Student Good Conduct Policy Updates

At the Monday, August 8 board meeting, Johnston Board of Education members voted to approve updates made to Policy 503.3 - the student good conduct rule.

Extracurricular activities are an integral part of the total educational opportunity for all Johnston students. However, once students make a commitment to participate in an extracurricular activity, the right becomes a privilege.

When students are granted this privilege, they accept the responsibility of following behavior guidelines outlined in policy and rules and regulations. Because the student participants represent the Johnston schools and community at public events, they are expected to adhere to even more stringent and demanding behavior codes than non-participating students. Therefore, the upkeep of the policy, rules, and regulations are extremely important.

The board and director of athletics, Gary Ross, decided to review both the student good conduct policy and the extracurricular activities good conduct rules and regulations to make sure both documents aligned and provided students and parents with a clear understanding of expectations.

“A committee consisting of parents, students, coaches, directors, administrators, and board members analyzed our current policy at the beginning of the year, looked at other school district policies, and provided input into changes with our new Rules and Regulations,” said Ross. “Their help and guidance was greatly appreciated and very beneficial in this process.”

The policy went through a process of updates and revisions with the help of board members, Ross, and legal to ensure any changes made would be accurate and beneficial.

As a result, the new policy has been updated to say the following:

“It shall be the responsibility of the superintendent or designee to develop rules and regulations for participation in school activities and disciplinary consequences for violations of said rules and regulations.” Board Policy 503.3

To reflect and align with the policy change, the student good conduct rules and regulations have also been updated.

Major changes include the following:
- Clarified violations, now separated into categories (alcohol, drugs, tobacco, criminal offenses).
- A new category related to inappropriate uses of social media as a possible violation.
- Revised consequences for violations.
- Increases in percent of events missed in a given season for both first and second offenses.
- Included required service hours and counseling as part of consequences.
- For non-athletic activities, clarification of consequences for violations.

“The student’s insight alone made the Rules and Regulations even more effective,” said Ross. “I greatly appreciate their efforts.”

View the JCSD 2016-17 Parent/Student Handbook to read the entire Student Good Conduct Rules & Regulations.
Board Highlights from August 8

Highlights from the August 8 board meeting are reported here. For full minutes, go to the [eBoards website](http://eBoards).

**Enrollment Update (Bruce Amendt):** Currently up 112 students from last year, not counting Preschool. It is too early to say for sure as there are changes daily, but overall enrollment is expected to increase again for the 2016-17 school year.

**Transportation Update (Laura Kacer):** Equipment is being installed and updated and there is a Department of Education transportation inspection on August 17. Forty-two drivers were retained from last year, so currently we have 50 drivers and are continuing to recruit with the hopes of hiring extras to be substitutes as needed. Thirteen out of 15 bus associates have been hired, and two of three crossing guards have been hired. Practice route runs will take place on August 19 and 22. Continued communication is scheduled to be sent to parents throughout the process and STA representatives will be available at Meet the Teacher events for parent questions. Routing information is now available on Infinite Campus and online forms are available for paid ridership and alternate route requests.

**Reports**

**Central Iowa Aquatics Report (Brad Lair):** Staff from Central Iowa Aquatics gave an overview of the effort to fund raise for training facilities at the Summit Middle School pool. Central Iowa Aquatics is currently raising funds and exploring options to build a new pool on land owned by JCSD. A formal proposal will be presented in the future.

**Advance Placement Report (Bruce Amendt):** Data from May 2016 Advanced Placement exams show 234 students took 309 AP exams. The percent of students who received a score of three or higher was 83.2 percent. Forty students received an AP Scholar Award, with one student designated as a National AP Scholar. Information was provided about grade level of students taking exams, five year history score summary, number of student at each level District AP Scholars recognition and information about AP and other college credit courses at JMS and JHS. New AP Language and Composition and AP Environmental Science courses will be offered this year.

**First Reading of Policies:** Policy 202.5 Student School Board Representatives, Policy 203 Board of Directors’ Conflicts of Interest, Policy 204 Code of Ethics, Policy 215 Board of Directors’ Records, Policy 216.3 Board of Directors’ Member Compensation and Expenses, Policy 206.4 Treasurer, Policy 207 Board of Directors’ Legal Counsel, Policy 209.7 Review of Administrative Regulations, Policy 213 Public Participation in Board Meetings, and Policy 1007 Distribution of Materials/Information on School District were read for a first time with recommended changes from legal.

**First Reading on Policy Primer Updates (Mark Toebben):** The Board Policy Committee recommended updating the three policies to follow IASB’s recommendations from the Policy Primer.

**First Reading on Series 600 (Mark Toebben):** The Board Policy Committee met and recommended changes to the Series 600 - Educational Program. The recommended revisions are the result of the work of the policy committee with recommendations from IASB and administration.

**Discussion of Legislative Priorities (Mark Toebben):** IASB has asked local districts to discuss and approve legislative priorities for the new year.

**Action Items**

**Approval of Instructional Resources for JHS Classes (Chris Bergman):** Due to the addition of new or changing coursework at JHS, instructional resources need to be approved for student use during the 2016-2017 school year. The board approved four materials to be used as instructional resources for JHS classes.

**Approval of Extended Learning Program Recommendations 2016/17 Year 2 Plan (Chris Bergman):** At the July 11, 2016 Board meeting Kathy Paul, ELP teacher/coordinator, provided information and recommendations developed from numerous inputs, including student, parent and teacher surveys and focus groups. The board approved the Extended Learning Program Recommendations for the 2016-17 Year 2 Plan.

**Approval of Agreement to Sell Buses to Student Transportation of America, Inc. (Jan Miller Hook):** The Board received a proposal to convey personal property (bus fleet) and a 1998 Ford truck, to Student Transportation of America, Inc for $1,446,370, as well as vehicle parts, small equipment, accessories and supplies inventory for a price and date mutually agreed upon. The board approved the agreement to sell buses to Student Transportation of American, Inc.
Approval of the District Parent/Student Handbooks for 2016-17 (Bruce Amendt): Recommended changes and revisions were made to the 2016-17 JCSD Parent/Student Handbook. The first reading was at the July 11, 2016 Board meeting. The board approved the District Parent/Student Handbooks for the 2016-17 school year. The district handbook has been printed and copies were placed at each school. An online PDF version will be posted to the new website next week with active links to Board policies and more information.

Additional Staff FY16-17 (Laura Kacer): With the completion and submission of our Title I plan to the State of Iowa, the increased federal funding allows us the ability to adjust resources at Lawson and add additional support in the area of reading at Horizon. After careful review of funding sources and the resources dedicated to each elementary school, there is a need to adjust the funding of one Lawson teacher so she can serve more ELL students. Maria Bartemes is currently funded 0.3 Title I and 0.2 ESL. By increasing her to a 0.5 ESL teacher at Lawson, we can shift her 0.3 FTE Title I designation to Horizon and request an additional 0.2 FTE to gain a half time teacher of reading. The board approved the 0.2 Title 1 increase at Horizon and the 0.3 ESL increase at Lawson.

Approval of Special Assignment Hiring (Laura Kacer): As we continue to prepare for the impending building moves this spring and summer, it is necessary to have teachers on Special Assignment at both JHS and JMS. The primary role of these positions will be to assume the duties of ordering, delivery, inventory, and appropriate reporting for the Fixed Assets, (Furniture) for the new High School and Middle School. This hourly work will be paid at a rate of $31.50 per hour not to exceed $8,000.00. Mark Augsburg has agreed to continue this work that he started last year at JHS. He will have a bank of 55 hours to use beyond his teaching contract through the month of January. The one year (2016-2017) JMS position will be posted and interviews will be held. The teacher selected will have a bank of 163 hours to use beyond their teacher contract through the entire school year. The board approved the hire of Special Assignment teachers at JHS and JMS.

Termination of Per Mar Contract and Approval to Create New Johnston High School Safety Monitor Position for the 16-17 School Year (Laura Kacer): Notification to Per Mar to terminate the two year agreement ending October 6, 2016 effective August 1, 2016 as mutually agreed upon by both parties. In preparation for the new school year we request the addition of a new Johnston High School Safety Monitor. The primary function of this position would be to assist with providing a safe and secure learning environment, monitor the indoor and outdoor portions of campus and communicate and assist building administration with safety and security issues. This position is full time, at $16.50 per hour. The estimated cost of this position is $39,373.79. The board approved the termination of Per Mar contract and the creation of a new Johnston High School Safety Monitor position for the 2016-17 school year.

Approval to Hire a .5 FTE Four Year Preschool Teacher and a .5 FTE Preschool Associate (Bruce Amendt): Due to a waiting list of more than 20 students seeking to enroll in our four year old preschool program, staff asked to add an additional section of preschool and hire a .5 teacher and .5 teacher associate to serve up to an additional 20 students. The funding for this program expansion will be completely covered through carry over dollars from the 2015–16 preschool budget. These preschool carryover funds can only be spent for four year old programming. The board approved the hire of a .5 FTE four year Preschool teacher and a .5 FTE Preschool Associate.

Approval of Board Policies: The board approved the following policies: Policy 502.4 Student Complaints and Grievances, Policy 503.3 Student Good Conduct Rule, Policy 210.8 Board Meeting Agenda, and Policy 209.6 Review and Revision.

Digital Backpack (e-Flyers)
Be sure to check the e-Flyers portion of the website for community organization happenings. Click on the flyers below for more details. Contact jane.morrison@johnston.k12.ia.us to submit your flyer.

- August: Goodwill Free Events Calendar
- September 5: Girls on the Run
- September 7: School Night for Scouting
- September: Polk Co. Conservation Nature Programs
- October 19: Peppa Pig Live!
2016 Johnston Football Gatorade Kick-Off
Football season is upon us and it is now that time again - time for the Annual JHS Gatorade Scrimmage! The scrimmage will take place on August 19 at the JHS Stadium, starting at 6 p.m. The 9th grade, 10th grade, and varsity teams will play and there will also be a Marching Band preview performance. Please bring a Gatorade donation for admission. Click here for more information and event details.

www.johnstoncsd.org is Live
Visitors to the Johnston Community School District website are now experiencing a brand-new interface and totally redesigned site. The re-design process started in October 2015 and has been lead by Des Moines-based web design and digital marketing agency Juicebox Interactive. The new site has an easy-to-follow navigation near the top of the page, helping users decide the path that best fits their needs - new to the district, information for parents, or resources for students. The front page also has news and events, a fun “By the Numbers” section, and a Johnston Spotlight feature. Inside pages now feature clean layouts, photos, and linked resources. The website is also responsive to tablets and mobile devices, making it easy to use and find resources whether someone is at their desk or on the go.

Antisdel Named Interim Special Education Program Assistant & Associate Principal for the Youth Homes of MidAmerica
Seasoned special education professional Kimberly Antisdel will join the Johnston Community School District administrative team to support the special education and Youth Home services provided by the district. Antisdel's one-year, flexible-time contract was approved by the Johnston Board of Education on Monday, August 8. As part of her contract, Antisdel will fulfill responsibilities and duties related to the special education program and also serve as the Youth Homes of MidAmerica associate principal, previously filled by Barb Rankin. Antisdel's contract will be August 15, 2016 and end June 16, 2017.

Board Approves New Stadium Facility for Johnston High School
As construction on the new Johnston High School continues to move forward, additional crews will begin work on a newly-approved athletic complex at the new high school site. At the Monday, July 18 special board meeting, Johnston Board of Education members approved bids for the construction of a new athletic complex, totaling $8.86 million. Funding for the athletic complex comes from sales tax dollars and the Physical Plant and Equipment Levy (PPEL), as the 2013 bond referendum did not provide for this construction. Construction projects cannot use funds allocated for teacher salaries, classroom programming, or student learning materials. Construction of the athletic complex is slated to be finished by the time the new high school opens in August 2017.

Back to School: Everything You Need to Know
The first day of school is Thursday, August 25! Welcome and orientation events include JHS Dragon Days on August 18 and 19; a JMS open house on August 23; Summit new student orientation and open houses on August 23; and elementary new family orientations and meet the teacher events on August 23. Preschool begins Thursday, September 1. For more detail information, visit the Johnston Community School District website at www.johnstoncsd.org.

JUMP into the school year with the Johnston Youth Mentoring Program
Be someone who matters to someone who matters! Johnston Youth Mentoring Program (JUMP) is on summer break, but we will be back in the swing of things before you know it. Eighty-eight kids were mentored in grades 6-12 last year, and there are more on the waiting list. It only takes one hour a week to make a difference to a student. If you’ve considered mentoring, we’d love to have you apply. Please contact Chris Wilson, cwilson@johnston.k12.ia.us, or call 515-868-1357 to learn more.