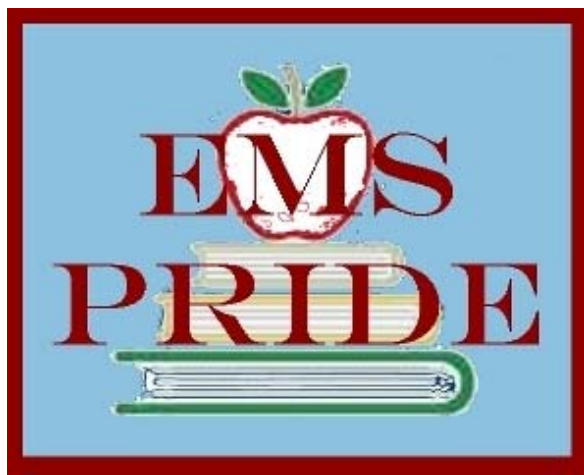


## ***WELCOME TO EPPING MIDDLE SCHOOL!***

This handbook contains important information about Epping Middle School. You should become fully aware of its contents. Discuss it with your friends and share it with your parents. A thorough understanding of your handbook will enable you to know how our school works and what is expected of you. Feel free to ask administrators, teachers, or staff members, to clarify any information you might not completely understand.

The district has combined its official policies which apply to student conduct and are required to be shared by law into one document called the Annual Parent Notice of Rights and Policies. The policies of Epping Middle School which are described in this handbook are supported by these policies.

WEDNESDAYS are communication days at Epping Middle School. Current information about school events, field trips, special activities and report cards comes home on Wednesdays. Please make certain that you submit your email address so that we can send our weekly News Notes to Parents! Our communications are supplemental to this handbook and are also posted weekly on our website.



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## **Who Is a Middle School Student?**

As a middle school student, you are at a unique place in your development. Physically, this is a point in your life in which you are experiencing a wide range of emotional and physical growth. Socially, middle school students seek acceptance from peers and need a place to belong. Peer approval means that certain styles of dress, music and activities are all important! Middle school students are very curious; you move from concrete to abstract thinking and like to be actively engaged in your learning. Young adolescents have a highly developed sense of fairness and are a fun, energetic and enthusiastic group.

### **As a school, we strive to address young adolescent learners by:**

- Creating grade level teams of adults and young people who work together to develop a sense of community.
- Fostering learning relationships that provide a sense of safety, community, and academic support for our middle school students.
- Presenting curriculum that meets a variety of learning styles, aligns with standards, and makes connections across content areas.
- Engaging parents and community members in the educational process through collaboration and partnerships.
- Meeting individual learning needs by providing an experiential learning environment frequently using project based and hands-on activities as well as field trips and other varied instructional practices.

### **We expect all adults and students to abide by the following Epping Middle School Guiding Principles in order to create and maintain a positive learning environment:**

1. Respect and encourage the right to teach and the right to learn at all times.
2. Be actively engaged in learning; ask questions, collaborate, and seek solutions.
3. Be on time to fulfill your daily commitments.
4. Be appropriate; demonstrate behavior that is considerate of the community, the school, and yourself.
5. Be truthful; communicate honestly.
6. Be respectful and accountable for your choices.

## **Epping School District Administrative Team**

Barbara Munsey – Superintendent ----- 679-8003 x 101  
Martha Williamson – Business Manager ----- 679-8003 x 104  
Cathy Zylinski – Director, Special Services ----- 679-8003 x 103  
Lyn Ward Healy – Principal, Epping Middle School -----679-2544 x 221  
Dixie Bacallao Tremblay, Principal, Epping High School----- 679-5472 x 212  
Mark Vallone – Principal, Epping Elementary School ----- 679-8018 x 221

### **Middle School Staff**

**Main Office Phone Number 679-2544**

**e-mail addresses are first initial and last name@sau14.org**

\*team leaders

#### **8<sup>th</sup> Grade Team**

\*Bruce Christie - EMS Reading Specialist  
John Danforth – Social Studies  
Andrew Fersch – Language Arts  
Nancy Lehoux - Mathematics  
Susan McCleary – Science

#### **Unified Arts Team**

Deborah Booth - Art  
Carol Colgan – Computers,  
Integrated Studies  
Brian Freed – Music, Drama  
\*Christine Hebert - Wellness  
Scott Lister – Technology Ed.  
Thelma Thompson – Media Skills

#### **7<sup>th</sup> Grade Team**

Marisa Bozek – Science  
Gabriel Mosca – Social Studies  
Maria Vertetis - Mathematics  
\*Pat Weisberg – Language Arts

#### **Other Staff**

Jared Breault, Band  
Deborah Brooks, Spanish  
Raymond Carrier, French

#### **6<sup>th</sup> Grade Teams**

Don Bouchard – Mathematics, Science  
\*Susan McGeough – Language Arts, Social Studies

#### **Health Office**

Lorraine Sawyer, Nurse  
Suzanne Kukesh, Health Assistant

\*Christine Luongo – Language Arts, Social Studies  
Kara Reynolds – Mathematics, Social Studies

#### **Student Services Team**

Nicholas DeGruttola – Guidance Counselor  
\*Deanna LaPlante – Speech & Language,  
Special Education Coordinator  
Gayle Santa – Grades 6 & 8 Special Education  
Candace Smith – Grades 6&7 Special Education

#### **Administration**

Lyn Ward Healy, Principal  
Kyle Repucci, Dean of Students  
Stephanie Sturzo, Admin. Assistant  
Sue Thompson, Admin. Assistant

EPPING SCHOOL DISTRICT

2009-2010 School Calendar

August 2009

Su	M	T	W	Th	F	Sa
-	-	-	-	-	-	1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	IS	-	-	-	-	-

September 2009

Su	M	T	W	Th	F	Sa
-	-	IS	IS	IS	X	5
6	X	▲	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	IS	26
27	28	29	30	-	-	-
-	-	-	-	-	-	-

October 2009

Su	M	T	W	Th	F	Sa
-	-	-	-	1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	X	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	IS	31
-	-	-	-	-	-	-

November 2009

Su	M	T	W	Th	F	Sa
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	X	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	X	X	X	28
29	30	-	-	-	-	-
-	-	-	-	-	-	-

December 2009

Su	M	T	W	Th	F	Sa
-	-	1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	X	X	26
X	X	X	X	X	-	-
-	-	-	-	-	-	-

January 2010

Su	M	T	W	Th	F	Sa
-	-	-	-	-	X	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	IS	16
17	X	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31	-	-	-	-	-	-

February 2010

Su	M	T	W	Th	F	Sa
-	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	X	X	X	X	X	27
28	-	-	-	-	-	-
-	-	-	-	-	-	-

March 2010

Su	M	T	W	Th	F	Sa
-	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	IS	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31	-	-	-
-	-	-	-	-	-	-

April 2010

Su	M	T	W	Th	F	Sa
-	-	-	-	1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	X	X	X	X	X	-
-	-	-	-	-	-	-

May 2010

Su	M	T	W	Th	F	Sa
-	-	-	-	-	-	1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	X	-	-	-	-	-

June 2010

Su	M	T	W	Th	F	Sa
-	-	1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	▲	IS	19
20	IS	IS	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	-	-	-
-	-	-	-	-	-	-

X School Closed

IS Teacher In-Service Day (no school for Students)

**Progress Reports Dates** (These dates are also distributed in our weekly Wednesday Communications.)

October 7, 2009  
December 16, 2009  
March 17, 2010  
May 19, 2010

**Report Card Dates** (These are dates are also distributed in our weekly Wednesday Communications.)

November 18, 2009  
February 3, 2010  
April 14, 2010  
End of the year report cards are mailed.

*All dates are contingent upon the weather and may change. Please watch the News of Notes for the most current dates!*

**Parent Conference Dates**

November 23 – 3:00-7:00 p.m.  
November 24 – 3:00-6:00 p.m.  
March 25 – 3:00-7:00 p.m.  
March 30 – 3:00-6:00 p.m.

**Other Important EMS Dates**

(Please watch Wednesday communications for additional dates!)

September 17 – 6:30 -8:00 p.m.	Parent Information Night
October 1-22	NECAP Testing
October 13-16	7 <sup>th</sup> grade Nature’s Classroom
December 9 – 6:30 pm	Winter Concert
December 10 – 6:30 p.m.	Winter Concert Snow Date
March 15-19 –	Children’s Stage Adventures Artist in Residence
March 19 <sup>th</sup> – 7:00 p.m. –	Performance of student play to be announced
March 24 – 6:30 p.m.	Music Concert
June 2-5	8 <sup>th</sup> grade Trip
June 9 – 6:30 p.m.	Spring Music Concert

October 2, December 18, February 12, March 26 and May 21 are the dates for EMS Activity Nights from **6:30-9:00 p.m.**

## **A. CODE OF BEHAVIOR**

Epping Middle School is designed to maintain a safe and positive learning environment, allowing students to grow emotionally and centering on the six Guiding Principles outlined on page one. Additionally we want to be sure that the building and school materials are handed over in good shape to future students and that our school is a pleasant place to spend your years in middle school.

### **Keep It Positive- Learning and Letting Others Learn Too**

We are all here to learn—from teachers, books, and from each other. Your job is not only to do the best you can, but also to help others do the best that they can. This means being quiet when someone else is talking and cooperating when an adult asks you to do something. It means asking questions when you do not understand something and not embarrassing anyone else who asks a question, or gives the wrong answer, even if the answer is obvious to you! It means taking responsibility for your own learning and being honest about your work. If you cheat, you are really cheating yourself. Knowing **how** to get a correct answer or solve a problem is far more important than knowing **what** the correct answer is. Copying someone else’s work (plagiarism) is stealing, not learning. Doing your best means asking questions so that you can grow as a learner. Some kids seem to feel that it is “uncool” to act as if they care very much about their studies. At Epping Middle School it *is* cool to learn!

### **Show Respect for Our School Community**

Remember that it is each student’s personal responsibility to respect the personal dignity and worth of every person in our school community. One of the most important ways that we show respect for each other is in what we say, and how we say it. Rude words and swearing show a lack of respect and a lack of self-control. Continual verbal or written comments that are negative or threatening could be harmful to a person or make him or her feel unwanted or unsafe at school. This kind of behavior is not allowed and will result in disciplinary action. Epping Middle School has a policy that is called simply the “Hands Off Policy”. This means that students should respect the personal space of all others and must not become physical in any way. Pushing, shoving, hitting, kicking or pulling on another person are examples of being physical with another person. Many times you may say that you are just fooling around or joking, but you are still not allowed to be physical with other students even if you are just “having fun”. This makes our school safer for everyone.

### **What To Wear In School**

Choice in clothing should not distract from the educational process and should not make others feel uncomfortable. This means that images or words on T-shirts (or any clothing) that are rude or offensive, or that promote illegal behavior are not allowed. Also, students are expected to wear clothing that is not overly revealing. For example: all undergarments must be covered, midriff

shirts and spaghetti strap/tank top garments are not permitted. Shorts and skirts must be of a reasonable length determined by staff. You will be asked to cover up or you will be sent home to change if you are not appropriately dressed for an educational (not beach, bedroom or athletic field) environment. Hats, hoods, and sunglasses are not to be worn inside the building. This is simply a courtesy and helps create a respectful learning environment. Our school clothing guidelines apply to all school events. You will notice that your teachers also dress in a “business casual” style. EMS teachers have a tradition of wearing jeans on the first Friday of each month and pay for the privilege to benefit a charitable organization.

### **What Is Not Allowed During School**

Clearly, skateboards, roller blades, or other similar equipment (i.e. “wheelie shoes) can be disruptive, as well as dangerous in a large setting. These objects may disrupt the atmosphere of our school community and, if brought to school, will be stored or held in the Dean of Students’ office until the end of the school day.

All devices (MP3 or CD players, beepers, pagers, cellular phones, electronic games, etc.) must be out of sight and off at all times during the school day. If you do not comply, you will be asked to surrender the entire item(s). Laser pointers or aerosol cans of any kind are not allowed for student use at any time. In order to maintain a safe learning environment, items confiscated for the first time may be returned at the end of the school day. Items confiscated for a second time will require a parent or guardian to come to school and pick up the item. In the event of emergencies, or if you need to call home, you may use the office phone. If school administration has reasonable suspicion that cell phone use has been disruptive of school operations, in violation of student discipline rules and applicable provisions of the student handbook, or in violation of School Board policy a student cell phone.

*Parent Reminder: Please do not call or text your student during the day. If you need to contact your student during the instructional day, please do so by calling the main office at 679-2544 x 220.*

Epping Middle School is a “no gum zone”! We also encourage good health habits and therefore allow only plain water to be consumed in the team areas/classrooms. Please do not bring energy drinks to school! Drinks purchased through the cafeteria (except for water) are to be consumed in the cafeteria.

### **Dangerous Activities Are Unacceptable**

There are a number of inappropriate behaviors which will not be tolerated including, but not limited to, throwing objects, making threats to other students, harassment, truancy, fighting, stealing, vandalism, and possession of harmful objects. Any and all of these activities will warrant serious disciplinary action such as Alternative Academic Assignment or Out of School Suspension. State Law RSA 193-D:1 Safe School Zones requires the school to submit a report to local law enforcement authorities in cases of theft, destruction or violence. This law also applies to smoking materials, alcohol or other drugs

## **Dangerous Weapons In The Schools**

Dangerous weapons (knives, guns, bullets, firecrackers, brass knuckles, etc.) are not permitted on school property. Students in possession will have weapons confiscated, parents notified, and appropriate disciplinary action will be taken

“Any pupil who knowingly possesses a firearm in a safe school zone as defined in RSA 193-D:1 without written authorization from the Superintendent or designee shall be expelled from school by the local School Board.” Possession of other weapons including but not limited to knives, clubs, explosives, chemical defense spray, electronic defense weapons, etc. will result in suspension or expulsion. Weapon possession is subject to an out of school suspension or expulsion.

## **Plagiarism**

Plagiarism is a form of cheating and is regarded as a serious offense by this school. Plagiarism is taking another person's writings and ideas and calling them your own. Copying or simply rephrasing writings from books, magazines, the internet or from other students' work are regarded as plagiarism unless there are references given by the proper use of quotation marks, footnotes, and bibliographies. Students who plagiarize will receive a consequence and must have a conference with school staff.

## **Consequences for Behaviors**

We know that you as an Epping Middle School student will generally follow our school's Guiding Principles. To recognize your good choices we will sponsor positive activities such as assemblies and individual student awards. We appreciate your working hard to be a good school citizen. Sometimes, however, you might make a choice that has a negative consequence. These are described below.

### **What is Detention?**

A detention is extra time spent in school in order to have a student learn from a mistake. Detention may be served with your teachers, or with the school office, and must be attended. It begins as soon as the school day is over and generally lasts from 30 minutes to one hour. To serve a detention you will go to a specific classroom and will sit quietly.

Detentions can also be assigned by Administration for Saturday mornings (8:00 – 11:00 a.m.). Time in Saturday detention will be used for doing school work, reading, community service, or other related work, so come prepared.

Students and parents will be given twenty-four hour notice of an after school detention. It is your responsibility to give the referral to your parent or guardian for their signature. Failure to return a detention referral to the main office will result in additional consequences.. Parents are responsible for

transportation home after a detention and for transporting students to and from school for a Saturday morning detention.

Lunch detentions are immediate consequences assigned by and supervised by teachers in the cafeteria. Students do not socialize during lunch detentions.

### **What is Alternative Academic Assignment?**

Alternative Academic Assignment is a consequence for some behaviors where you attend school in another location in our building. Should your actions warrant this placement, you complete all of your classroom assignments but with different teachers. The school day is the same length of time, but you do not interact with your classmates and you may not attend after school or evening activities. You are expected to follow the guiding principles of our school and to complete your assignments.

This is a serious consequence and your parent/guardian will be contacted. You and your parent will need to meet with an administrator in order for you to return to your regular classroom.

### **What is Suspension?**

Suspension is a consequence that nobody likes to think about. Students need to be in school as much as possible, and we want you to be here as much as possible. Actions that warrant suspensions have been noted in various sections of this handbook, but in general it should be noted that a student whose conduct violates the rules and regulations of the Epping schools may be subject to suspension from school and school activities in accordance with State and Federal statutes. Suspensions may also be used when a student has not responded to other consequences and continues to make the same inappropriate decisions. Anyone receiving a suspension may not participate in or attend any after school or evening sports or activities that day.

In all cases of suspensions, a parent will be contacted and an appointment set up for a meeting with the student, his or her parent(s), a school administrator, and when appropriate, a teacher. Beyond the third suspension, re-admittance may be handled through the Superintendent and the School Board. We consider suspensions a serious consequence and not to be taken lightly.

## **B. ATTENDANCE**

### **Philosophy**

The philosophy of Epping Middle School is that regular school attendance is an integral part of a meaningful educational program. Absences deprive students of critical classroom experiences such as teacher presentations and interactions with other students. However, young adolescents do experience “normal” absences and teachers will assist students in making up work. In fact, we strongly encourage students who are ill to stay home!

Excessive absences disrupt the day to day continuity of instruction and create a monitoring burden for the school, which distracts teachers and administrators from the pursuit of other educational goals. Thus, our purpose in implementing the following procedures is to maintain a high rate of daily attendance, to minimize day to day disruptions in the instructional process, and to maximize the time our students are engaged in learning.

- a. Students, you are welcome to school any time after 7:10 am, when supervision begins.
- b. Attendance will be taken each morning. Announcements will also be made at this time.
- c. At the end of the school day you should board afternoon buses for home unless you are a walker or if you are under adult supervision after school.

### **Absences**

Parents, if your student is going to be absent for any reason please notify the school by calling the office at **679-2544** or by sending a note with a sibling or another person. As a courtesy, office personnel will attempt to contact parents when a student is absent and no telephone call or note has been received to notify us of the absence. This is considered a student safety check. A student will be recorded as truant if parents fail to contact us.

When a pupil is absent from school and has not notified the office, the Dean of Students shall require a written excuse stating the reason for the absence. Valid reasons for absences include sickness, death of a family member or sickness in the immediate family. In most instances, an outside appointment is not sufficient reason for loss of a full day of school.

#### **If a student is absent:**

- for three (3) days in any quarter: a letter will be sent home to parents. Parents will have the opportunity to send in documented medical evidence such as doctor’s notes to explain the absences.
- for six (6) days in a single quarter without documented evidence of a medical condition: there will be a mandatory meeting between parents, student,

teacher, and administrator to develop a plan to address the attendance problem.

- for eight (8) days in a single quarter without documented evidence of a medical condition: referral will be made to the Student/Teacher Assistance Team. There will be a second meeting between the parent, student, teacher, and school administrator. The Epping Police will be contacted concerning truancy issues.
- for fifteen (15) or more days during the school year without continuous documented evidence of a medical condition: a mandatory meeting between parents, school nurse, administrator, and Epping Police will take place. Referrals to outside agencies such as the NH Division of Child and Youth Services will be discussed at this time.

### **Tardiness**

You are expected to be in your homeroom by 7:25 a.m. every day. If you arrive after this time, you will be considered tardy and must report to the office to be issued a pass to class.

You may be late for school three times per quarter without specific consequences and a letter will be sent home as notification of the three tardies. Every tardy after the third (unless documented by your parents) will result in an after-school detention. The accumulation of tardies begins with each new quarter.

### **Dismissals**

If you need to be dismissed from school, you must bring a note signed by a parent/guardian to the office at the beginning of the school day and receive a dismissal slip from the office staff. Show this slip to your classroom teacher at the time of dismissal and come to the office to sign out. If you are returning to school after a dismissal, please check in with the office and receive a pass to class. Parents, please note that you must come and sign your child out at the office. We will ask you to show appropriate identification in order to dismiss your child.

### **Extended Absence Policy**

Families going on vacation while school is in session must notify the principal and all teachers in writing three weeks in advance. Parents should recognize that students will miss valuable classroom activities and interactions that cannot be duplicated outside school or after the student's return.

Prior to the absence, teachers will provide a brief synopsis of topics to be covered in class during the student's absence. It will be the responsibility of the parents and the student to keep current in curricular topics presented in the school during a discretionary absence. Students, you are responsible for turning in your work! Teachers are not required to provide assignments, design a separate program and will not be able to recreate classroom activities for students who are absent for reasons other than illness or emergency.

## **C. COURSE OFFERINGS, ASSESSMENT AND EVALUATION**

### **Academic Offerings:**

All students at EMS take four core classes: language arts, mathematics, science and social studies. The curriculum in these classes aligns with the State of New Hampshire Frameworks and Grade Level Expectations. Students also participate in a variety of Unified Arts classes. Course descriptions all of these classes are located in another section of the handbook.

In addition, students may elect to take band or chorus during a period we call TReE (Teach, Reteach and Enrich). Band and Chorus are semester commitments. Students must enroll in these classes for the entire semester and may not drop band or chorus until the end of a semester with parental consent. Students are encouraged to join band and/or chorus at any time during their academic careers, regardless of previous experience. All Middle School Band students will participate in mandatory group lessons as arranged and conducted by the band director. Jazz Band meets after school.

### **Report Cards/Progress Reports**

Report cards are one method of sharing information with parents about what students are learning in school. Our expectation is that students move along a continuum of understanding from initial exposure (novice) to mastery (proficient or proficient with distinction). Report cards are issued on a quarterly basis and will be distributed on Communication Wednesdays. Approximately halfway through each quarter, progress reports are issued to each student. Progress reports and report cards will be reviewed with your child's advisor to make certain that your child can accurately share information with you. However, teachers are always available to meet with you or speak with you about any concerns you may have at any time throughout the school year. Please call or email us!

### **Reporting System**

Learning Grades (as they will appear on reports)

4 – Proficient with Distinction

3 – Proficient

2 – Developing Proficiency

1 – Novice

\* In very rare instances, if a student does not submit assignments so that the teacher can assess his learning, the teacher will record a comment rather than a grade.

Work Habits/ Effort Grades

O – Outstanding

S – Satisfactory

N – Needs Improvement

U – Unsatisfactory

Our reporting system is designed to separate “what students know and are able to do” from the effort they demonstrate in their learning. Both are very important and

that is why we have two different grades and recognition systems. The learning rubric and the work habits/effort rubric that guide teachers' assessment follow on the next two pages. In an effort to bring consistency to the language used to evaluate a student's performance for each marking period, our grading system is aligned with state testing (NECAP) completed in the fall for all students in grades 6, 7 & 8.

### **Recognition of Student Achievement**

At EMS our goal is to recognize students in many different ways. Learning is certainly one of the most important! We also recognize that you work extremely hard at your learning. Therefore we celebrate with PRIDE the following students:

- Highest Honors in Learning – These students receive 4's (Proficient with Distinction) in all of their classes.
- Highest Honors in Effort/Work Habits – These students receive O's (Outstanding) in all of their classes.
- Honors in Learning – These students receive 4's (Proficient with Distinction) and 3's (Proficient) in all of their classes.

## Epping Middle School – Learning Rubric

	<b>(4)</b> <u><b>Proficient</b></u> <u><b>with Distinction</b></u>	<b>(3)</b> <u><b>Proficient</b></u>	<b>(2)</b> <u><b>Developing</b></u> <u><b>Proficiency</b></u>	<b>(1)</b> <u><b>Novice</b></u>
	in meeting curriculum objectives	in meeting curriculum objectives	in meeting curriculum objectives	in meeting curriculum objectives
<u><b>Class Work:</b></u>  Group work, discussions, assignments, and other teacher-directed experiences	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Consistently</b> contributes and listens during group work and discussions</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Consistently</b> provides new and relevant information and ideas</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Produces high quality assignments</b> demonstrating advanced understanding and mastery of content</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Usually</b> contributes and listens during group work and discussions</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Usually</b> provides relevant information and ideas</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Produces quality assignments</b> demonstrating good understanding of content</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Sometimes</b> contributes and listens during group work and discussions</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Sometimes</b> provides relevant information and ideas</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Produces adequate assignments</b> demonstrating reasonable understanding of content</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Rarely</b> contributes and listens during group work and discussions</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Rarely</b> provides relevant information and ideas</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Produces limited assignments</b> with insufficient demonstration of understanding of content</p>
<u><b>Formal Assessments:</b></u>  Tests, quizzes, and other final products	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Demonstrates</b> an extensive level of knowledge and mastery of content</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Consistently</b> expresses information and ideas clearly, fully, and correctly</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Creates</b> high quality final products that are organized, thorough, and well-presented</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Demonstrates</b> a satisfactory level of knowledge and understanding</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Usually</b> expresses information and ideas clearly and correctly</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Creates</b> quality final products that are organized and complete</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Demonstrates</b> a partial level of knowledge and understanding</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Sometimes</b> expresses information and ideas clearly and correctly</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Creates</b> final products that demonstrate partial understanding</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Demonstrates</b> a minimal level of knowledge of content</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Rarely</b> expresses information and ideas clearly and correctly</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Produces</b> inadequate and/or incomplete final products</p>
<u><b>Projects, Presentations and other teacher-designated activities:</b></u> Based on specific rubrics	<p><b>Exceeds</b> the requirements of the specific classroom-generated rubrics</p>	<p><b>Meets</b> the requirements of the specific rubrics</p>	<p><b>Meets some</b> of the requirements of the specific rubrics</p>	<p><b>Meets few or none</b> of the requirements of the specific rubrics</p>

Adopted (as revised by the faculty) by Epping School Board 6/18/09

## Epping Middle School –Work Habits/Effort Rubric

	<b>(O)</b> <u>Outstanding</u> in work habits and effort	<b>(S)</b> <u>Satisfactory</u> in work habits and effort	<b>(N)</b> <u>Needs Improvement</u> in work habits and effort	<b>(U)</b> <u>Unsatisfactory</u> in work habits and effort
<p><b><u>Learning Skills</u></b></p> <p><b>Preparation</b> (comes prepared for class)</p> <p><b>Organization</b> (organizes learning materials and follows directions)</p> <p><b>Participation</b> (listens and contributes)</p> <p><b>Cooperation</b> (works willingly with others)</p> <p><b>Classroom Behavior</b> (is on task and well behaved)</p>	<p><b>Consistently</b></p> <p><b>Consistently</b></p> <p><b>Consistently</b></p> <p><b>Consistently</b></p> <p><b>Consistently</b></p>	<p><b>Usually</b></p> <p><b>Usually</b></p> <p><b>Usually</b></p> <p><b>Usually</b></p> <p><b>Usually</b></p>	<p><b>Sometimes</b></p> <p><b>Sometimes</b></p> <p><b>Sometimes</b></p> <p><b>Sometimes</b></p> <p><b>Sometimes</b></p>	<p><b>Rarely</b></p> <p><b>Rarely</b></p> <p><b>Rarely</b></p> <p><b>Rarely</b></p> <p><b>Rarely</b></p>
<p><b><u>Assigned Work</u></b></p> <p><b>Presentation</b> (shows effort and quality in assignments)</p> <p><b>Completion</b> (finishes assignments)</p> <p><b>Deadlines</b> (hands in assignments on time)</p>	<p><b>Consistently</b></p> <p><b>Consistently</b></p> <p><b>Consistently</b></p>	<p><b>Usually</b></p> <p><b>Usually</b></p> <p><b>Usually</b></p>	<p><b>Sometimes</b></p> <p><b>Sometimes</b></p> <p><b>Sometimes</b></p>	<p><b>Rarely</b></p> <p><b>Rarely</b></p> <p><b>Rarely</b></p>

Adopted (as revised by the faculty) by the Epping School Board 6.18.09

## **Homework**

We believe that homework for middle school students is directly linked to your success. Homework increases your achievement, allows you to practice important skills including time management and organization, and encourages a sense of responsibility and commitment to learning. Homework is designed to reinforce content and skills taught in the classroom, and also to extend learning opportunities. Homework should be challenging, but reasonable and based upon your learning needs as a young adolescent learner. The purposes of homework will be discussed with you and clear directions will be given.

Homework will be designed to accomplish Learning Objectives as specified in the Epping Middle School District Curricula which align with the state of New Hampshire's Grade Level Expectations. Many teachers will provide rubrics for their long term projects.

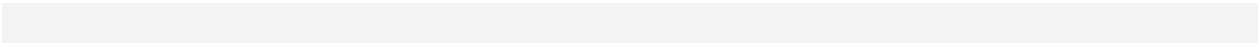
1. Short Term Assignments will have clear expectation in the form of a logical follow-up to a class lesson; or a precursor to learning objectives that will be implemented in the classroom.
2. Long Term Assignments are meant to teach, develop and facilitate time management skills and appropriate amounts of classroom time will be provided to ensure that follow-up homework will be meaningful and reasonable.

## **Student Planners Are Required**

You are required to record your homework for each class. The Student Planner is one of the best sources for helping middle school students stay organized with short and long term assignments. When you are absent, it is your responsibility to obtain make-up work from your teachers when you return to school. The student planner is also used as a mode of communication between parents and teachers. Parents, please check your child's assignment book each day for proof of completed assignments. Communications from the school including things such as field trip forms or general announcements will come home on Wednesdays. When students are absent for 2 or more days, parents may request homework assignments (which will be available at the end of the day) by calling the office at 679-2544.

## **Tips for Parents to Assist in Homework**

- Check the assignment book each day and ask to see and discuss work with your son or daughter. Ask questions to determine their level of understanding and together look for examples of how an assignment might connect to their lives.
- Help your son or daughter develop strategies to ask for help for work they may not fully understand and communicate with teachers as needed.
- Provide an uninterrupted block of study time each day (no television, telephone, or errands) to allow your child to concentrate fully on his/her daily assignments.
- Provide a quiet area at home to study.

- When there is no homework on a given day, you can assist your child in developing proper study habits by encouraging him/her to read or engage in other educational activities during the normal study time.
- 

## **D. STUDENT ACTIVITIES**

We believe that you should enjoy the company of your peers and explore different opportunities. Try something that you like! We will form a club for you if you express the interest and have some friends who will join you. You do not need to be an expert to try out for a team or a club! Just plan to come, try out, and then work hard to learn something new! Information about events will be published in our daily bulletin, so be sure to listen to your teacher

### **Same Day Attendance Rule**

To be eligible to participate in co-curricular activities (including athletic events, clubs and all social activities of the school) a student must be in school for the full day on which the activity occurs. In the event the activity occurs on a non-school day, the rule applies to the school day previous to the activity. The principal may grant an exception to this rule.

### **Athletics**

Interscholastic sports are available to middle school students. These include: soccer, basketball, baseball, volleyball, spirit, track and softball. The EMS team mascot is the Blue Devils.

### **Sportsmanship Code**

The following is a code of ethics put forward by the NHIAA to which all Epping students, both players and spectators, must adhere. Also, students should impress upon their parents and friends the importance of the code.

"I promise to:

- Consider all athletic opponents as guests and treat them with courtesy and friendliness.
- Accept all decisions of officials as final.
- Never hiss or boo any player or official.
- Never utter abusive or irritating remarks.
- Never attempt to rattle an opposing player; such as a player attempting a free throw.
- Seek to win by fair and lawful means according to the rules.
- Win with honor--lose with dignity.
- Not use horns or noisemakers.
- Urge each parent, student, friend, and player to do his/her best to abide by the code of good sportsmanship."

### **Athletic Eligibility Policy**

In order to participate in interscholastic sports, students must meet these eligibility requirements:

- a. Student must have a physical examination every two years. Proof must be provided to the Health Office at least two days prior to the first practice.
- b. If you were seriously ill or injured during the last season, you will need to provide proof from your doctor that you are eligible to participate.
- c. Student must have proof of insurance coverage (school or family).
- d. As an athlete, habits and conduct in and out of school must be worthy to represent the standards of the Epping Middle School.

### **Athletic Time Out**

Student-athletes receiving a “U” (Unsatisfactory) for Effort/Work Habits in any of their classes on their report cards must complete a weekly progress report from the teacher (or teachers) who issued the mark. The weekly progress report must be completed every Monday until the next official school report is published. In order to regain participation privileges a student’s weekly progress report must reflect the teacher’s assessment that the student is meeting their standards. All playing and participating privileges will be reevaluated every week. Athletic Time Out means that students neither practice nor play with their team. The Athletic Director makes participation determinations every Monday during a season based on the teacher reports. In other words participation is determined on a week by week basis.

### **Athletic Department Suspension Policy**

Any athlete who receives a one-day suspension for disciplinary reasons (either AAA or OSS), will be ineligible to play for a minimum of two games. In cases where a school suspension (either AAA or OSS) lasts longer, the student will be ineligible to play for all games until the AAA or OSS is completed. For example, if an athlete receives a five-day suspension (OSS) and there are four games scheduled, the student is ineligible for all four games. Second suspensions during the season (either AAA or OSS) can result in the student’s immediate dismissal from the team in conjunction with a review by administration.

### **Clubs/Organizations**

At Epping Middle School students often have a specific interest or would like to learn more about some activity. After school groups usually last for a specific length of time and change throughout the year. If you would like to start a group, ask one of your teachers or administrators and they will help you get organized. Possibilities include MathCounts (a math competition), First Lego League, debate, gardening or an idea of your choice. Typical clubs at EMS have included an art club, a chess club (in collaboration with EHS), yearbook, literary magazine, outdoor activities such as biking and hiking, volunteer club and a drama club. It’s important that our clubs change with your interests!

### **National Junior Honor Society**

The National Junior Honor Society recognizes and encourages the qualities of service, leadership, character, citizenship and scholarship in our middle school students. Students are nominated for induction based on maintaining

proficient learning (3's) in grades 6 through 8. Students in grades 7 and 8 are eligible for membership. The Team Leaders review applications completed by the nominees with input from all faculty members. Those students accepted for induction must show involvement in service projects both in and outside of the school.

The primary service project of the members is the management of the school's low-cost snack program. This project also serves as an important fund-raiser for middle school activities. All members are expected to attend the annual Induction Ceremony. Mr. Christie is the advisor.

### **Middle School Activity Nights**

The Middle School sponsors five school activities evenings during the school year where we have a DJ for dancing and the gym is open. We sell items such as pizza and have other food available. The evenings cost \$5.00 per student and are open to EMS students only. This year's events are scheduled for October 2 December 18, February12, March 26, and May 21. When parents sign the handbook they are indicating that they will adhere to the guidelines outlined below for student attendance at social events. School rules, including adherence to our dress code, apply to our Activity Nights!

- a. Beginning times and ending times (6:30 p.m.-9:00 p.m.) must be followed. **All students must make arrangements in advance to be picked up promptly by the conclusion of each event; if a student's ride is not on time he or she will not be allowed to attend the next social event.** There will be no walking home after a social event. Everyone must make arrangements for transportation home. Parents are to park in the large parking lot in front of EMS for student dismissal from the activity night.
- b. Any student who is absent on the day of the activity night is not allowed to attend the event. A student's behavior may affect his/her eligibility to attend social events at the discretion of the Administration.
- c. Social events are sponsored by and for students enrolled at Epping Middle School.
- d. Unacceptable behavior will result in a call to parents for an immediate ride home, loss of attendance privileges for the next social event, or both. Parents/guardians must be available to pick up students.
- e. School rules apply to all social events. This includes the school dress code.
- f. Once a student enters the social event, he or she is not allowed to leave the event for any reason without permission from the head chaperone. A parent/guardian must pick the student up.

## **E. SCHOOL SERVICES**

### **Book Use/School Materials and Responsibility**

In some classes, you will be issued textbooks and other school equipment which you are to use and return. All textbooks must be covered. If a book is returned damaged in June you will be charged to rebind or replace the book. If a book is lost or missing for any reason during the year, you will be charged the replacement cost. Students are frequently provided with the opportunity to use computers and are responsible for any damages.

### **Computer Access and Use**

The Epping School District has made available computers and networks to students, staff and community members in order to:

- a. Support education and research
- b. Facilitate and disseminate knowledge
- c. Encourage collaborative projects and resource sharing
- d. Foster creativity and innovation
- e. Aid technology transfer

### **Terms and Conditions for use of Computer and Networks**

This is the policy for acceptable use of the computers in our school and Internet safety: STUDENT USER – “I understand and will abide by the procedures and Network/Internet Use Policy for independent access to the electronic resources of the Epping School District. I further understand that any violation of the regulations above is unethical and should I commit any violation, my access privileges may be revoked, school disciplinary and/or appropriate legal action may be taken. In consideration for the privilege of using the Epping School District electronic resources and in consideration for having access to the information contained on it, I hereby release and agree to hold harmless the Epping School District from any and all claims or damages of any nature arising from my access, use or inability to access or use the computers or Network system.” Signing the receipt and acknowledgment of the school parent/student handbook will serve as understanding and acceptance of the Network/Internet Use Policy.

### **Damages to school computers and networks**

If you damage a school computers and/or networks, you will be billed and you and your parents are responsible for payment. Computer access will be revoked, school disciplinary and/or appropriate legal action may be taken

### **Lockers**

Lockers are available to all students for storing books and clothing. Students should never leave valuables, including money, in their lockers. Lockers are school property and are subject to inspection and search at any time. Each student in grades 6-8 will be issued one hall locker at the beginning of the school year. If the student requests a lock, one will

be issued. No personal locks are permitted. Students are asked to use magnets to post items in their lockers in order to maintain their appearance.

- a. Lockers should be kept neat and clean inside and out at all times.
- b. You must use magnets to hang items inside of your locker
- c. The cost of repair of any damages caused by abuse is the responsibility of the student.

### **Field Trips**

Field trips are considered important parts of our school curriculum and are scheduled to enhance classroom instruction. All students are considered ambassadors of our school and community and are expected to act accordingly. Parents will receive a letter explaining the intent and cost of the trip and a request for permission for students to participate. Parents are often invited to assist with trips as well. Students must travel to and from the field trip on school approved transportation. The Administration reserves the right to prohibit student field trip attendance.

### **Fire/Safety Drills**

During the year, there will be scheduled and unannounced fire drills. When the fire alarm sounds, follow your teacher's directions for departure from the room. No talking is allowed during a fire drill. Directions for exits are posted in each classroom.

### **Accident Insurance**

An insurance policy for students is offered at the beginning of the school year. Basic coverage applies when:

1. Attending school during the hours that school is in session.
2. Traveling to and from school one hour before or after school and traveling in a vehicle furnished by the school to or from the activity.
3. Participating in or attending an activity sponsored by the school and traveling in a vehicle furnished by the school to or from the activity.
4. Participating as a member of an interscholastic athletic team (including practice and travel as a team).

Students are eligible for the Annual 24-Hour Accident Coverage, which insures the student at home and at school, including the summer vacation period. Both plans are available and are more fully described in the folders, which are distributed along with the application form at the beginning of the school year. The cost of these two plans is set year by year.

### **Food Services**

#### **Breakfast Program**

Breakfast will be served at Epping Middle School daily at 7:10 am.

Student Pricing: \$1.75 daily or \$8.75 weekly

Students who qualify for free or reduced price lunches may also receive breakfast free or at the reduced price of .30 daily. The application covers both breakfast and lunch.

### **Lunch Program**

Lunch is an important part of a child's wellness. Hungry children cannot do their best. Nutritious meals are available for purchase or a student may bring a meal from home. Milk can be purchased separately for \$.40.

Student Pricing:   \$2.25 daily or \$11.25 weekly for the main meal  
                          \$2.75 for the Grab and Go Salad Meal  
                          \$2.75 for the Deli Sandwich Bar Meal

Students will have a choice of fruit and milk with all meal selections.

Students may pre-pay for their lunches. Each student has a PIN to use in the computer. There is a \$20.00 limit for "charged" lunches. All purchases are confidential.

### **Free and Reduced Meal Applications**

We participate in the federally funded National School Meals Program which offers free or reduced priced breakfast and lunch. All students will receive an application for this program. Additional forms are available at all times through the Main Office or SAU should your circumstances change. This program does not cover milk purchased separately.

The Free and Reduced Meals Program provides breakfast and lunch to students on a free or reduced cost basis. This program is available to students whose parents meet the federal income guidelines. This program benefits everyone by feeding hungry students making for more engaged learners and increasing school funds providing for more educational programs and support services.

All families are encouraged to fill out the application for free or reduced cost meals. Applications will be sent home with each student at the start of the school year and should be returned as soon as possible. Parents must fill out a new application each school year, regardless of whether they have qualified previously. All applications will be reviewed by the Food Services Supervisor. The Food Services Supervisor will notify parents as soon as the application has been processed. All information will be held strictly confidential.

Please contact the Food Services Supervisor, Veronica Bush if you have any questions or need assistance.

### **School Counseling Services**

The EMS school guidance program is an integral part of the total educational program at our school. The overall purpose of our program is to provide appropriate support to ensure the success of every middle level student. The program focuses on the intellectual, social and emotional development of our

young adolescent learners and supports the Epping School district's improvement plans and goals. The purpose of our program is to help students succeed academically. Sometimes this means addressing issues between friends, learning social skills, understanding issues that students face regarding peer influences or simply having a place to talk. Nicholas DeGruttola is our Guidance Counselor.

### **Release of Student Records**

The Epping schools will not release copies of records or personal information about any student unless we receive a signed release form from the parents or legal guardian of a student or from the student if he/she is 18 years of age. This signed form must contain the student's name, what information will be released, and the destination of that information.

The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) affords parents and students over 18 years of age ("eligible students") certain rights with respect to the student's education records. Parents and eligible students have the right to inspect, review, and amend student's education records subject to law and School Board Policy. These rights also include the right to consent to disclosures of personally identifiable information contained in the student's education records, except that to the extent that FERPA authorizes disclosure without consent. The school will disclose student directory information and provide student contact information to military recruiters unless directed in writing otherwise. Opt-out forms are available through the school or on the District Website at [www.sau14.org](http://www.sau14.org). It is important to note that by opting out of directory information your student's name and other information will not be made available to recognize your student's awards, athletic accomplishments, graduation, and other such honors. This includes in school and non-school publications. It must be noted that if you select to opt-out of photographs and videos of student participation in public performances your student will not be able to participate in those events. Public performances include, but are not limited to athletic events, plays, extracurricular competitions, and other such public events.

### **Recommendations for applications to other schools**

If you wish to apply to a private or charter school that requires recommendations, you must provide the school with the necessary release information before asking a teacher or building administrator to write. All school information including grades and attendance is sent out by the school.

### **Student Records**

All student records are kept and maintained according to federal and state regulations. Parents or legal guardians of students needing to inspect student records should contact us.

### **Media and Literacy Centers**

The Daryl Rice Media Center welcomes all students who wish to use the Media Center in an appropriate manner. Since the Media Center is a shared resource

with EHS, everyone is expected to cooperate in maintaining a pleasant, quiet, and efficient learning atmosphere.

The Media Center is open during regular school hours and after school Mondays through Thursdays, unless scheduling necessitates its closure. Students are admitted to the Media Center in accordance with the pass system.

Students may borrow books for a two-week period, unless the material is restricted (e.g., reference books). Students who do not return materials on time will be denied borrowing privileges. Lost or damaged materials will be billed to the borrower at the rate it will cost to replace the materials.

The Literacy Center which is located in the middle school building is a satellite of the Rice Center and primarily houses young adolescent fiction and some reference materials. The same guidelines are in place in our literacy center.

### **Health Services and Procedures**

The ultimate goal of the Health Office is to help Epping Middle School students and staff attain their optimal health thereby increasing their successes – academically, professionally and personally. The office is staffed by a registered nurse and a nurse’s assistant.

### **Emergency Information**

Each student must have a signed student health information card and a signed health information form on file in the Health Office. Both of these sources of vital information must be returned by the end of the first week of school to ensure that all necessary data is available for the health and safety of the student. Parents are reminded to contact the school with any changes of telephone numbers, addresses or emergency contacts.

### **Allergies**

All allergies should be reported to the Health Office, a “Permission to Dispense form” signed, and medication such as Benadryl or an Epi-pen must be provided to the Health Office at the start of the school year.

### **Medications**

No medication or drugs may be carried by students during school hours without administrative permission and the appropriate paperwork being completed. All medication, along with a permission to dispense note, may be delivered by the parent or guardian to the Health Office staff or the Principal. No one other than these people is authorized to accept medications or to dispense medications.

Medication needs to be in the original container if over-the-counter (such as Midol or Excedrin); or in a properly labeled prescription container, subject to Board of Pharmacy regulations. Labels must contain the student’s name, prescribing health professional’s name, date of the original prescription, along

with the name, strength and directions for giving the medication. All medication must have a clearly visible and current expiration date. Due to state laws and because of the possibility of unforeseen medication reactions, no medications will be dispensed unless these requirements are met.

### **Dismissals**

Students with a fever over 100 degrees, acute gastro-enteritis, undiagnosed rashes and contagious diseases may be sent home from school at the discretion of the Health Office.

Students feeling ill should request a pass to the Health Office. Upon arrival to the Health Office their complaints are assessed and, depending on those findings, the nurse or her assistant will select one of the dismissal options. Students will not be dismissed from school without a parent or another responsible person being notified. This person **MUST** be listed on the student information form. Transportation is the responsibility of the parent/guardian.

### **Injuries**

Injuries received during school hours must be reported at once to the teacher in charge of the class or activity and then the student will be accompanied to the Health Office. If injuries are not reported within 24 hours, students may not be eligible for their insurance coverage.

### **Crutches/Wheelchairs**

Any student needing to temporarily use crutches or wheelchairs must come to the Health Office upon arrival to school to meet with medical staff. If possible, prior notice to the Health Office would be appreciated so that a personalized plan may be put into place.

Health screenings can be requested by students, staff, or parents/guardians. Available services include: vision, hearing, blood pressure, height, weight, BMI and scoliosis.

### **Insurance/Medical Care**

Anyone without health insurance or without a primary health care provider may contact the Health Office for confidential information or referrals to community agencies that provide these free or low cost services. Our goals of “optimal health and increased success” may be reached if we are able to ensure that 100% of our students are able to secure health insurance and primary health care.

## **Special Education**

### **Students with Disabilities**

The Epping School District provides a free and appropriate education for all educationally handicapped children in accordance with: Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, the Education for All Handicapped Children Act of

1975, and the New Hampshire Standards for the Education of Handicapped Students.

Any student who is suspected or known to have an educational handicap should be referred to the Pupil Placement Team. A referral may be made by school personnel, parents, students, medical personnel, or a social service agency. Additional referral information may be obtained through the Special Education Department at Epping Middle School. Any student referred to Epping school personnel will be afforded all due processes as prescribed by State and Federal laws.

### **Homeless Students**

The Epping School District provides support for students who are homeless in accordance with the 1987 McKinney-Vento Act. The law gives children and youth in homeless situations the right to:

- a. stay in their school even if they move
- b. enroll in a new school without proof of residency, immunizations, school records, or other papers
- c. get transportation to school
- d. go to pre-school programs
- e. get all the school services they need
- f. have disagreements with school settled quickly; and go to the school they choose while disagreements are settled

Any student who is homeless should be referred to the EMS Homeless Building Coordinator for appropriate support.

### **English Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL)**

The Epping School District provides support for students who have limited English proficiency in accordance with State and Federal laws. The law supports students with limited English proficiency with free:

Evaluations  
Classroom support  
Direct instruction

Parents, guardians, and school personnel should refer a student to the Director of Special Services (679-5126) for evaluation, support, and services.

### **Transportation**

#### **Bus Regulations**

1. A pupil shall enter the bus, sit down, and remain seated until the bus stops at his/her destination.
2. A pupil shall enter and leave the bus by the front door except in an emergency.
3. There is to be no food or drink on the bus.
4. There shall be no smoking on the bus.

5. The bus driver should report the names of any students who violate bus regulations to the Dean of Students. Any student reported for a violation is subject to suspension from school and the bus at the discretion of the Dean of Students.
6. The bus driver shall take the following action in cases of disorderly conduct on the bus:
  - a) Stop the bus and warn students that disciplinary action may be taken if the unruly behavior does not stop.
  - b) If the disorderly behavior persists, the driver should take the names of the students and turn them over to the Dean of Students. The Dean of Students will take appropriate action
  - c) The driver will not discharge a student from the bus as punishment. Students shall be disembarked at their regular stop on the day of any such occurrence.
7. Only those children eligible to ride the buses are to do so, and they are to ride on their assigned bus.
8. There shall be no exceptions for school children ineligible for transportation unless a doctor's statement shows medical need for transportation.
9. A copy of the above regulations will be given to each child and his/her parents each year.
10. On some buses, video cameras will monitor student behavior.

### **Special Announcements**

The district uses the ALERT NOW system which calls your home to announce school delays and closings. This system is also used for emergency announcements. No-school announcements are also broadcast on the radio stations WERZ(107.1) and WOKQ (FM 97.5) as well as channel 9, WMUR-TV. listed below. Occasionally, school will be delayed 2 hours until roads are cleared.