and responsibility for one's decisions, fosters recognition of self, and promotes an appreciation of people's differences.

MVMS CORE VALUES

Marblehead Veterans Middle School is an academic community
where respect, collaboration and excellence interconnect

This handbook references
Marblehead Public Schools District policies,
reviewed and voted upon by the Marblehead School Committee.
Please see MPS SC Policy CHCA

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MARBLEHEAD VETERANS MIDDLE SCHOOL

Duncan Sleigh Square

217 Pleasant Street

Marblehead, Massachusetts 01945

781-639-3120

Fax: 781-639-3130

To the Student:

Welcome to Marblehead Veterans Middle School! This handbook is intended as a roadmap to success here at MVMS, and it includes the information necessary for you to become an active member of our Professional Learning Community.

As you transition into middle school, your success will depend upon the degree of your academic and social involvement. We encourage you to be an active learner as well as an active member of the school community. The entire staff at MVMS is dedicated to assist you in any and every way that is necessary to ensure your two years here are productive, exciting, and prepare you for high school. It is our goal to provide you with the necessary knowledge and skills that will allow you to be successful in all future academic pursuits. It is our hope that you will invest in your education and development by being responsible school citizens, treating people with dignity and respect, and taking great pride in your school.

Entering a new school can be worrisome. To help ease that transition, I encourage you to get involved in one of the clubs, activities, or sports that are listed at the back of this handbook. These are great opportunities to make new friends.

To the Parents/Guardians:

A successful school experience is truly a collaborative effort. It is our responsibility to provide the best possible educational experience we can for the students of MVMS. As partners, we must have parents and guardians work together with us to support and encourage our students. Strong and effective communication is an essential element of all great schools; throughout the year, we encourage everyone to take advantage of the new parent portal into the grading system here at MVMS. Information about this new system has already been sent home, but can also be found by visiting our website at <https://www.marbleheadschoools.org/veterans-middle-school>.

On behalf of the faculty and staff here at Marblehead Veterans Middle School, I would like to welcome you to the 2021 - 2022 school year, and wish you the best of luck!

Sincerely,

Matthew J. Fox
Principal

Marblehead Public Schools 2021-2022 School Calendar

August/September 2021 (18)				
M	T	W	Th	F
30	31	-I-	2	3**
6	7	8	9	10
13	14	15	16	17
20	21	22	23	24
27	28	29	30	

October 2021 (19)				
M	T	W	Th	F
				1
4	5	6	7	8
11	12	13	14	15
18	19	20	21	22
25	26	27	28	29

November 2021 (19)				
M	T	W	Th	F
1	2	3	4	5
8	9	10	11	12
15	16	17	18	19
22	23	24**	25	26
29	30			

December 2021 (17)				
M	T	W	Th	F
		1	2	3
6	7	8	9+	10
13	14	15	16	17
20	21	22	23**	24
27	28	29	30	31

January 2022 (20)				
M	T	W	Th	F
-3-	4	5	6	7
10	11	12+	13	14
17	18	19	20	21
24	25	26	27	28
31				

August

- 30 Faculty First Day
- 31 Teacher Prof. Dev.

September

- 1 Students First Day Gr. 1-12
- 3** Early Release
- 6 No School-Labor Day
- 7-8 No School-Rosh Hashanah
- 9 1* Day of School K & PreK
- 9 Open House-MVMS
- 14 Open House-K-3 Elem Schools
- 16 No School-Yom Kippur
- 22 Open house-Village
- 30 Open House-MHS

October

- 11 No School-Indigenous Peoples' Day
- 12 No School-Prof Dev (PreK-12)

November

- 11 No School-Veterans Day
- 24** Early release
- 25 & 26 No School-Thanksgiving Break

December

- 9* Early Release (PreK-12) (K-8) Parent Conf.
- 23** Early Release
- 24-31 No School-December Break

January

- 3 Students return to school
- 12* Early Release-Prof Dev (PreK-12)
- 17 No School-MLK day

February

- 21 No School-President's Day
- 21-25 No School-Winter Break

March

- 9* Early Release-Prof Dev (PreK-8)
- 30* Early Release-Prof Dev (PreK-8)

April

- 15 No School-Good Friday
- 18-22 No School-Spring Break

May

- 30 No School-Memorial Day

June

- 17 Last Day (no cancellations)
- 24 Students Day # 185-if needed

February 2022 (15)				
M	T	W	Th	F
	1	2	3	4
7	8	9	10	11
14	15	16	17	18
21	22	23	24	25
28				

March 2022 (23)				
M	T	W	Th	F
	1	2	3	4
7	8	9+	10	11
14	15	16	17	18
21	22	23	24	25
28	29	30+	31	

April 2022 (15)				
M	T	W	Th	F
				1
4	5	6	7	8
11	12	13	14	15
18	19	20	21	22
25	26	27	28	29

May 2022 (21)				
M	T	W	Th	F
2	3	4	5	6
9	10	11	12	13
16	17	18	19	20
23	24	25	26	27
30	31			

June 2022 (13)				
M	T	W	Th	F
		1	2	3
6	7	8	9	10
13	14	15	16	17
20	21	22	23	24
27	28	29	30	

	No School for Students-Teacher Work Day		No School for Students and Teachers/School Year Staff-Holiday or Vacation breaks
	Last Day of School for students (w/o school cancellations)-180 days		Students Day # 185-June 20, 21, 22, 23, 24 (if needed because of school cancellation days)
*	Early Release Days for either PreK-12 th or PreK-8 th students due to staff professional development or parent-teacher conferences	**	Early Release Days for all students and staff

ABOUT MVMS & MPS

MVMS At a Glance

School Contact Information	217 Pleasant Street, Marblehead, Massachusetts 01945 Phone – (781) 639-3120 Fax – (781) 639-3130
School Day	The academic school day runs from 8:00 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.
Lunch Schedule	Grade 8 11:40 a.m. - 12:10 p.m. Grade 7 12:12 p.m. - 12:42 p.m.
Report An Absence	Call before 8:15 a.m. to report a student as absent or late. 781-639-3120 ext.: 3340
Cancellation/Delayed Opening	School Messenger telephone call by 6:30 a.m. Radio: WBZ Boston - 1030; Television channels 4, 5 and 7. Website: https://www.marbleheadschoools.org/
Web Address	https://www.marbleheadschoools.org/marblehead-veterans-middle-school

Visitors

For safety and security reasons, all visitors must check in at the main office. Each visitor, including substitute teachers, must wear a visitor badge at all times during the visit. Three visitor spots are located near the main entrance next to the island and additional parking is adjacent to the tennis courts. The visitors' parking area is not to be used for drop off and pick up of students.

Where to go if you have questions

Occasionally, students and/or parents are not sure who should be contacted at the Marblehead Veterans Middle School in case of questions or concerns. Please refer to the MVMS faculty directory on our web site for our faculty email addresses and telephone extensions: <https://www.marbleheadschoools.org/marblehead-veterans-middle-school/contact-directory>

Classroom Issues	Contact the teacher first using the teacher's email or voicemail extension. If you have additional concerns, contact your son/daughter's guidance counselor. If you still have questions, contact the Assistant Principal or Principal.
Scheduling Issues	Contact the guidance counselor first using his/her email or voicemail extension listed in our web directory. If you have additional concerns, contact the Principal.
Curriculum Issues	Contact the lead teacher. If you have additional concerns, contact the Assistant Principal or Principal.
Special Education Issues	Contact the appropriate teacher(s) first. If you have additional concerns, contact our Special Education Chairperson. If you still have questions, you can contact the Principal or the District Director of Student Services and Program Accountability.
Behavioral Issues	Contact the teacher or guidance counselor first. If you are still concerned, contact the Assistant Principal.
Family Issues	Contact your child's guidance counselor for social, emotional, personal, or family issues.

Marblehead School Committee

The Marblehead School Committee generally meets on the first and third Thursday of each month during the school year. The Committee sets policy for the school district, works with the Superintendent to develop, implement, and monitor a Strategic Plan, and develops a budget to present to Town Meeting in May. Meetings are held at 7:00 p.m. in the Marblehead High School Library unless otherwise noted. Agendas are available on the Monday prior to the meeting at the Administration Building, which is located at the Mary Alley Municipal Building at 9 Widger Road. The public is welcome and encouraged to attend and participate during the public comment period.

Marblehead Public Schools Central Administrators/Directors

Superintendent of Schools	781-639-3140 ext.: 10114
Assistant Superintendent Teaching and Instruction	781-639-3140 ext.: 10114
Assistant Superintendent for Finance	781-639-3140 ext.: 10108
Director of Student Services	781-639-3140 ext.: 10105
Executive Director of Technology	781-639-3140 ext.: 10107
Food Service Director	781-639-3120 ext.: 3163
Facilities Director	781-639-3140 ext.: 10103
Athletic Director	781-639-3100 ext.: 4131

METCO - Metropolitan Council for Educational Opportunities

The Marblehead Public Schools have been a voluntary participant in the METCO program for over 40 years. The METCO staff includes a director, tutors, bus monitors, and a clerical aide. This program is completely funded through a State Department of Elementary and Secondary Education grant. The Marblehead METCO Parent Advisory Council acts as a parental support group for parents of METCO students. The METCO PAC meets in Boston once each month. Host families are a critical component of this program. If you are interested in hosting a METCO student, contact the program director at 781-639-3100.

Marblehead Special Education PAC (SEPAAC)

The Marblehead Special Education PAC (SEPAAC) is a parent advisory council organization run by parents of children with special needs. SEPAAC's purpose is to develop better understanding and communication among parents, teachers, and administrators. Membership includes parents, teachers, and the special education administration. Please refer to the school calendar for days and dates. For more information, go to <https://www.mhdsepac.com/>

Teaming and Daily Schedules

Marblehead Veterans Middle School, in response to data-based research on middle schools, assigns students to teams that create communities for learning. In the 7th and 8th grades, students are assigned to one of the two teams per grade; either Red Team or Black Team. The goal of teaming students in the middle school is two-fold. Our first goal is to create a smaller community of students. The second goal is to allow teachers common planning time to discuss students, their achievements, and to identify those needing additional assistance.

The School Day

The academic school day runs from 8:00am - 2:30pm. Please note: Students are not allowed in the academic areas of the building prior to 7:50 a.m. unless they have an appointment to see a faculty member or are in the library. Breakfast is served in the cafeteria at 7:30 am each day. Students who stay after school for activities or extra help must be with a faculty member at all times. As all after-school activities and sports do not begin until 3:00 p.m., students are expected to be with a faculty member or studying and doing homework in the library until 3:00 p.m.

Course Offerings

On-Team Subjects	World Language Classes	Unified Arts Rotation	Physical Education/Health	Performing Arts Classes	Classes Providing Assistance
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • English • Math • Science • Social Studies 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • French • Latin • Spanish 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Art • Music • Technology • Science/Engineering <p>Students rotate through these classes every quarter</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Physical Education • Health <p>Students rotate through these classes every quarter</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Band • Chorus • Orchestra <p>These classes meet three times a week around lunch Students not taking a performing arts class will be assigned to a “Just Read” class</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Curriculum Support (CS) • Academic Support (AS) • Math Literacy (Math Lit) <p>CS is a special education class, and placement is determined by the team. AS is a regular education class, and placement is a family decision Math Lit is a voluntary math support class that takes the place of Health</p>

Advisory Program

“Every student needs at least one thoughtful adult who has the time and takes the trouble to talk with the student about academic matters, personal problems, and the importance of performing well in middle grade school.”

-Carnegie Council on Adolescent Development

Each student is assigned an advisor with whom he or she will meet two times per week on Wednesdays and Thursdays. Topics discussed by all grades during advisor meetings include goal setting, self-esteem, study skills, decision-making, peer relationships, stamping out social cruelty, leadership opportunities, and community service projects.

Daily Bell Schedule

Our schedule is unique to Marblehead Veterans Middle School and has been recognized as a model by Carnegie Corporation's *Turning Points: Educating Adolescents in the 21st Century*. The schedule below demonstrates our 6-period day; including lunch and advisory/performing arts (band, orchestra, and chorus).

<u>PERIOD</u>	<u>DAY 1</u> Drop I Block	<u>DAY 2</u> Drop H Block	<u>DAY 3</u> Drop G Block	<u>DAY 4</u> Drop D Block	<u>DAY 5</u> Drop C Block	<u>DAY 6</u> Drop B Block	<u>DAY 7</u> Drop A Block
1 8:00 – 8:53	A	I	H	G	D	C	B
2 8:55 – 9:48	B	A	I	H	G	D	C
3 9:50 – 10:43	C	B	A	I	H	G	D
4 10:45 – 11:38	D	C	B	A	I	H	G
5 11:40 – 12:10	E Gr. 7 Just Read/Performing Arts <u>EVERY</u> Monday, Tuesday, and Friday 8 th Grade LUNCH			E Grade 7 Advisory – <u>EVERY</u> Wednesday and Thursday 8 th Grade LUNCH			
6 12:12 – 12:42	F Gr. 8 Just Read/Performing Arts <u>EVERY</u> Monday, Tuesday, and Friday 7 th Grade LUNCH			F Grade 8 Advisory – <u>EVERY</u> Wednesday and Thursday 7 th Grade LUNCH			
7 12:44 – 1:36	G	D	C	B	A	I	H
8 1:38 – 2:30	H	G	D	C	B	A	I

ACADEMICS

Classroom Expectations

Teachers will give each student a written summary of academic and behavioral expectations at the beginning of each course and describe the relative weights to be assigned to different types of work and tests in determining the grade and the policy for make-up work.

Homework

Per School Committee Policy:

Grades 7-8: Teachers of all core courses shall assign meaningful homework. The quality, not quantity, of the assignment is the object. Students will typically have 25 minutes homework per core subject area per night. Teachers will utilize a master team schedule for important assignments to prevent the likelihood of a student having 3 or more tests or significant assignments due on a given day.

Please reference the entire MPS SC homework policy IKB

Assignment Notebooks

Students are required to record all homework assignments in the assignment notebook provided by the school. Along with other forms of communication, parents/guardians are encouraged to review this notebook with their child.

Report Cards and Grading Scale

Quarterly report cards are available via the parent portal.

Letter Grade	Grade Equivalency
A+	100 – 97
A	96 – 94
A-	93 – 90
B+	89 – 97
B	86 – 84
B-	83 – 80
C+	79 – 77
C	76 – 74
C-	73 – 70
D+	69 – 67
D	66 – 64
D-	63 – 60
F	59 and Below

A student may also receive an "I" for incomplete work, or a "P" for passing work, if individual and/or extenuating circumstances arise.

I - Incomplete work must be made up within 10 school days after the report card is issued and is the responsibility of the student. Otherwise, the course grade will revert to an "F."

Make-up Work Due to Student Absence

Students who are absent are responsible for meeting with their teachers on the day they return to school to create a plan for any work they missed. If a student has been absent for multiple days, he/she is also encouraged to seek assistance from his/her guidance counselor. Students will have the same amount of days as their absence to make-up assignments after their return to school. For example, if a student is absent on Tuesday and returns to school on Wednesday, make-up work is due on Thursday. Parents may request teacher-prepared homework for students on the second day of absence if they know their child will be absent three or more days.

Academic Recognition

High Honors: Students earning at least all A's and one B each quarter

Honors: Students earning all A's and B's each quarter

Requirements for Promotion

Students are expected to successfully complete 75% of their major courses and four of the following areas: art, music, wellness/family and consumer sciences, technology education, media literacy, and physical education. Failure to do so will require the student to attend summer school, or, in some cases, be retained. Passing a yearlong course requires earning a minimum grade of "D" each quarter or its equivalent of four points during the year (A = 4 points, B = 3 points, C = 2 points, D = 1 point). Promotion may also occur at the discretion of the principal, in consultation with the teacher(s) and parents.

ACADEMIC DISHONESTY AND PLAGIARISM

Tests, quizzes, homework, written papers, and other forms of assignments are tools for a teacher to measure how well a student is learning. Therefore, all work must be the student's own words. For written work all sources must be shown, e.g., cited quotations for exact words or attribution for ideas. Any student contributing to the academic dishonesty of another student will face the same consequences as the student s/he assisted. The rules regarding academic dishonesty and plagiarism apply over the course of a student's two years at MVMS. It is not based on offenses per class or year. For example, if the first offense occurred in a student's seventh grade year and the next offense occurred during eighth grade, the penalty for a second offense would apply.

FIRST OFFENSE – Type 1 Offense

- A. Zero given for test or assignment.
- B. Parent notification.
- C. Student will complete a plagiarism packet.
- D. An extremely serious case, such as stealing a test, may result in out-of-school suspension or more severe consequences.

SECOND OFFENSE – Type 2 Offense

- A. Zero given for test or assignment.
- B. Teacher, guidance counselor and/or administrator will meet with student and parent to discuss incident and behavioral consequences.
- C. Student must redo assignment satisfactorily (though grade remains a zero). Student must complete plagiarism packet.
- D. An extremely serious case, such as stealing a test, may result in out-of-school suspension or more severe consequences.

THIRD OFFENSE – Type 2 Offense

- A. Zero given for test or assignment.
- B. Teacher, administrator, and guidance counselor meet with student and parent to discuss incident and behavioral consequences.
- C. Student must redo assignment satisfactorily (though grade remains a zero). Student must complete plagiarism packet and additional research on plagiarism.
- D. An extremely serious case, such as stealing a test, may result in out-of-school suspension or more severe consequences.

ATTENDANCE REQUIREMENTS & PROCEDURES

Numerous research studies have identified that one of the most important factors in the success of a student is daily, on-time attendance. Please see the following information about what do to when your child will be absent or dismissed from school, or late to school. Per established attendance practices at MVMS, a letter will be sent home following the fifth unexcused absence.

Student Absence Procedures

When should I call my child in absent, and who do I call?

Please call the school before 8:15am on the day that he/she will be absent. Please call **781-639-3120 ext. 3340**.

What should I say on the absence message?

When you call your child in absent, please clearly state his/her name, grade, reason for absence, and if you know, their date of return.

Does the school need any more information?

Yes, please send in an absence note with your student when he/she returns to school. Make sure you include the dates of absence. Per school committee policy, the school may ask for a doctor's note certifying that the absence.

Will my child's absence be excused?

Per school committee policy, absences will be excused for illness, religious holidays, serious illness in the family, or funerals. Family vacations are NOT excused absences. If a student is absent from school due to a family vacation, students will make-up the work after their return to school at the convenience of their teachers. Students are required to see each of their teachers upon returning and develop a list of missing work and specific dates for test and quiz make-ups.

Student Dismissal Procedures

How do I arrange for the dismissal of my child from school?

Students who need to be dismissed must bring a written note from a parent/guardian to the main office before 8:00am. The note must state the time, date, and reason for the dismissal.

Can my student come outside to meet me at that dismissal time?

No. Students must be signed out of school by a parent/guardian.

Student Tardy Procedures

When will my student be considered tardy?

The first class at MVMS begins at 8:00am. Students not in their first class at that time will be considered tardy.

Should I send a note in with my child if (s)he will be late?

Yes. However, a tardy will only be excused if the reason matches the guidelines set for excused absences.

Since running late or bad traffic is not a reason for an excused tardy, what will happen to my child who is late to school?

As we understand that there are those days when families are running late or traffic backs up, each student will be allowed two unexcused tardies per quarter, with no consequences.

What happens after those two "free" unexcused tardies?

Students will be required to meet with the teacher of their first block class after school. The student will have to turn in a signed "Tardy Pass" to the main office, demonstrating that he/she met with that teacher. Tardy passes will be handed out from the main office. Failure to turn in a signed pass may result in an office detention.

How many times will the "tardy pass" system be used?

Upon the student's 7th tardy in a quarter, the student will be assigned to an office detention for that and every subsequent tardy.

Please see MPS SC attendance policy JH

COMMUNICATION

School/Home Communication – School Messenger

The Marblehead Public Schools subscribes to a “school to home” phone service, School Messenger. This communication system will enable the building principal or the superintendent to contact parents in a timely manner in the event of an emergency situation, or to pass on general information regarding weekly schedules or other school updates.

Change of Address/Phone Number

It is important to notify the school promptly of changes in address or telephone number(s) so that parents or guardians can be reached in the event of an emergency.

Notification of Field Trips

Parents will be informed of all field trips, no later than one week before they occur (except in unexpected circumstances).. **Students may not participate in field trips without parent consent signed and returned to school.** Staff members supervise students during out-of-school activities.

Please see MPS SC field trip policy IJOA

Office Telephone Use

Students are allowed to use the telephone in the main office during lunch or before or after school. In special circumstances, students may obtain permission from a classroom teacher to use the phone in the main office during the school day.

Health Education

As part of our Health curriculum, students are presented with a unit on human development that includes reproductive health and human sexuality. In accordance with Chapter 71, Section 33 of Massachusetts General law, school committee policy shall afford parents or guardians the flexibility to exempt their children from any portion of said curriculum through written notification to the school principal.

Please see MPS SC Health Education policies IHAM, IHAM-1, and IHAM-R

Services and Accommodations for Students with Disabilities

Some students with disabilities require specialized instruction and/or supportive services to help them make effective progress in school. These services can include, but are not limited to, speech therapy, physical therapy, occupational therapy, specialized instruction, or placement in a specialized classroom. Parents or teachers may refer students they are concerned about to the Pupil Services Office. We take special education referrals seriously and want to be sure to respond within required timelines. **Therefore, all special education referrals shall be made via hard copy, delivered either to the building principal, special education chairperson or Director of Student Services.** Within five (5) school days of a request for an evaluation of a student’s eligibility for special education, a consent form authorizing an evaluation of the student will be forwarded to the parent(s). Within forty-five (45) school days of receipt of the parent(s)’ consent, an evaluation will be conducted and a TEAM meeting will be held to determine if the student is eligible for special education services. If the student is found eligible for special education services, the Team will develop an Individualized Education Program (IEP) identifying the necessary services.

In some cases, the evaluation Team determines that a student with a disability may require only individual accommodations as opposed to specialized instruction and/or related services. Such students are then referred for an evaluation of their eligibility for an individual accommodation plan in accordance with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act. For more information regarding the services available to students with disabilities please contact the building principal at 781-639-3113 or the Marblehead Public Schools Director of Student Services at 781-639-3140.

Lost & Found

There are two “Lost and Found” areas at MVMS. They are located in the gym and the Cafeteria. Any clothing or items that go unclaimed will be sent to a local charity periodically throughout the year.

Textbooks and other school materials are the responsibility of the student, and **must be paid for if lost.**

MEDICAL/FOOD/FAMILY SERVICES

Food Services

Breakfast: Students should eat a healthy breakfast before arriving at school. The breakfast program at MVMS runs from 7:30 a.m. to 7:50 a.m.

Breakfast Rules

1. Students are not permitted into the Cafeteria until 7:30 a.m.
2. Once a student is in the Cafeteria, he/she must stay until the bell rings at 7:50 a.m.
3. Students are to be respectful and courteous to all.
4. Students are to remain seated during breakfast.
5. Students are not to take open containers of drinks or food from the Cafeteria.
6. Students are responsible for cleaning their immediate area before 7:50 a.m.

Lunch: Grades 7 & 8 will have a thirty minute lunch break. Well-balanced meals are available. Milk and/or snack may be purchased separately. Free and reduced price lunches are available to those who qualify. For current lunch menu information, go to <https://www.marbleheadschoools.org/district/food-services>.

LUNCH SCHEDULE

Grade	Time
8	11:40 a.m. - 12:10 p.m.
7	12:12 p.m. - 12:42 p.m.

The Principal, Assistant Principal, Guidance Counselor, and teachers supervise lunch. The following rules are to be observed:

1. Students are to be respectful and courteous to all.
2. Students are to remain seated during lunch.
3. Students must obtain permission from an adult in order to leave the cafeteria.
4. Students are not to take open containers of drinks or food from the cafeteria.
5. Glass bottles should not be brought onto school grounds without permission.
6. Students are responsible for cleaning their immediate area before being dismissed.

School Nurse Information

MVMS School Nurse Contact Number - 781-639-3120 ext. 3128

Assessment and treatment are provided for minor injuries or illnesses during the school day. If a student becomes ill or is seriously injured his/her parent or guardian is notified immediately. If a parent cannot be reached in an emergency, the child will be transported to the appropriate medical facility. The nurse will dismiss any child who is too ill to be in school, requires further assessment or treatment for an illness or injury, or is considered to be contagious or susceptible to disease. Timely health bulletins will be sent home to inform parents of any public health issues.

Absence due to Illness

If your child is absent due to illness, please notify the school daily. We need to be kept informed so that we can alert other parents of infectious conditions. If your child is contagious, please keep him/her at home until your doctor has cleared him/her for return to school. Additionally, the school nurse asks that you follow these guidelines for sending students to school:

- Students being treated for strep throat must be kept home a minimum of 24 hours after treatment begins.
- Students who vomit in the night or in the morning before school should not be sent to school that day.
- Students with a febrile illness should be free of fever without the use of fever reducing medication for 24 hours before returning to school.

- For up-to-date health information, please check the district website: <https://www.marbleheadschoools.org>. Select Departments from the pull down menu, Health Services, Health Fact Sheet. For personal safety reasons, please call the school to report absences or anticipated tardiness due to illness early in the morning at 781-639-3120 ext.: 3340.

Food Allergies

Any food consumed outside of the cafeteria must be peanut and tree nut free. No sharing or swapping of any food. A parent information letter describing school policy and expectations for all types of food consumption at MVMS will be sent home before school starts and posted online.

Concussions

Per state law and school committee policy, any student who suffers a head injury or concussion, whether such injury occurs in or out of school, must be medically cleared to return to school as well as participate in school athletic activities. Responsible staff will follow the guidelines for graduated return to academics and activities tailored appropriately to the student's age and condition.

*Please see **Appendix D** for the entire School Committee Policy, JJIF, on Athletic Concussions*

Immunizations

The Massachusetts Department of Public Health requires that all children be properly immunized against varicella, measles, mumps, rubella (MMR), polio, diphtheria, tetanus, pertussis (DPT), and hepatitis B before entrance into school. Exemptions from immunizations are allowed under Massachusetts Law for either religious or medical reasons, both of which require documentation. Non-immunized/susceptible individuals will be excluded from school in the event of an outbreak of any vaccine preventable disease.

Department of Public Health Division of Epidemiology and Immunization

To bring Massachusetts' school immunization requirements up to date with several recent recommendations made by the Center for Disease Control and Prevention's (CDC) Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP), the Department of Public Health (DPH) has made changes to the school immunization requirements. The following changes will be effective fall of 2011 (not the fall of 2010):

Vaccine Requirements:

- 2 doses measles, mumps and rubella (MMR) vaccine for entry to kindergarten, 7th grade, full-time college freshmen and health science students (currently 2 doses of measles and 1 dose of mumps and 1 dose of rubella vaccine are required for these groups)
- 2 doses varicella vaccine for entry to kindergarten, 7th grade, full-time college freshmen and health science students (currently 1 dose of varicella vaccine is required for entry to kindergarten and 7th grade and there is no varicella requirement for college)
- 1 dose Tdap for entry to 7th grade, full-time college freshmen and health science students (currently 1 dose of Td is required for these groups)

Definitions:

The definition of 'Certificate of Immunization' has been revised to also allow nurse practitioners and physician assistants, in addition to physicians, to sign and date the form or letter. The definition was also clarified to require the month and year of administration as well as the type/name of the vaccine administered in both electronic and hard copy documentation.

The current Massachusetts school immunization requirements can be found on their website: www.mass.gov/dph/imm. If you have any questions about current or future school immunization requirements, please contact the Division of Epidemiology and Immunization at 617-983-6800.

Reminder: state-supplied vaccines are available for catch-up of all children through 18 years of age, regardless of insurance status:

-Tdap vaccine* -MCV4 vaccine

-Varicella vaccine* -Hepatitis A vaccine*

-MMR vaccine*

Please order and have these vaccines available for your patients.

*These vaccines are also available for adults seen in public sector settings 3/1/2010

MVMS Health Office Prescription Drop Off

All prescription and herbal medication must be brought to the Health Office or School Office by a parent or guardian in a container with the official prescription label on it. If necessary, ask your pharmacist to give you a duplicate container for safe storage of the medication at home and school. The school cannot dispense medication that does not have the prescription label on the package. Inhalers will be stored in the health office unless the school nurse and parent mutually agree to alternate storage. The nurse will notify parents or others identified on a student's emergency card prior to administering any over-the-counter medication covered in the MPS medication policy and protocol.

Under no circumstances shall a child be sent to school with medication without prior notification of the school nurse. Children found in possession of unauthorized medications on school grounds or at school sponsored events may be subject to discipline.

Physical Examinations

Physical exams are required prior to entry into kindergarten, 4th grade, 7th grade and 10th grade and for all students new to our schools. Vision screening for distance visual acuity and ocular alignment/stereopsis within 12 months prior to kindergarten entry or within 30 days of the start of the school year is a law effective in 2005.

State mandated screenings are conducted annually for vision, hearing, height and weight. If your child does not meet state standards on these screenings, you will be notified by the school nurse. Your child should then be evaluated by a physician for diagnosis, treatment, or referral.

Special Medical Considerations

Parents of a child with any medical condition that may require special attention or planning should contact the school nurse as soon as possible. This includes conditions such as asthma, severe allergies, seizure disorders or diabetes. An Individualized Health Care Plan and/or a medical 504 Plan is developed collaboratively with school, family and health care provider. Parents should also notify the school nurse of any changes in their child's daily medications or medical conditions. The Massachusetts Asthma Action Plan is to be completed by your health care provider for students with asthma.

Please see MPS SC Health/Nursing policies JLC, JLCB, JLCD, JLCA, and JLCCB

Home/Hospital Tutoring

A public school student who, due to documented medical reasons, is confined to home or a hospital for not less than fourteen (14) school days during the school year, is entitled to receive home/hospital educational instruction as described under 603 CMR 28.03(3)(c). Parents must present a completed Physician's Statement to the building principal stating a diagnosis, length of time student is expected to be out of school, as well as the expected return date. The form (code 28R/3) can be digitally downloaded at the following address: <http://www.doe.mass.edu/sped/28MR/>. The Physician's Statement must be completed and signed by the student's physician and returned to the building principal, who will then authorize and/or arrange tutoring.

Homeless Students

Per School Committee policy and Federal law, the Superintendent shall designate an appropriate staff person to be the district's liaison for homeless students and their families in accordance with the McKinney-Vento Act. Please contact the building principal if you have any need for assistance, and he/she can connect your family with the district's homeless liaison.

Please see MPS SC Homeless policy JFABD

Student Expectations

Computer/Internet Usage

The school's computers are provided as learning tools. Students who abuse the schools/personal computers or internet access on school grounds may be excluded from their use and may also face school discipline. Sites prohibited may include, but are not limited to instant message/email, pornographic sites, games, shopping, or translation sites. Use of electronic translators is also prohibited at the discretion of the classroom teacher. The use of school provided electronic devices or networks to harass or bully others is strictly prohibited and may result in loss of access to the school's network and equipment and other disciplinary consequences. **Please see Appendix C for the MPS Acceptable Usage policy and student email policy.**

MVMS Dress Code

The Marblehead Veterans Middle School dress code is based on the premise that all students attending the Marblehead Veterans Middle School are young adults who wish to dress and groom themselves appropriately with due consideration to popular convention. The dress code applies to all school-sponsored activities.

1. Dress or grooming must not disrupt the educational process or threaten the health or safety of any individual. For example, clothing or jewelry that displays obscene, sexually suggestive, illegal, intentionally harassing, bigoted remarks, symbols, or that encourages drinking, drug use, sex, or tobacco will not be worn at ANY time during the school day (including physical education).
2. Short-shorts and very short skirts will not be worn. Shorts and skirts must extend to the bottom of the students' fingertips. Please monitor your child's school dress. (Shorts and skirts may not be rolled up to shorten them.)
3. Leggings must be worn with skirt or shorts at an acceptable length.
4. Tube, halter, camisole tops and bare midriffs are unacceptable.
5. Underwear that is visible is not allowed.
6. No hats or any other type of head covering, i.e. bandanas, headbands, etc., may be worn unless used to keep long hair up and/or back or for religious purposes. **Hats must come off upon entering the building**, not be put on again until he/she has exited the building.
7. Footwear laces will be tied.
8. Clothing will be neat and appropriately buttoned or zipped at all times. Dress and grooming will be clean.
9. Pajamas are not allowed.
10. Chain wallets and other clothing with chains are not allowed.
11. Students will not wear clothing, hairstyles, or footwear that can be hazardous to them or others in their educational activities.
12. Students may not bring hairspray, nail polish remover, perfume, or cologne to school. These products could be dangerous, damage school property and may cause allergic reactions among students, staff, and faculty.
13. Coats/jackets cannot be worn from 8:00am to 2:30pm. Faculty members may allow students to wear coats/jackets if he/she feels that the room temperature is too cold.

The Assistant Principal or Guidance Counselors will resolve all questions or conflicts regarding dress.

If a student comes to school inappropriately attired, the following may occur:

1. The student will be asked to call home for appropriate clothing to be brought in
2. The student may be given something from school to wear for the day
3. The student may be removed from school for the remainder of the day.

Please see MPS SC dress code policy JICA

Cell Phone/Electronics Usage

Students are to turn off cell phones and handheld electronic devices before they enter MVMS in the morning and keep all electronics off throughout the day.

Students may not turn on cell phones until they have left the school building after school. Teachers may ask a student to call his/her parent in the teacher's presence to relay an important message. Students may also use the telephone in the main office.

Violations of the cell phone/electronics usage will result in the following:

First Offense	Item may be picked up after school in the main office
Second Offense	Item must be turned in at the main office every morning for two weeks
Third and Subsequent Offenses	Item must be turned in at the main office for a greater length of time (quarter, semester, rest of the year)

Student Participation on Field Trips

Students may not be allowed to participate in a field trip based upon the following reasons:

1. The student's statements or past history demonstrating a pattern of insubordination.
2. The student's unacceptable behavior during the time directly preceding the trip indicating unwillingness to prepare for the trip to make it a productive experience.
3. The student's inappropriate behavior on a previous trip.

Any student not attending a field trip will remain in school. Teachers will leave relevant curriculum based lessons and activities for all students not attending the off-site activity and students during that school day will complete such lessons. All school rules apply on field trips.

Student Conduct

Behavioral Provisions

- All school personnel are expected to enforce the school's disciplinary code at all times.
- Please note that the school's teachers reserve the right to invoke additional penalties if so stated in their written course guidelines.
- Depending on the severity and/or frequency of an offense, the school's assistant principal or principal may use his/her discretion in determining the appropriate length for each disciplinary step.
- Students will be given notice for teacher detentions or office detentions. Parents may request 24-hour notice.
- A student will be given oral notice of the offense with which he/she is charged and an opportunity to respond prior to the imposition of any disciplinary sanction that might result in the student's suspension from school for ten (10) consecutive school days or less. In the event that the Principal determines that the student will be suspended from school, the student's parent(s)/guardian(s) will be notified by telephone and in writing.

Definitions of Typical Behavioral Consequences

Teacher Detention

Assigned to students prior to being referred to/or disciplined by the Principal.

Office Detention

These are also assigned to students for inappropriate behavior inside/outside the classroom. Students are expected to complete work and/or academic reading during office detentions. Failure to use this time productively will result in the assigning of additional detentions. Office detentions may also be enforced during lunch.

In-School Suspension

In-school suspensions may be assigned for Type 2 and 3 offenses. During the day, the student must work productively on outstanding work, assignments provided, and any additional academic work assigned by the administration.

Out-of-School Suspension

Out-of-school suspensions may be assigned for Type 2 and 3 offenses. Students are not allowed on the school campus or at school activities until the date they return to school. Per the definition of excused absences by MA state regulations, students are allowed to make-up the point value of assignments missed during a suspension.

Social Probation

Students may be excluded from attending school functions that are extra-curricular in nature, due to poor behavior during school

Expulsion

Expulsion is the permanent removal from school per MA state regulations.

Police Notification

Because all members of the school community are subject to both the laws of the Commonwealth and town ordinances, the school cooperates with the police in investigation of possible violations of laws and ordinances pertaining to, and including but not limited to: possession and use of controlled substances, illegal use of alcohol, theft, assault, harassment, improper use of motor vehicles, vandalism, illegal parking, possession or use of weapons/firearms/explosives, possession of stolen property, and bullying.

Type 1 Prohibited Actions include, but are not limited to:

- Skateboarding, roller skating, rollerblading, scooter, bike, or any other type of wheeled device, riding anywhere in the building or on school grounds *unless* ridden to school and parked at a bike rack for the school day.
- Using/wearing radios, iPods, MP3 players, CD players, cell phones, or any other communication or music related devices during school hours. NOTE: Cell phones and all other telecommunication devices **must be shut off** at all times and placed in a locked locker.
- Possession/use of “playthings” (i.e. Gameboys, cards, toys, water balloons, spinners etc.)
- Gambling or betting
- Chewing gum or candy (cough drops are allowed with permission from the nurse or parent/guardian)
- Eating or drinking outside the cafeteria without permission (students may carry water)
- Littering anywhere in school or on school grounds
- Tardiness to school
- Tardiness to class without a pass
- Using a locker or being in a corridor at any time other than passing between classes except with a valid pass
- Being in building before or after school, unsupervised
- Behavior not conducive to an effective/safe learning environment
- Inappropriate language, swearing, etc.
- Instigating, or being involved in inappropriate/disruptive behavior and/or activity, including “playful altercations,” in hallways, stairwells, classrooms, common spaces (theater, gym, cafeteria), entering/leaving school, on school property, or on a school bus
- Inappropriate displays of affection
- Inappropriate school attire
- Wearing hats, hoods, bandanas or other types of headdress (unless used for religious purposes)
- Wearing backpacks or side bags between classes (from 8:00 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.)
- Skipped detention
- *NOTE: A second offense for a Type 1 prohibited action could result in a Type 2 consequence*

Consequences for Type 1 Behaviors include, but are not limited to:

- Verbal warning
- Parental notification
- Conference
- Written apology
- Teacher detention
- Office detention, or in-house suspension, including re-entry meeting with the student and parent(s)
- Confiscation (possibly until conclusion of school year)
- Restricted lunch privileges/cafeteria clean-up
- Social Probation

- Filing of a 51A (Department of Social Services) or CRA (Juvenile District Court)

Type 2 Prohibited Actions include, but are not limited to:

- Threats, teasing, harassment, verbal abuse, bullying, retaliation or intimidating behavior of any kind. This includes verbal, visual symbols, cyber bullying or any electronic communication.
- Dishonesty, lying, cheating/plagiarism
- Forgery of signatures, or dishonesty in notes or passes
- Throwing of any objects including, but not limited to, snowballs, water, or food
- Leaving any group, or exhibiting inappropriate behavior, while under the supervision of a faculty member or authorized chaperone on a field trip or other event
- Possession of a chain, including chain wallets
- Theft of any personal, private, or school property
- Disrespectful gestures, profanity, or injurious behavior directed at another person, including misbehavior towards/insubordination of any staff member, including substitute teachers
- Any action, including vandalism and graffiti, which results in injury or damage to property, whether intended or not (full restitution is required)
- Truancy or class cutting
- Fighting, in which a person makes physical contact with another person
- Bringing to school any animals or live organisms without prior permission from the main office
- Unauthorized use or entry of any school building or property (trespassing)
- Violation of the school internet policy
- Skipped office detention
- Inappropriate behavior at any athletic or other event or rally (whether at home or at another site) including, but not limited to, profanity, taunting, threats, and fighting

Consequences for Type 2 Behaviors include, but are not limited to:

- Parental notification
- Conference
- Written apology
- Office detention, or in-house suspension, including re-entry meeting with the student and parent(s)
- Confiscation (possibly until conclusion of school year)
- Restricted lunch privileges/cafeteria clean-up
- Exclusion from school-sponsored activities and field trips
- Notification sent to any extracurricular “coach or sponsor” – Possible loss of leadership role/playing time/participation
- Out-of-school suspension, including re-entry meeting with the student and parent(s) on the day that the student is scheduled to return to school
- Police notification
- Social Probation
- Recommendation for expulsion, including a hearing with the student and parent(s)
- Filing of a 51A (Department of Social Services) or CRA (Juvenile District Court)
- Police notification

NOTE: A second offense for a Type 2 prohibited action could result in a Type 3 consequence. Type 2 violations that are determined by the principal to be egregious may also result in a Type 3 consequence.

Type 3 Prohibited Actions include, but are not limited to:

- Pulling a fire alarm
- Posing a threat to, jeopardizing the safety of the school community (threatening actions or letters)
- Possession, use, or providing of tobacco, e-cigarette devices (tobacco filled or not), alcohol, drugs and/or controlled substances, or drug paraphernalia as defined by M.G.L. Chapter 94C and other statutes
- Possessing or displaying sexually explicit material
- Harassment/Bullying/Cyber Bullying second time or more
- Assault and/or battery of any staff member or student on school premises or at a school sponsored or school related event or athletic game

- Possession of dangerous weapons including, but not limited to, a gun or a knife (this includes the use of any device that could be construed as a weapon, i.e. fake guns and knives etc.)
- Possession or use of lighter, matches fireworks, smoke bombs, stink bombs, propellants, or any other explosive or flammable devices or materials

Consequences for Type 3 Behaviors include, but are not limited to:

- Parental notification
- Exclusion from school-sponsored activities and field trips
- Out-of-school suspension, including re-entry meeting with the student and parent(s) on the day that the student is scheduled to return to school
- Social Probation
- Police notification
- Notification sent to any extracurricular “coach or sponsor” – Loss of leadership role/playing time/participation
- Recommendation for expulsion, including a hearing with the student and parent(s)
- Filing of a 51A (Department of Social Services) or CRA (Juvenile District Court)

Please see MPS SC policies relating to:

Student conduct – JIC

Student discipline – JKD

Student rights JI

Bus Behavior – EEAEC/JICC, EEAEC-R

Policy CHCA-E

From the Marblehead Public Schools Policy Manual

Notwithstanding any general or special law to the contrary all student handbooks shall contain the following provisions:

- 1. Any student who is found on school premises or at school-sponsored or school related events, including athletic games, in possession of a dangerous weapon or a controlled substance, may be subject to expulsion from school by the Principal.*
- 2. Any student who assaults any employee of the School District may be subject to expulsion from school by the Principal.*
- 3. Any student who is charged with a violation of either (1) or (2) above shall be notified in writing of their opportunity for a hearing, provided, however that the student may have representation, along with the opportunity to present evidence and witnesses at said hearing before the Principal. After said hearing the Principal may decide to suspend rather than expel a student.*
- 4. Any student who has been expelled shall have the right to appeal to the Superintendent.*
- 5. When a student is expelled under the provisions listed above and applies for admission to another school for acceptance, the Superintendent of the sending school shall notify the Superintendent of the receiving school of the reasons for the pupil's expulsion. LEGAL REFS: M.G.L. ch.71, §37H*

Discipline and Students with Disabilities

All students are expected to meet the requirements for behavior as set forth in this handbook. In addition to those due process protections afforded to all students, the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act and related regulations require that additional provisions be made for students who have been found eligible for special education services or who the school district knows or has reason to know might be eligible for such services. Students who have been found to have a disability that impacts upon a major life activity, as defined under §504 of the Rehabilitation Act, are, generally, also entitled to increased procedural protections prior to imposing discipline that will result in the student’s removal for more than ten (10) consecutive school days or where there is a pattern of short term removals exceeding ten (10) school days in a given year. The following additional requirements apply to the discipline of students with disabilities:

- (1) Students with disabilities may be excluded from their programs for up to ten (10) school days to the extent that such sanctions would be applied to all students. Before a student with a disability can be excluded from his/her program for more than ten (10) consecutive school days in a given school year or subjected to a pattern of removal constituting a “change of placement”, building administrators, the parent(s)/guardian(s) and relevant

members of the student's IEP or 504 Team will meet to determine the relationship between the student's disability and behavior (Manifestation Determination). In most instances, during disciplinary exclusions exceeding ten (10) school days in a single school year, the student shall have the right to receive services identified as necessary by the Team to provide him/her with a free appropriate public education during the period of exclusion.

- (2) If building administrators, the parent(s)/guardian(s) and relevant members of the student's IEP or 504 Team determine that the student's conduct was not a manifestation of the student's disability, the school may discipline the student in accordance with the procedures and penalties applicable to all students but will continue to provide a free appropriate public education to those students with IEPs. The student's Team will identify the services necessary to provide a free appropriate public education during the period of exclusion, review any existing behavior intervention plan or, where appropriate, conduct a functional behavioral assessment.
- (3) If building administrators, the parent(s)/guardian(s) and relevant members of the student's IEP or 504 Team determine that the conduct giving rise to disciplinary action was a manifestation of the student's disability, the student will not be subjected to further disciplinary removal or exclusion from the student's current educational program based on that conduct (except for conduct involving weapons, drugs, or resulting in serious bodily injury to others) until the IEP or 504 Team develops, and the parent(s)/guardian(s) consent to a new placement or until the District obtains an order from a court or from the Bureau of Special Education Appeals (BSEA) authorizing a change in the student's placement. The student's Team shall also review, and modify as appropriate, any existing behavior intervention plan or arrange for a functional behavioral assessment.
- (4) If a student with a disability possesses or uses illegal drugs, sells or solicits a controlled substance, possesses a weapon, or causes serious bodily injury to another on school grounds or at a school function, the District may place the student in an interim alternative educational setting (IAES) for up to forty-five (45) school days. A court or BSEA Hearing Officer may also order the placement of a student who presents a substantial likelihood of injury to self or others in an appropriate interim setting for up to forty-five (45) school days.

Investigative Procedure

When the school receives a complaint or information of inappropriate conduct by a student, the Principal or other designated staff member may conduct an investigation. During the course of the investigation, school personnel may talk to witnesses, may search students, students' lockers, internet sites or possessions and take other appropriate investigative steps. The student(s) being investigated may be removed from class for all or part of the school day during the investigation

Student Searches

A student's person, personal possessions, desk, internet sites, and student locker may be searched whenever school administrators have reasonable suspicion that the student is in possession of illegal, prohibited, or contraband items/materials. Any and all illegal, prohibited, or contraband materials discovered as a result of such a search will be confiscated. Students found in possession of such items or materials will be subject to disciplinary action and criminal prosecution.

Lockers

If lockers are issued to students, lockers are school property and the school reserves the right to search lockers at any time. Students have no expectation of privacy in the contents of their lockers.

Appeals Procedure

A student is entitled to appeal disciplinary action by a staff member. Appeals of disciplinary actions resulting in suspension or expulsion from school shall be appealed in accordance with the “Disciplinary Procedures” set forth above. If a student wishes to appeal disciplinary action that does not result in suspension or exclusion from school, the matter must first be discussed with the person who took the disciplinary action. If it cannot be settled at that level, it may be appealed next to the Principal. In cases where the Principal makes the original decision, the Principal's decision may be appealed to the Superintendent.

Non-Discrimination Notice

The Marblehead Public Schools provides equal education and employment opportunity without regard to race, color, national origin, veteran status, religion, sex, disability, gender identity or sexual orientation.

The Marblehead Public Schools complies with all applicable State and Federal Laws, including but not limited to, Title VI, Title VII, Title IX, the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, and Massachusetts General Law, ch.151B, ch.151C, ch.76, §5, and hc.71B.

The Marblehead Public Schools does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, sex, age, disability, gender identity, sexual orientation, disabled veteran status in its employment, in the administration of, operation of, or access to its academic and non-academic programs and policies. It does not discriminate on the basis of disability in violation of Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973. Inquiries by students, employees and/or prospective employees regarding disabilities and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act may be directed to the appropriate coordinators at each school building. The building principal, Matthew Fox, is the local Sec. 504 Coordinator and can be reached at (781) 639-3130. Robert J. Bellucci is the District Sec. 504 Coordinator and can be reached at (781) 639-3140. Harassment Officer is Robert J. Bellucci (781-639-3140).

The Marblehead Public Schools has duly appointed individuals responsible for the overall monitoring, auditing, and ensuring compliance with this non-discrimination policy. For compliance issues regarding employment activities, employees should contact: Marblehead Schools Business Manager, 781-639-3140 at 9 Widger Road, Marblehead, Massachusetts 01945 . For compliance issues regarding educational activities, contact: Robert J. Bellucci, Director of Student Services and Program Accountability, Marblehead Public Schools, 9 Widger Road, Marblehead, Massachusetts 01945. Individuals who believe they have been discriminated against in any of the District's educational or employment activities can file a written grievance with the appropriate officer.

The Marblehead Public Schools is an equal opportunity/affirmative action employer.

After School Activities

After School Clubs

Clubs typically meet one designated afternoon per week from 3:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Art Club	MVMS Musical	Math Team
Select Chorus	School Newspaper	
Bridge Building Club	Cornerstones	
Literary Magazine Club	Yearbook Club	

Homework Club (Meets Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday 2:30pm – 3:00pm)

Intramural and Interscholastic Sports

For additional information, please refer to the complete MVMS Sports Booklet.

Fall Sports

Field Hockey	Interscholastic
Cross Country	Interscholastic
Ultimate Frisbee	Intramural
Volleyball	Intramural

Winter Sports

Ice Hockey	Interscholastic
Boys & Girls Basketball	Interscholastic

Spring Sports

Track and Field	Interscholastic
Ultimate Frisbee	Intramural

Student User Fee

The educational philosophy of the Marblehead Public Schools is to foster and support the participation of all students in a wide variety of student activities beyond the regular school day program such as clubs, organizations, plays, intramural and interscholastic sports programs. Marblehead Public Schools financially support student activities through local appropriation and students' user fees.

User Fees are a onetime fee which covers all extracurricular activities throughout the school year.

\$134 Intramural Sports / School Activities / Clubs

\$214 Interscholastic Sports

\$622 Maximum per family *

* Please let us know if you have children at different schools and if you have reached the maximum family fee.

Provisions for financial hardship will be made using the Federal Lunch Program criteria.

Inquiries may be made in the main office at the Marblehead Veterans Middle School, 781-639-3120.

Please see MPS SC user fee policy JQ

Academic Eligibility for Student Activities

Per School Committee policy JJIC, to be eligible to participate in student activities, a middle school student “(i) must have passed three of the four major subjects of English, mathematics, social studies, science, and (ii) must not have failed more than one subject (including any major subject).”

Please see MPS SC policy JJIC

Appendix A – Bullying, Harassment, Sexual Harassment, and Hazing

BULLYING IN SCHOOLS

MPS SC Policy: JICFB

The Marblehead Public Schools is committed to creating a working and learning environment free of bullying, along with an environment that fosters student’s social and emotional health and wellbeing. Bullying and harassment are major distractions from learning. Fear can lead to chronic absenteeism, truancy, or even dropping out of school. Bullying of any type has no place in a school setting.

Definitions:

“Bullying” is the repeated use by one or more students of a written, verbal or electronic expression or a physical act or gesture or any combination thereof, directed at a victim that: (i) causes physical or emotional harm to the victim or damage to the victim’s property; (ii) places the victim in reasonable fear of harm to himself/herself or of damage to his/her property; (iii) creates a hostile environment at school for the victim; (iv) infringes on the rights of the victim at school; or (v) materially and substantially disrupts the education process or the orderly operation of a school. For the purposes of this section, bullying shall include cyber-bullying.

“Cyber-bullying” is bullying through the use of technology or any electronic communication, which shall include, but shall not be limited to, any transfer of signs, signals, writing, images, sounds, data or intelligence of any nature transmitted in whole or in part by a wire, radio, electromagnetic, photo electronic or photo optical system, including, but not limited to, electronic mail, internet communications, instant messages or facsimile communications. Cyber-bullying shall also include (i) the creation of a web page or blog in which the creator assumes the identity of another person or (ii) the knowing impersonation of another person as the author of posted content or messages, if the creation or impersonation creates any of the conditions enumerated in clauses (i) to (v), inclusive, of the definition of bullying. Cyber-bullying shall also include the distribution by electronic means of a communication to more than one person or the posting of material on an electronic medium that may be accessed by one or more persons, if the distribution or posting creates any of the conditions enumerated in clauses (i) to (v), inclusive, of the definition of bullying.

Where the term “bullying” is used in this document, it is intended to encompass both “bullying” and “cyber-bullying” as defined above.

Policy:

Bullying shall be prohibited: (i) on school grounds, property immediately adjacent to school grounds, at a school-sponsored or school-related activity, function or program whether on or off school grounds, at a school bus stop, on a school bus or other vehicle owned, leased or used by a school district or school, or through the use of technology or an electronic device owned, leased or used by a school district or school and (ii) at a location, activity, function or program that is not school-related, or through the use of technology or an electronic device that is not owned, leased or used by a school district or school, if the bullying creates a hostile environment at school for the victim, infringes on the rights of the victim at school or materially and substantially disrupts the education process or the orderly operation of a school. Nothing contained herein shall require schools to staff any non-school related activities, functions, or programs.

Retaliation against a person who reports bullying, provides information during an investigation of bullying, or witnesses or has reliable information about bullying shall be prohibited.

The school district shall provide age-appropriate instruction on bullying prevention in each grade that is incorporated into the curriculum of the school district or school. The curriculum shall be evidence based.

The school district shall develop, adhere to and update a plan to address bullying prevention and intervention in consultation with teachers, school staff, professional support personnel, school volunteers, administrators, community representatives, local law enforcement agencies, students, parents and guardians. The consultation shall include, but not be limited to, notice and a public comment period. The plan shall be updated at least biennially.

The plan shall include, but not be limited to: (i) descriptions of and statements prohibiting bullying, cyber-bullying and retaliation; (ii) clear procedures for students, staff, parents, guardians and others to report bullying or retaliation; (iii) a provision that reports of bullying or retaliation may be made anonymously; provided, however, that no disciplinary action shall be taken against a student solely on the basis of an anonymous report; (iv) clear procedures for promptly responding to and investigating reports of bullying or retaliation; (v) the range of disciplinary actions that may be taken against a perpetrator for bullying or retaliation; provided, however, that the disciplinary actions shall balance the need for accountability with the need to teach appropriate behavior; (vi) clear procedures for restoring a sense of safety for a victim and assessing that victim's needs for protection; (vii) strategies for protecting from bullying or retaliation a person who reports bullying, provides information during an investigation of bullying or witnesses or has reliable information about an act of bullying; (viii) procedures consistent with state and federal law for promptly notifying the parents or guardians of a victim and a perpetrator; provided, further, that the parents or guardians of a victim shall also be notified of the action taken to prevent any further acts of bullying or retaliation; and provided, further, that the procedures shall provide for immediate notification pursuant to regulations promulgated under this subsection by the principal or person who holds a comparable role to the local law enforcement agency when criminal charges may be pursued against the perpetrator; (ix) a provision that a student who knowingly makes a false accusation of bullying or retaliation shall be subject to disciplinary action; and (x) a strategy for providing counseling or referral to appropriate services for perpetrators and victims and for appropriate family members of said students. The plan shall afford all students the same protection regardless of their status under the law.

The plan shall include a provision for ongoing professional development to build the skills of all staff members, including, but not limited to, educators, administrators, school nurses, cafeteria workers, custodians, bus drivers, athletic coaches, advisors to extracurricular activities and paraprofessionals, to prevent, identify, and respond to bullying. The content of such professional development shall include, but not be limited to: (i) developmentally appropriate strategies to prevent bullying incidents, (ii) developmentally appropriate strategies for immediate, effective interventions to stop bullying incidents; (iii) information regarding the complex interaction and power differential that can take place between and among a perpetrator, victim, and witness to the bullying; (iv) research findings on bullying, including information about specific categories of students who have been shown to be particularly at risk for bullying in the school environment; (v) information on the incidence and nature of cyber-bullying; and (vi) internet safety issues as they relate to cyber-bullying.

The plan shall include provisions for informing parents and guardians about the bullying prevention curriculum of the school district or school and shall include, but not be limited to: (i) how parents and guardians can reinforce the curriculum at home and support the school district or school plan; (ii) the dynamics of bullying; and (iii) online safety and cyber-bullying.

The school district shall provide to students and parents or guardians, in age-appropriate terms and in the languages which are most prevalent among the students, parents or guardians, annual written notice of the relevant student-related sections of the plan.

The school district shall provide to all school staff annual written notice of the plan. The faculty and staff at each school shall be trained annually on the plan applicable to the school. Relevant sections of the plan relating to the duties of faculty and staff shall be included in employee handbooks. The plan shall be posted on the district's website.

Each school principal or the person who holds a comparable position shall be responsible for the implementation and oversight of the plan at his/her school. A member of a school staff, including, but not limited to, an educator, administrator, school nurse, secretary, cafeteria worker, custodian, bus driver, athletic coach, advisor to an extracurricular activity or paraprofessional, shall immediately report any instance of bullying or retaliation the staff member has witnessed or become aware of to the principal or to the school official identified in the plan as responsible for receiving such reports or both. Upon receipt of such a report, the school principal or a designee shall promptly conduct an investigation. If the school principal or a designee determines that bullying or retaliation has occurred, the school principal or designee shall (i) notify the local law enforcement agency if the school principal or designee believes that criminal charges may be pursued against a perpetrator; (ii) take appropriate disciplinary action; (iii) notify the parents or guardians of a perpetrator; and (iv) notify the parents or guardians of the victim, and to the extent consistent with state and federal law, notify them of the action taken to prevent any further acts of bullying or retaliation.

If an incident of bullying or retaliation involves students from more than one school district, the school district or school first informed of the bullying or retaliation shall, consistent with the state and federal law, promptly notify the appropriate administrator of the other school district or school so that both take age-appropriate action. If an incident of bullying or retaliation occurs on school grounds and involves a former student under the age of 21 who is no longer enrolled in the local school district, the school district informed of the bullying or retaliation shall contact law enforcement.

REFERENCES:

Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education's Model Bullying Prevention and Intervention Plan

LEGAL REFS.:

Title VII, Section 703, Civil Rights Act of 1964 as amended

Federal Regulation 74676 issued by EEO Commission

Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972

603 CMR 26.00

MGL 71:370

MGL 265:43, 43A

MGL 268:13B

MGL 269:14A

CROSS REFS.:

AC, Nondiscrimination

ACAB, Sexual Harassment

JBA, Student-to-Student Harassment

JICFA, Prohibition of Hazing

JK, Student Discipline Regulations

For more detailed information on the bullying prevention process, resources and form to file a bullying complaint, please view the MPS Bullying Prevention Plan:

(https://www.marbleheadschoools.org/sites/marbleheadmaps/files/uploads/mps_bullying_prevention_plan_july_2018.pdf). Copies of our Bullying Prevention Plan are also available in the middle school office or by emailing Principal Matthew Fox (fox.matthew@marbleheadschoools.org) or calling (781) 639-3120 x3113.

HARASSMENT, STUDENT TO STUDENT

Policy JBA

From the Marblehead Public Schools Policy Manual

Harassment of students by other students will not be tolerated in the Marblehead Public Schools. This policy is in effect while students are on school grounds, School District property or property within the jurisdiction of the School District, school buses, or attending or engaging in school activities.

Harassment prohibited by the District includes, but is not limited to, harassment on the basis of race, sex, creed, color, national origin, sexual orientation, gender identity, religion, marital status or disability. Students whose behavior is found to be in violation of this policy will be subject to disciplinary action up to and including suspension or expulsion.

Harassment means conduct of a verbal or physical nature that is designed to embarrass distress, agitate, disturb or trouble students when:

- Submission to such conduct is made either explicitly or implicitly a term or condition of a student's education or of a student's participation in school programs or activities;*
- Submission to or rejection of such conduct by a student is used as the basis for decisions affecting the student, or;*
- Such conduct has the purpose or effect of unreasonably interfering with a student's performance or creating an intimidating or hostile learning environment.*

Harassment as described above may include, but is not limited to:

- Verbal, physical or written harassment or abuse;*

- *Repeated remarks of a demeaning nature;*
- *Implied or explicit threats concerning one's grades, achievements, or other school matters.*
- *Demeaning jokes, stories, or activities directed at the student.*

The District will promptly and reasonably investigate allegations of harassment. The Principal of each building will be responsible for handling all complaints by students alleging harassment. Retaliation against a student, because a student has filed a harassment complaint or assisted or participated in a harassment investigation or proceeding, is also prohibited. A student who is found to have retaliated against another in violation of this policy will be subject to disciplinary action up to and including suspension and expulsion. The Superintendent will develop administrative guidelines and procedures for the implementation of this policy.

LEGAL REF.: M.G.L. c.76:5, M.G.L. 151B:3A; Title VII, Section 703, Civil Rights Act of 1964 as amended; Board of Education 603 CMR 26:00

SEXUAL HARASSMENT

Policy ACAB

From the Marblehead Public Schools Policy Manual

The Marblehead Public Schools are committed to providing a working and learning environment based on dignity and respect, free of harassment or intimidation. All those associated with the schools are expected to foster a climate that is supportive, respectful and conducive to teaching and learning.

Sexual harassment is among the behaviors that are destructive to a positive working and learning climate, and as such is prohibited by state law (Chapters 151 B and 151 C of the Massachusetts General Laws), federal law (Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972), and Marblehead Public Schools policy. Any member of the school community who engages in sexual harassment as defined below will be in violation of this policy. This policy encompasses behavior of adults towards adults or students, and students towards students or adults.

Definition: *It is a violation of this policy when a person makes any sexual advances, requests for sexual favors, or other verbal or physical conduct of a sexual nature when: 1) submission to or rejections of such advances, requests or conduct is made either explicitly or implicitly a term or condition of the provision of benefits, privileges, employment or placement services or as a basis for the evaluation of academic achievement; or 2) such advances, requests or conduct have the purpose or effect of unreasonably interfering with an individual's education or career by creating an intimidating, hostile, humiliating or sexually offensive educational or employment environment.*

Sexual harassment, as defined above, may include, but is not limited to, the following:

- *verbal or written harassment or abuse*
- *pressure for sexual activity*
- *repeated remarks to a person, with sexual or demeaning implications*
- *unwelcome touching*
- *suggesting or demanding sexual involvement accompanied by implied or explicit threats concerning one's grades, job, etc.*
- *display of lewd or sexually explicit materials, inappropriate jokes, or language of a sexual nature*

Responsibilities: *All persons associated with Marblehead Public Schools are responsible for:*

- 1) *Ensuring that his/her behavior does not sexually harass any other person associated with the schools.*
- 2) *Reporting any observed or experienced harassment or mistreatment immediately to the building administrator or Superintendent of Schools and cooperating fully in the investigation of alleged sexual harassment; and*
- 3) *Actively participating in the public schools' efforts to prevent sexual harassment in the schools.*

Retaliation in any form, including threats, intimidation, reprisal or harassment, towards any person who makes a sexual harassment complaint, or who assists in or participates in an investigation, proceeding, or hearing is strictly prohibited. If it occurs, it may be considered grounds for dismissal of staff, or removal from the educational setting for a student, who perpetrates a retaliatory act or causes or encourages retaliatory acts.

False Reports: *False reports of sexual harassment can cause permanent damage to the victim of such claims and must therefore be treated as a very serious matter. A false claim may be considered grounds for dismissal of staff, or discipline including removal from the educational setting for a student, who makes a false claim.*

Confidentiality: *Reports and complaints of sexual harassment will be kept as confidential as possible consistent with the rights of all parties.*

Sexual Harassment Officers: *Two Sexual Harassment Officers (one male and one female) will be designated in the District who will be responsible for processing complaints of sexual harassment in accordance with the procedures available from the Superintendent's Office or the Principals' Offices.*

Complaint Procedures:

- 1) *What one person may consider acceptable behavior may be viewed as sexual harassment by another person. Therefore, the victim should make clear to the harasser that the behavior is offensive and must stop. If the harasser does not stop the behavior, or if the victim is uncomfortable confronting the harasser, or if the behavior warrants further action in the opinion of the victim, the victim should lodge a complaint with the building administration, the Superintendent of Schools or the Sexual Harassment Officer who will notify the administration.*
- 2) *Upon receipt of a complaint, the building administrator or Superintendent will immediately ask a Sexual Harassment Officer to investigate the matter. The complaint should be as specific as possible, including names, dates, times, places, witnesses, and specific words or actions which were experienced as offensive. In cases involving students, the student's parents will be notified immediately of the complaint, the steps to be followed, and the ways in which they will be involved in the process.*
- 3) *All complaints of sexual harassment will be promptly investigated. Depending on the circumstances, the investigation may encompass any or all of the following:*
 - a) *The alleged victim may write a letter to the alleged harasser describing the offensive behavior, the circumstances under which it took place, the way the behavior made the victim feel, and requesting that the harasser apologize and promise not to repeat the behavior. The Sexual Harassment Officer will then meet with the alleged harasser, hear the harasser's account of the situation, present the victim's letter, and discuss the matter.*
 - b) *A meeting between the alleged victim and the alleged harasser may be held. Such a meeting will be held in the presence of the Sexual Harassment Officer.*
 - c) *The Sexual Harassment Officer may interview all parties and witnesses to the alleged harassment.*
- 4) *In cases of alleged student harassers, the Sexual Harassment Officers will report the facts of the alleged harassment to the building administrator. If the building administrator determines that these facts constitute harassment, disciplinary consequences such as detention, suspension, or expulsion consistent with school rules may be implemented. In cases of alleged adult harassers, the Sexual Harassment Officers will report the facts of the alleged harassment to the building administration or the Superintendent of Schools. If the administrator or Superintendent determines that these facts constitute harassment, disciplinary action, including, but not limited to, warning, suspension, demotion, or termination may result. In all cases, the receiving administrator will make a written decision as to whether harassment occurred. If disciplinary steps are taken, copies of the reports of facts and the written decision will go to the harasser, the personnel file in cases of adult harassers, and to the parents in cases of student harassers. The victim, and his or her parents, if the victim is a student, will also be informed of the determination as to whether harassment occurred.
*In addition to, or in lieu of discipline, harassers will be required to participate in an education program designed to heighten understanding and awareness of the effects of sexual harassment on victims, society, and the climate of schools and workplaces. Other types of resolutions may also be implemented.**
- 5) *Repeated or extreme forms of harassment, violence, or civil rights infringements by a student will result in a recommendation for expulsion or termination from Marblehead Public Schools.*
- 6) *In addition to disciplinary steps taken by public school officials, there may be legal options that may be pursued either by the victim, the schools or public agencies. The Sexual Harassment Officers will make information on legal options and obligations available to all parties.*
- 7) *Under certain circumstances, sexual harassment may constitute child abuse under Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 119, Section 51A. Marblehead Public School personnel shall comply with Massachusetts laws and School Committee policy in reporting suspected cases of child abuse.*

- 8) *The Sexual Harassment Officers will make complete records of all complaints, facts, steps taken, determinations, and resolutions, and those records will be kept in a central file in the Principals' offices and the Superintendent's Office for a period of 60 years.*

State and Federal Remedies:

In addition to the above, if you believe you have been subjected to sexual harassment, you may file a formal complaint with either or both of the governing agencies set forth below. Our complaint process does not prohibit you from filing a complaint with these agencies. Each of the agencies has a short time period for filing a claim (OCR - 180 days; MCAD - 6 months).

- 1) *United States Department of Education Office for Civil Rights - Region I
J.W. McCormack Post Office and Court House
Post Office Square
Boston, MA 02109 (617) 223-9685*
- 2) *The Massachusetts Commission against Discrimination ("MCAD")
One Ashburton Place - Rm. 601
Boston, MA 02108 (617) 727-3990*

*CROSS REF.: AC, Nondiscrimination
JICFB, Bullying
ACAC-Sexual Harassment Policy of the Town of Marblehead*

***HAZING, PROHIBITION OF
Policy JICFA***

From the Marblehead Public Schools Policy Manual

In accordance with Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 536 of the Acts of 1985, the School Committee hereby deems that no student, employee or school organization under the control of the School Committee shall engage in the activity of hazing a student while on or off school property, or at a school sponsored event regardless of the location. No organization that uses the facilities or grounds under the control of the School Committee shall engage in the activity of hazing any person while on school property.

Any student who observes what appears to them to be the activity of hazing another student or person should report such information to the Principal including the time, date, location, names of identifiable participants and the types of behavior exhibited. Students and employees of the District are obligated by law to report incidents of hazing to the police department.

Any student who is present at a hazing has the obligation to report such an incident. Failure to do so may result in disciplinary action by the school against that student and could involve suspension from school for up to three days. Any student who participates in the hazing of another student or other person may, upon the approval of the Superintendent of Schools, be suspended from school.. Any student determined by the Principal to be the organizer of a hazing activity may be recommended for expulsion from school but will receive no less disciplinary action than that of a participant.

In all cases relating to hazing, students will receive procedural due process.

LEGAL REF.: M.G.L. 269:17, 18, 19

CROSS REF: JIC, Student Conduct

Hazing

M.G.L. ch..269, §17

Whoever is a principal organizer or participant in the crime of hazing as defined herein shall be punished by a fine of not more than three thousand dollars or by imprisonment in a house of correction for not more than one year, or by both such fine and imprisonment.

The term "hazing" as used in this section and in sections eighteen and nineteen, shall mean any conduct or method of initiation into any student organization, whether on public or private property, which willfully or recklessly endangers the physical or mental health of any student or other person. Such conduct shall include whipping, beating, branding, forced calisthenics, exposure to the weather, forced consumption of any food, liquor, beverage, drug or other substance, or any other brutal treatment or forced physical activity which is likely to adversely affect the physical health or safety of any such student or other person, or which subjects such student or other person to extreme mental stress, including extended deprivation of sleep or rest or extended isolation. Notwithstanding any other provisions of this section to be contrary, consent shall not be available as a defense to any prosecution under this action.

M.G.L. ch..269, §18

Whoever knows that another person is the victim of hazing as defined in section seventeen and is at the scene of such crime shall, to the extent that such person can do so without danger or peril to himself or others, report such crime to an appropriate law enforcement official as soon as reasonably practicable. A fine of not more than one thousand dollars shall punish whoever fails to report such crime.

M.G.L. ch. 269, §19

Each secondary school shall issue to every group or organization under its authority or operating on or in conjunction with its campus or school, and to every member, plebe, pledge or applicant for membership in such group or organization, a copy of Chapter 269 of the General Laws. An officer of each such group or organization, and each individual receiving a copy of said sections seventeen and eighteen shall sign an acknowledgement stating that such group, organization or individual has received said copy.

Legal Reference: M.G.L. ch. 269

Appendix B – Selected Laws/Policies Related to Student Discipline

STUDENT RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES – School Committee Policy JI

The School Committee has the responsibility to afford students the rights that are theirs by virtue of guarantees offered under the federal and state constitutions and statutes. In connection with rights, there are responsibilities that must be assumed by students.

Among these rights and responsibilities are the following:

- 1. Civil rights--including the rights to equal educational opportunity and freedom from discrimination; the responsibility not to discriminate against others.*
- 2. The right to attend free public schools; the responsibility to attend school regularly and to observe school rules essential for permitting others to learn at school.*
- 3. The right to due process of law with respect to suspension, expulsion, and decisions the student believes injure his rights.*
- 4. The right to free inquiry and expression; responsibility to observe reasonable rules regarding these rights.*
- 5. The right to privacy, which includes privacy with respect to the student's school records.*

It is the School Committee's belief that as part of the educational process students should be made aware of their legal rights, and of the legal authority of the School Committee to make and delegate authority to its staff to make rules regarding the orderly operation of the schools.

Students have the right to know the standards of behavior that are expected of them, and the consequences of misbehavior.

The rights and responsibilities of students, including standards of conduct, will be made available to students and their parents through handbooks distributed annually.

LEGAL REFS.: M.G.L. 71:37H; 71:82 through 71:86

M.G.L. ch.269, §10

It is illegal to have a weapon in school or on school property. Students who are in possession of a weapon risk expulsion from school. In all cases, authorities will be notified, the student will be immediately suspended from school, and an expulsion hearing will be held. Weapons are defined as guns, knives, bows, arrows, darts, laser pointers or any other objects, which in the opinion of the administration may cause harm to you or others.

“Whoever, not being a law enforcement officer, and notwithstanding any license obtained by him under the provisions of chapter one hundred and forty, carries on his person a firearm as hereinafter defined, loaded or unloaded or other dangerous weapon in any building or on the grounds of any elementary or secondary school, college or university without the written authorization of the board or officer in charge of such elementary or secondary school, college or university shall be punished by a fine of not more than one thousand dollars or by imprisonment for not more than one year, or both. For the purpose of this paragraph, “firearm” shall mean any pistol, revolver, rifle or smoothbore arm from which a shot, bullet or pellet can be discharged by whatever means.

Any officer in charge of an elementary or secondary school, college or university or any faculty member or administrative officer of an elementary or secondary school, college or university failing to report violations of this paragraph shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and punished by a fine of not more than five hundred dollars.”

Students who are in possession of a weapon or a look alike weapon risk expulsion from school. In all cases, authorities will be notified, the student will be immediately suspended from school, and an expulsion hearing will be held. Weapons are defined as guns, knives, bows, arrows, darts, or any other objects, which in the opinion of the administration may cause harm to you or others.

M.G.L. ch.71, §37L

The school committee of each city, town or regional school district shall inform teachers, administrators, and other professional staff of reporting requirements for child abuse and neglect under section 51A of chapter 119 and the reporting requirements for fires under section 2A of chapter 148.

In addition, any school department personnel shall report in writing to their immediate supervisor an incident involving a student’s possession or use of a dangerous weapon on school premises at any time. Supervisors who receive such a weapon report shall file it with the superintendent of said school, who shall file copies of said weapon report with the local chief of police, the department of children and families, the office of student services or its equivalent in any school district, and the local school committee. Said superintendent, police chief, and representative from the department of children and families, together with a representative from the office of student services or its equivalent, shall arrange an assessment of the student involved in said weapon report. Said student shall be referred to a counseling program; provided, however, that said counseling shall be in accordance with acceptable standards as set forth by the board of education. Upon completion of a counseling session, a follow-up assessment shall be made of said student by those involved in the initial assessment.

A student transferring into a local system must provide the new school system with a complete school record of the entering student. Said record shall include, but not be limited to, any incidents involving suspension or violation of criminal acts or any incident reports in which such student was charged with any suspended act.

M.G.L. ch. 71, §37H

Massachusetts General Law ch.71, §37H mandates that all student handbooks contain the following provisions relative to student behavior and conduct.

(a) Any student who is found on school premises or at school-sponsored or school-related events, including athletic games, in possession of a dangerous weapon, including, but not limited to, a gun or knife, a controlled substance as defined in Chapter 94C, including, but not limited to, marijuana, cocaine, and heroin, may be subject to expulsion from the school or school district by the Principal.

(b) Any student who assaults a principal, an assistant principal, a teacher, teacher’s aide or other educational staff on school premises or at school-sponsored events, including athletic games, may be subject to expulsion from the school by the principal.

(c) Any student who is charged with a violation of either paragraph (A or B above) shall be notified in writing of an opportunity for a hearing, provided, however, that the student may have representation [at their own expense], along with the opportunity to present evidence and witnesses at said hearing before the principal. After said hearing, a principal may, in his discretion, decide to suspend rather than expel a student who has been determined by the principal to have violated either paragraph (a) or (b).

(d) Any student who has been expelled from a school district pursuant to these provisions shall have the right to appeal to the superintendent. The expelled student shall have ten days from the date of the expulsion in which to notify the superintendent of his appeal. The student has the right to counsel [at their own expense] at a hearing before the superintendent. The subject matter of the appeal shall not be limited solely to a factual determination of whether the student has violated any provisions of this section.

(e) When a student is expelled under the provisions of this section, no school or school district within the commonwealth shall be required to admit such student or to provide educational services to said student. If said student does apply for admission to another school or school district, the superintendent of the school district to which the application is made may request and shall receive from the superintendent of the school expelling said student a written statement of the reasons for said expulsion.

M.G.L. ch.71, §37H1/2

(1) Upon the issuance of a criminal complaint charging a student with a felony or upon the issuance of a felony delinquency complaint against a student, the principal or headmaster of a school in which the student is enrolled may suspend such student for a period of time determined appropriate by said principal or headmaster if said principal or headmaster determines that the student's continued presence in school would have a substantial detrimental effect on the general welfare of the school. The student shall receive written notification of the charges and the reasons for such suspension prior to such suspension taking effect. The student shall also receive written notification of his/her right to appeal and the process for appealing such suspension; provided, however, that such suspension shall remain in effect prior to any appeal hearing conducted by the superintendent.

The student shall have the right to appeal the suspension to the superintendent. The student shall notify the superintendent in writing of his/her request for an appeal no later than five calendar days following the effective date of the suspension. The superintendent shall hold a hearing with the student and the student's parent or guardian within three calendar days of the student's request for an appeal. At the hearing, the student shall have the right to present oral and written testimony on his/her behalf, and shall have the right to counsel [at their own expense]. The superintendent shall have the authority to overturn or alter the decision of the principal or headmaster, including recommending an alternate educational program for the student. The superintendent shall render a decision on the appeal within five calendar days of the hearing. Such decision shall be the final decision of the city, town or regional school district with regard to the suspension.

(2) Upon a student being convicted of a felony or upon an adjudication or admission in court of guilt with respect to such a felony or felony delinquency, the principal or headmaster of a school in which the student is enrolled may expel said student if such principal or headmaster determines that the student's continued presence in school would have a substantial detrimental effect on the general welfare of the school. The student shall receive written notification of the charges and reasons for such expulsion prior to such expulsion taking effect. The student shall also receive written notification of his/her right to appeal and the process for appealing such expulsion; provided, however, that the expulsion shall remain in effect prior to any appeal hearing conducted by the superintendent.

The student shall have the right to appeal the expulsion to the superintendent. The student shall notify the superintendent, in writing, of his/her request for an appeal no later than five calendar days following the effective date of the expulsion. The superintendent shall hold a hearing with the student and the student's parent or guardian within three calendar days of the expulsion. At the hearing, the student shall have the right to present oral and written testimony on his/her behalf, and shall have the right to counsel [at their own expense]. The superintendent shall have the authority to overturn or alter the decision of the principal or headmaster, including recommending an alternate educational program for the student. The superintendent shall render a decision on the appeal within five calendar days of the hearing. Such decision shall be the final decision of the city, town or regional school district with regard to the expulsion. Upon expulsion of such student, no school or school district shall be required to provide educational services to such student.

Appendix C – Acceptable Usage Policy and Student Email Policy

File: IJNDB

Marblehead Public Schools Student Acceptable Usage Policy

Responsibility

Access to Marblehead Public Schools' ("MPS") network systems, email, Internet, intranet, student records, and other computer or technological resources (collectively, the "MPS Network Systems") is provided for educational and MPS administrative use exclusively. This AUP governs all use of network systems by students and includes Internet and network access: social networks, blogs and wikis, live and text-based chatting, newsgroups, and other Internet utilities. This includes the use of personal equipment and accounts on all MPS networks.

Students must comply with the following rules:

- *Identify themselves accurately in all communications using the MPS Network Systems*
- *Use MPS Network Systems only for their specified educational purpose*
- *Post/send only appropriate information in light of the educational purpose of the MPS Network Systems*
- *Access only their own account and keep their passwords private from any other users*
- *Refuse permission to others to use the student's account*
- *Only alter their own work*
- *Remove their old files when they are no longer needed*
- *Adhere to all other MPS codes of conduct when using the MPS Network Systems*

Students are prohibited from the following activities:

- *Engaging in harassment, libel, slander, or bullying of any kind*
- *Using the MPS Network Systems for commercial or political purposes*
- *Using another person's account*
- *Using the MPS Network Systems to advocate or facilitate the illegal use of drugs or alcohol*
- *Using the MPS Network Systems to access or transmit/post material which is profane, obscene, fraudulent, offensive, discriminatory, threatening, demeaning, intimidating, sexually explicit or pornographic*
- *Using the MPS Network Systems for illegal activities including, but not limited to, copyright violations (such as copying music, videos or software)*
- *Giving out another individual's personal or private information, including but not limited to that person's address or phone number or educational information*
- *Recording or posting audio, video or any material of or created by another student or faculty member without that individual's permission*
- *Engaging in spamming (sending massive, inappropriate and unsolicited information) or flooding (transferring data without intent of meaningful communication)*
- *Using equipment without permission*
- *Altering the configuration of school technology (changing system settings) or engaging in any misuse, disruption, or degradation of the MPS Network Systems, including intentional physical misuse or damage to equipment, materials, data or programs*
- *Downloading or installing software of any kind*
- *Illegally copying software*
- *Bypassing system security or filters*
- *Engaging in any other conduct while using the MPS Network Systems that is deemed by the Building Principal or*

the Superintendent to be detrimental to MPS or any school learning environment

Sanctions

Network access is a privilege, not a right. Violations of this policy may result in the following at the discretion of MPS:

- *Loss of access privileges*
- *Disciplinary action at the building level in accordance with the discipline code in the student handbooks.*
- *Referral to appropriate law enforcement agencies*

Privacy

Users do not have any expectation of privacy or confidentiality in the content of electronic communications or of other files sent, received and/or stored within the MPS Network Systems. The use of a password is solely to protect the user's information from access by fellow users, but creates no expectation of privacy with regard to access to that information by authorized MPS employees. MPS also reserves the right to examine all data sent, received and/or stored within the MPS Network Systems, whether such records, communications, folders, and information are password-protected or not. All communications including text and images may be disclosed to law enforcement or other appropriate third parties without the prior consent or knowledge of the sender or receiver.

File: IJNDB-R

Student Email and Internet Posting Guidelines

Student use of email and posting material on the Internet must follow these guidelines. Adherence to the Acceptable Use Policy for Students is the basis for use of email and posting on the Internet and it must be complied with at all times. The Acceptable Use Policy for Students may be found in the Student Handbook.

Grades 9-12

May be provided email account by the District

Students may post their own work on the Internet including their full name and picture provided that their parent or guardian has given permission by signing the Internet Publishing Permission and Release Form for Students. Students are responsible for knowing what their parent permission is and to abide by that permission.*

Grades 6-8

May be provided email account by the District

With permission and guidance from a faculty member, students may post their own work on the Internet, including their full name and picture provided that their parent or guardian has given permission by signing the Internet Publishing Permission and Release Form for Students.

Grades K-5

Students may not use any individual email account. Messages may be sent through teacher-monitored accounts.

As part of a teacher-directed project, students may post their own work on the Internet, including their first name and last initial and picture, provided that their parent or guardian has given permission by signing the Internet Publishing Permission and Release Form for Students. These postings must be reviewed by the classroom teacher prior to actual posting.

** Students who have reached age of majority (18) do not need parental permission*

Appendix D – School Committee Policy JJIF
Athletic Concussion Policy

Purpose

This policy provides guidance and standardized procedure for the prevention, training, management and return to activity decisions regarding students who incur head injuries or concussion as defined by M.G.L. 111:222; 105 CMR 201.000 while involved in extracurricular athletic activities (1), in order to protect their health and safety as required by Massachusetts law and regulation. The requirements of the policy apply to all Marblehead Public School students, however configured, grades 4-12 who participate in any school sponsored extracurricular athletic activity. In order to further protect all Marblehead Public School students, it shall be required that any student K-12 who suffers a head injury or concussion, whether such injury occurs in or out of school, be medically cleared to return to school as well as participate in school athletic activities. Responsible staff will follow the guidelines for graduated return to academics and activities tailored appropriately to the student's age and condition.

Scope of Responsibility

The Superintendent shall, through the Athletic Director, Principals, and Lead Nurse maintain complete and accurate records of the district's compliance of the Concussion Law, and shall maintain the following records for three years at a minimum, or until the student graduates unless state or federal law requires a longer retention period:

- 1. Verifications of completion of annual training and receipt of materials;*
- 2. DPH Pre-participation forms or school based equivalents and receipt of materials;*
- 3. DPH Report of Head Injury Forms or school based equivalents;*
- 4. DPH Medical Clearance and Authorization Forms, or school based equivalents;*
- 5. Graduated reentry plans for return to full academic and extracurricular athletic activities.*

The following persons: coaches; certified athletic trainers; trainers; volunteers; school and team physicians; school nurses; athletic directors; directors responsible for a school marching band; activity coordinators; employees or volunteers; and students who participate in any extracurricular athletic activity and their parents are responsible to comply and follow through with all aspects of this policy including: annual training, record keeping, communication, reporting, assessment, evaluation, treatment, and referral. Guidance counselors and teachers may be involved in facilitating academic accommodations with a student who suffers a concussion.

(1) Extracurricular Athletic Activity means an organized school sponsored athletic activity generally occurring outside of school instructional hours under the direction of a coach, athletic director or marching band leader including, but not limited to, Alpine and Nordic skiing and snowboarding, baseball, basketball, , fencing, field hockey, football, flag football, golf, gymnastics, horseback riding, ice hockey, lacrosse, marching band, rifle, rugby, soccer, skating, softball, squash, swimming and diving, sailing, tennis, track (indoor and outdoor), ultimate Frisbee, volleyball, water polo, dance, cheerleading and wrestling. All interscholastic athletics are deemed to be extracurricular athletic activities.

Definition

A concussion is caused by a bump, blow or jolt to the head or body. Any force that causes the brain to bounce around or twist within the skull can cause a concussion. A bump, blow or jolt to the head or body can be caused by either indirect or direct trauma. Most frequently concussions are not diagnosed by loss of consciousness.

A concussion is defined as a transient alteration in brain function without structural damage, but with other potentially serious long-term ramifications. In the event of a concussion, the brain sustains damage at a microscopic level in which cells and cell membranes are torn and stretched. The damage to these cells also disrupts the brain at a chemical level, as well as causing restricted blood flow to the damaged areas of the brain, thereby disrupting brain function. A concussion, therefore, is a disruption in how the brain works; it is not a structural injury. Concussions are difficult to diagnose because the damage cannot be seen. A MRI or CT scan cannot diagnose a concussion, but they can help rule out a more serious brain injury to a student athlete. Because concussions are difficult to detect, student athletes must obtain medical approval before returning to athletics following a concussion.

Review

This policy and attached protocol and procedure (JJIF-R) shall be reviewed annually by the Marblehead Public Schools' Athletic Department Personnel and The Marblehead Public Schools' Health Services School Nurses. Any recommendation for revision shall be submitted to the Superintendent. All School Committee approved policy changes will be provided to appropriate staff in writing.

Upon the adoption of this policy by the School Committee, the Superintendent shall ensure that DPH receives an affirmation on school district letterhead that the district has developed policies and the School Committee has adopted a final policy in accordance with law. This affirmation shall be updated by September 30, 2013 and every two years thereafter upon review or revision of its' policies.

An accurate synopsis of this policy shall be placed in the student and faculty handbooks.

LEGAL REFS: M.G.L. 111:222; 105 CMR 201.000

Final corrected copy 5/30/12 (AICS)

3/15/2012 SC 3rd reading

3/1/2012

2/16/2012