



North Union School
Swea City Campus
Student Handbook

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To North Union Kindergarten-8th Grade Students and Parents/Guardians:

On behalf of the North Union Staff, it is my pleasure to welcome you to the North Union School. It is our hope that you've had an enjoyable summer and are ready to begin a productive and rewarding year.

This student handbook is being provided to each of our students again this year to assist with any questions or concerns our families may have. You'll want to become familiar with the information presented in the handbook. We encourage families to review the handbook pages together and to call us if there are any areas that need clarification or any additional information you would like.

The year ahead will include endless opportunities for learning. You should find the staff ready and willing to provide those opportunities and facilitate progress. There are some things you can do, too, to take full advantage and maximize learning.

1. Keep regular attendance. Although homework assignments can be made up; discussions, interactions, and other classroom experiences cannot. In addition, a good attendance record is one of your best references of the future.
2. Complete and turn in assignments on time. The most common cause of grade trouble is incomplete or missing assignments. Establishing the habit of completing work by due dates is a positive habit for a lifetime. In addition, assigned work has a legitimate purpose in the learning process; failure to do it will likely interfere with your learning. Regular use of a digital planner should help organization and communication.
3. Be ready to learn. Take a positive, cooperative attitude with you to class. Be ready to put in a good effort. Get a good night's rest and a good breakfast before you start the day.
4. Discuss school at home. Students - tell your parents about your successes, and your concerns. Parents - be good listeners, encourage, and support good efforts.
5. Communicate. If there is a problem or concern, be sure to talk to the teacher, assistant principal, or myself. Working together, we will be much more effective in reaching goals.

As an integral part of the North Union – Swea City Campus, we have a lot to be proud of. Let our actions, efforts, and words in and out of school reflect that pride not only in completing individual assignments and expectations, but in conducting positive, respectful relationships with others. We look forward to celebrating achievements of our students for this year and beyond.

Sincerely,

Julie Runksmeier, PK-8 Building Principal

JURISDICTIONAL STATEMENT

This handbook is an extension of board policy and is a reflection of the goals and objectives of the board. The board, administration and employees expect students to conduct themselves in manner fitting to their age level and maturity and with respect and consideration for the rights of others. Students are expected to treat teachers, other employees, students, visitors and guests with respect and courtesy. Students may not use abusive language, profanity or obscene gestures or language.

This handbook and school district policies, rules and regulations are in effect while students are on school grounds, school district property or on property within the jurisdiction of the school district; while on school-owned and/or school-operated buses or vehicles or chartered buses; while attending or engaged in school activities; and while away from school grounds if the misconduct directly affects the good order, efficient management and welfare of the school district or involves students or staff. School district policies, rules and regulations are in effect 12 months a year. A violation of a school district policy, rule or regulation may result in disciplinary action and may affect a student's eligibility to participate in extracurricular activities whether the violation occurred while school was in session or while school was not in session.

Students are expected to comply with and abide by the school district's policies, rules and regulations. Students who fail to abide by the school district's policies, rules and regulations may be disciplined for conduct which disrupts or interferes with the education program; conduct which disrupts the orderly and efficient operation of the school district or school activity; conduct which disrupts the rights of other students to obtain their education or to participate in school activities; or conduct which interrupts the maintenance of a disciplined atmosphere.

Disciplinary measures include, but are not limited to, removal from the classroom, detention, suspension, probation and expulsion. Discipline can also include prohibition from participating in extracurricular activities, including athletics. The discipline imposed is based upon the facts and circumstances surrounding the incident and the student's record.

The school reserves and retains the right to modify, eliminate or establish school district policies, rules and regulations as circumstances warrant, including those contained in the handbook. Students are expected to know the contents of the handbook and comply with it. Students or parents with questions or concerns may contact the principal's office (515-272-4361) for information about the current enforcement of the policies, rules and regulations of the school district.

DISTRICT MISSION

Educating with excellence to build a foundation for lifelong learning

VISION STATEMENT

We collaborate to provide consistent standards of practice with high expectations for all learners

EQUAL EDUCATIONAL AND EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Equal opportunity, in compliance with state and federal laws, shall apply to the employment and educational programs and activities offered by the school district. Children in the North Kossuth Community School District shall have an equal opportunity for a quality public education. It is the policy of the North Kossuth Community School District not to illegally discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, gender, disability, religion, creed, age or marital status in its educational programs or employment practices. If you have any questions or grievances related to this policy, please contact the Superintendent of Schools, North Kossuth Community School District, 203 5th St. N, Swea City, IA 50590 515-272-4361.

SCHOOL CONTACT INFORMATION

School address: 203 5th St. North, Swea City, IA 50590

School Phone: 515-272-4361

School Fax: 515-272-4391

School Website: www.nuwarriors.org

District Assessments

Assessment Calendar Items

Reading and Math FAST Assessment	Fall, Winter, Spring	K-8
ISASP	TBD Spring	3 – 8



North Union/Swea City Faculty

Superintendent.....	Travis Schueller
PK-8 Principal.....	Julie Runksmeier
School Counselor.....	Jadyn Moore
Preschool.....	Barb Schroeder
Kindergarten.....	Mary Brandt
Kindergarten.....	Madison Reed
First Grade.....	Bailey Ortman
Second Grade.....	Ron Swalve
Third Grade.....	Heather Schiltz
Fourth Grade.....	Julie Jensen
Fifth Grade.....	Jordan Larson
Elementary Special Education.....	Kelsie Johnson
Success Center.....	Jackie Albers
Interventionist.....	Tara Benson
6 th /7 th / 8 th / Math/Alg	Chris Hansen
6 th /7 th /8 th Science	Amy Walter
6 th Reading/LA.....	Kim Bormann
7 th Reading/LA	Joe Johnson
8 th Reading/LA.....	Tina Pyawasit
6 th / 7 th /8 th Social Studies.....	Brooks Walter
MS Special Education.....	Kerry Kahler
Elem/MS Special Education.....	Nicole Fisher
K-8 PE/AD.....	Steve Ryan
K-5 th Music.....	Courtney Mondragon
K-8 th Art	Jeff Speltz
MS Band.....	Bethany Bechler
MS Choir.....	Natalie Keenan
Gifted/Talented.....	Mitchell Mart
6-8 Technology.....	Jen Hansen

North Union Support Staff

Secretary.....	Cortney Stevens
Human Relations/Board Secretary.....	Jennie Larsen
Business Manager.....	Erin Rogers
Nurse.....	Alarie Crouch
Technology Director.....	Adam Fisher
Preschool Associate.....	Heather Adams
Elementary Associate.....	Maria De Orta
Elementary Associate.....	Amy Rasch
Elementary Associate.....	Breanna Krosch
Elementary Associate.....	Mo Ingalls
Elementary Associate.....	Christy Tirevold
Elementary Associate.....	Kylie Ross
Elementary Associate.....	Brenda Burgeson
Elementary Associate.....	Sonja Tobin
Elementary Associate.....	Christina Rolling
Librarian.....	Kim Bormann
MS Associate.....	Meghan Burbank
MS Associate.....	Sierra Deling
MS Associate	Louise Fisher
Transportation Director.....	Nathan Hanson
Bus Driver.....	Adam Pointer
Bus Driver.....	Christina Rolling
Bus Driver.....	Lyndon Johnson
Maintenance Director.....	Adam Pointer
Custodian.....	Nicole Hoye
Food Service.....	Jennifer Leininger
Food Service.....	Karen Zwiefel
Food Service.....	Nicole Hoye

Student Fees

<i>Book Rent (K-8 students)</i>	\$50
<i>Student Activity Ticket</i>	\$45
<i>Adult Activity Ticket</i>	\$80
<i>Family Activity Ticket</i>	\$180

School Day

School Begins	8:20	Dismissal	3:05
Announcements	9:00	Shuttle Buses Leave	3:10
		Route Buses Leave	3:30

All PK-8 students are to report to the cafeteria when entering the building before 8:00. At 8:00 the elementary students will walk towards the elementary wing and the middle school students will report to the gym. All areas are supervised at all times.

Lunch Program

<i>Breakfast</i>	Served:	7:45-8:20 daily
PK-8 Students	\$ Free except extras	
Adults	\$2.85	
<i>Lunch</i>	7 th /8 th	11:30-11:50
	6 th	10:45-11:15
	PK, 3-5	12:00 – 12:25
	K-2	12:30-1:00
Students	Free except extras	
Adults	\$3.95	

MEAL CHARGES

Code No. 710.4

In accordance with state and federal law, the North Kossuth Community School District adopts the following policy to ensure school district employees, families, and students have a shared understanding of expectations regarding meal charges. The policy seeks to allow students to receive the nutrition they need to stay focused during the school day, prevent the overt identification of students with insufficient funds to pay for school meals, and maintain the financial integrity of the nonprofit school nutrition program.

Payment of Meals

Students have use of a family meal account. When the balance reaches \$0.00 a student may charge no more than \$25.00 to this account. When an account reaches this limit, a student shall not be allowed to charge further meals or a la carte items until the negative account balance is paid. Families may add money to student accounts by electronic payment through PaySchools, found on the District website (www.nuwarriors.org) or by paying at the school office in cash, money order or personal check.

Students who qualify for free meals shall never be denied a reimbursable meal, even if they have accrued a negative balance from previous purchases. Students with outstanding meal charge debt shall be allowed to purchase a meal if the student pays for the meal when it is received. Due to privacy issues and concerns, an alternative meal will not be served and parents with a negative family meal account shall provide a suitable meal for their child(ren).

District employees and their families shall not be allowed to charge for meals. When an account reaches the above limit, an employee shall not be allowed to charge further meals or a la carte items until full payment is made to the family or individual employee's account.

Note: Students who have free/reduced pricing ONLY receive this pricing for the first meal charged. Any additional meals are at the regular student cost and require money to be in the account for these charges to occur.

Negative Account Balances

The school district will make reasonable efforts to notify families when meal account balances are low. Additionally, the school district will make reasonable efforts to collect unpaid meal charges classified as delinquent debt. The school district will coordinate communications with families to resolve the matter of unpaid charges. Families will be notified of an outstanding negative balance once the negative balance reaches \$10.00. Families will be notified by letters sent home or emails through the JMC system. Negative balances of more the \$100.00, not paid prior to the end of the month will be turned over to the superintendent or superintendent's designee for collection. Options may include: collection agencies, small claims court, or any other legal method permitted by law.

Zero Balances

All student accounts must be at a Zero or Positive balance at the beginning of the school year. If there is not money or a negative balance, until the debt is paid off, the students will need to bring a lunch from home.

The Warrior Way- OVERVIEW

The main focus of The Warrior Way is to provide a clear system for all expected behaviors at North Union School. While faculty, staff, and students may have assumptions of what is expected behavior, we cannot assume that everyone's beliefs are similar. Through PBIS, we will work to create and maintain a productive, safe environment in which ALL school community members have clear expectations and understandings of their role in the educational process.

PROACTIVE APPROACH TO SCHOOL-WIDE DISCIPLINE-*The Warrior Way*

Schools that implement school-wide systems of positive behavior support focus on taking a team-based system approach and teaching appropriate behavior to all students in the school. Schools that have been successful in building school-wide systems develop procedures to accomplish the following:

1. Behavioral Expectations are defined. A small number of clearly defined behavioral expectations are defined in positive, simple, rules. North Union Elementary/Middle School's Code of Conduct is:

M = Model Responsibility

M = Maintain Respect

S = Stay Safe

2. Behavioral Expectations are taught. The behavioral expectations are taught to all students in the building, and are taught in real contexts. Teaching appropriate behavior involves much more than simply telling students what behaviors they should avoid. Behavioral expectations are taught using the same teaching formats applied to other curricula. The general rule is presented, the rationale for the rule is discussed, positive examples are described and rehearsed, and negative examples are described and modeled. Students are given an opportunity to practice until they demonstrate consistent performance.

3. Appropriate behaviors are acknowledged. Once appropriate behaviors have been defined and taught, they need to be acknowledged on a regular basis. North Union School has designed a formal system that rewards positive behaviors. "Green" tickets are used by the individual teacher, at their discretion, as a tool of encouragement and a student motivator. "Green" tickets are awarded to encourage and reinforce positive behaviors demonstrated on a *consistent* basis. Teachers can award tickets to students, whether they teach them or not. Students who receive tickets may purchase items at our PBIS store.

4. Behavioral Errors are corrected proactively. When students violate behavioral expectations, clear procedures are needed for providing information to them that their behavior was unacceptable, and preventing that unacceptable behavior from resulting in inadvertent rewards. Students, teachers, and administrators all should be able to predict what will occur when behavioral errors are identified.

5. Data collection is used. Student behavior will be tracked using JMC. Data collected will include locations where violations occur, types of behavior violations, and individual student violations. This data will be reviewed by the PBIS team to help determine when program changes are needed, and to identify students who may need extra support. School-wide data may be shared with teachers and administration to determine if PBIS is working in our school.

MAKE UP WORK FOR STUDENTS

Unplanned Absences - Students absent for any reason are required to make up work missed in class. It will be the student's responsibility to obtain all make-up work from their teachers immediately upon returning to school. **As a general rule, students will be given the number of days missed plus one for work to be made up unless otherwise arranged between the teacher and student.**

Planned Absences - Prior to a planned absence, students and parents must notify the office and receive a white slip for teachers to sign and write down the work the student will be missing. Students should have their work completed upon return.

ARRIVING AT SCHOOL AFTER SCHOOL HAS STARTED

Students who arrive at school after 8:30 must report to the office to check in. The student should bring a written excuse signed by the parent or guardian to the Office when he/she arrives at school. The student will use a hall pass for admittance into class.

TARDINESS

A student is tardy when the student initially appears in the assigned area any time after the designated starting time.

LEAVING THE CAMPUS DURING THE SCHOOL DAY

To leave the school campus during the school day, the student should bring a written request signed by the parent or guardian to the office before school. Legitimate reasons for leaving include such things as: medical or dental appointments, court appearances, and funerals. In emergency situations, parents may also make arrangements by calling 515-272-4361 or students may call a parent from the school office to obtain permission to leave campus.

When a request to leave campus is approved: At check out time, the student will report to the office, show the pass to the office personnel, and sign out. When the student returns to school, he/she must check in at the office, sign in, and have the pass signed to go back to class. The sign out/sign in sheet is provided as an official record. Students who do not sign out properly will be marked "unexcused" for all periods missed.

North Union Elementary/Middle School is a closed campus. Students leaving campus without permission will be considered truant and may be subject to detention, suspension, or other disciplinary action deemed appropriate by the administration.

BECOMING ILL DURING THE SCHOOL DAY

Students who become ill during the school day must report to the nurse with a pass from the teacher. Students will be encouraged to remain in school if possible. If necessary, parents will be contacted to make plans for the child to return home or to receive medical attention.

FROM THE NURSE:

Some basic information parents should have:

All children must meet the state requirements on immunization BEFORE being admitted to school. At the beginning of each year a card requesting health and emergency information is filled out for each student. From time to time the school nurse will send or distribute notices about health matters. **It is the responsibility of the Parent to update emergency card with changes in work number, addresses, and other contacts in case of emergency.** Communicable illnesses should be reported to the school as soon as possible. Any chronic illnesses or special health problems should also be reported.

ACCIDENT/ILLNESS AT SCHOOL

Our primary aim is to prevent accidents by teaching safety and thorough close supervision in all areas. However, should an accident occur or you child becomes ill; he/she should notify the teacher and report to the nurse. You will be notified of any significant injury or illness. Thus, it is important that the information on the school emergency card be as accurate and complete as possible.

A child is never sent home unless arrangements are made with the parents or other authorized persons as identified on the emergency card. If an emergency exists and no one can be reached, school personnel may contact the hospital or the doctor of the parent's choice. It is the parent's responsibility to notify the school of any change in information contained on the emergency card.

Children should not be sent to school when the child seems to be "coming down" with an illness. **Your child should also be kept home an additional 24 hours following an elevated temperature of 100 degrees or more, and for vomiting and diarrhea.**

MEDICATION PROCEDURE

No medication shall be dispensed to any student unless the following rules are observed:

1. The medication must be prescribed by a licensed medical osteopathic physician or dentist.
2. The parent/guardian must sign a parental authorization and release form for the administration of prescription medication.
3. The parent's signed request to administer medication is to be kept on file in the nurse's office. A record of the medication and possible side effects are also filed in the nurse's office.
4. The medication should be maintained in the original prescription container, which shall be labeled with (a) name of the student, (b) name of the medication, (c) the date of prescription, (d) the dosage.
5. The medication will be locked in a cabinet while at school. If necessary, refrigeration will be provided.
6. When the nurse is not in the building, the secretary, who is trained in dispensing medication, will be administering the medication.
7. A record will be kept in of any medication(s) given at school. The record will include the student's name, name and dosage of medication, the time it is to be administered, and the person dispensing the medication.
8. At the end of the school year, any remaining will need to be picked up in the nurse's office. If you want your child to bring home the extra medication you need to call the nurse.

WHEN TO KEEP YOUR CHILD HOME FROM SCHOOL

CDC recommends that people with influenza-like illness remain at home until at least 24 hours after they are free of fever (100 F) or signs of a fever without the use of fever-reducing medications. Example: Frequent cough, sore throat, runny nose, accompanied by at fever (100 F or >) or if a student has 2 or more diarrhea stools, or any vomiting, they should be kept home for 24hrs after last episode.

Pink Eye (Conjunctivitis): Red or pink, itchy, painful eye(s); more than a tiny amount of green or yellow discharge; infected eyes may be crusted shut in the morning; may affect one or both eyes. Once seen by a physician, student may return to school the following day if eye drops have been started. If physician determines symptoms are not contagious and no drops ordered, student may return the same day.

Rash: An undiagnosed rash needs to be examined by a health professional to determine if there is a risk of spread of a harmful disease to others.

Head Lice: Treatment of an active live infestation may be delayed until the end of the day. Children do not need to miss school due to head lice. The Iowa Department of Public Health recommends a 14 day treatment protocol.

SCHOOL SPONSORED TRIPS

For any school sponsored trips, students are to report promptly at the time of departure and return to the vehicle immediately after the event ends. Students shall return on the same vehicle unless the principal beforehand authorizes permission. A student shall be permitted to return with parents only if a parent in person, both verbally and in writing, requests the transportation responsibility from the supervisor. Students shall bring their permission slips from parents for out of town school trips prior to the trip and receive a make-up slip.

CONSEQUENCE FOR MISCONDUCT

Detention – After school detentions are from 3:05-3:45, and the student must be picked up by a parent or guardian after the detention is served. Students may be asked to serve time after school for not doing homework, breaking school rules, or not following accepted procedures. All detentions should be served in the teacher's room unless assigned by administration.

In School Suspension (ISS) – In-school suspension is the temporary isolation of a student from one or more classes. In-school suspensions may be imposed by the principal for infractions of school rules, which are serious but which do not warrant the necessity of removal from school.

The principal shall conduct an investigation of the allegations against the student prior to imposition of an in-school suspension. The investigation will include, but not be limited to, written or oral notice to the student of the allegations against the student and an opportunity to respond. In-school suspension will not be imposed for more than ten school days.

Parents will be notified by the principal for any student who is assigned to be in the room for more than an hour. Students will be required to keep their work up.

Out of School Suspension (OOS) – Out-of-school suspension is the removal of a student from the school environment for periods of short duration.

A student may be suspended out of school for up to ten school days by administration for a commission of gross or repeated infractions of school rules, regulations, policy or the law, or when the presence of the student will cause interference with the maintenance of the educational environment or the operation of the school. The principal may suspend students after conducting an investigation of the charges against the student, giving the student:

- a. Oral or written notice of the allegations against the student and
- b. The opportunity to respond to those charges.

Parents will be called and required to pick the student up at the middle school office.

North Kossuth School: Progressive Disciplinary Model

Guiding Philosophy: Prepare | Challenge | Empower

Our disciplinary model is rooted in the belief that all students can learn and demonstrate positive behavior. We view misbehavior as a chance for a "teachable moment" where students are supported in learning from their mistakes and developing essential social and emotional skills. Consequences are progressive, fair, and consistent, focusing on restoring the learning environment and promoting accountability.

Tier 1: Classroom-Managed Behaviors (Minor Infractions)

These are low-level behaviors that minimally disrupt the learning environment and are managed primarily by the classroom teacher, in conjunction with the student.

Example Behaviors	Interventions & Supports (Teacher-Led)	Progressive Consequences
Non-Disruptive (e.g., Off-task/Daydreaming, lack of materials, talking out of turn, incomplete work, minor tardiness)	Verbal Warning/Redirection: Private, brief reminder of expectation.	1st Incident: Private, non-verbal cue/Redirection.

	Proximity Control: Teacher moves near the student.	2nd Incident: Teacher-Student Conference (Review expectation & impact).
	Re-teach Expectation: Briefly review the specific classroom rule or procedure.	3rd Incident: Documentation (e.g., student log/tracker). Parent contact (email/brief note home). Loss of a minor privilege (e.g., seat change, 5 mins of free time).
	Take a Break/Cool Down: Student uses a designated classroom cool-down area for a brief, structured time.	4th Incident: Office Referral (Minor), which prompts an administrative consequence.

Tier 2: Office-Managed Behaviors (Repeated Minor or Moderate Infractions)

These behaviors significantly disrupt the learning environment, have escalated beyond Tier 1 interventions, or are moderate in severity. They require administrative support and involve a higher level of parent/guardian communication and restorative practices.

Example Behaviors	Interventions & Supports (Administrator & Staff-Led)	Progressive Consequences
Repeated Minor (4th+ minor incident of a pattern)	Parent/Guardian Conference: In-person or phone meeting with Administrator, Student, and Parent/Guardian to create a plan.	1st Office Referral (Tier 2): Detention (Lunch or After-School). Restorative Practice: Student completes a Reflection/Action Plan form.

Moderate (e.g., Directed/Repeated Profanity, Chronic Insubordination, Minor Bullying/Harassment, Vandalism, Skipping Class)	Behavior Contract: Developed to target specific behaviors with clear goals and consequences.	2nd Office Referral (Tier 2): Multiple Detentions or In-School Suspension (ISS) (1 day). Required Counseling: Meeting with School Counselor/Social Worker.
	Restorative Circle/Mediation: Used to repair harm done to the community or another student.	3rd Office Referral (Tier 2): In-School Suspension (ISS) (1-3 days). Student Support Team (SST) Meeting initiated to implement more intensive supports.
	School Counselor/Social Worker: Direct support/skill-building to address the function of the behavior.	4th+ Office Referral (Tier 2): Consequences escalate up to Out-of-School Suspension (OSS) (1-3 days) and loss of privileges (e.g., participation in extra-curricular activities, field trips).

Tier 3: Serious Infractions

These are severe behaviors that involve a significant risk to the safety and welfare of students or staff, or seriously violate the Code of Conduct. These require immediate removal from the classroom and a formal administrative response.

Example Behaviors	Interventions & Supports (Administrative & District-Led)	Consequences
Severe (e.g., Physical Assault, Possession of Weapons/Drugs/Alcohol, Extortion, Major Vandalism, Hazing, Bias/Hate-Motivated Behavior)	Immediate Administration & Involvement: Investigation of the incident, including victim support.	Mandatory In or Out-of-School Suspension limited to max of 10 days.

	Law Enforcement Notification: When required by law or district policy.	Disciplinary Hearing to determine the need for long-term suspension or expulsion, per Board policy.
	Functional Behavior Assessment (FBA) & Behavior Intervention Plan (BIP): If the pattern of behavior is chronic and warrants specialized supports (especially for students with disabilities).	Alternative Educational Setting placement recommendation.
	Referral to District Student Services/Community Resources: For comprehensive mental health or behavioral support.	Restitution/Restorative Justice (e.g., repairing property damage, formal apology) as deemed appropriate by the administration.

Key Considerations for Implementation

- Individualization:** Consequences will be determined based on the severity of the infraction, the student's age and developmental level, the impact on the school environment, and the student's disciplinary history. The administrator maintains discretion to adjust consequences based on these factors.
- Restorative Practices:** At all tiers, the goal is to repair the harm done and reintegrate the student into the learning environment successfully. Restorative practices (e.g., conflict mediation, circle discussions, apology letters, community service) should be utilized where appropriate.
- Documentation:** All disciplinary actions, interventions, and communications must be thoroughly documented in the student information system (e.g., JMC) to ensure fidelity and provide data for decision-making.
- Communication:** Clear, timely, and respectful communication with students, staff, and parents/guardians is essential at every step of the model.

ACTIVITY TICKETS

Upon registering, all students will be urged to purchase an activity ticket which will enable them to see all home school sponsored activities. This will include such things as: football games, basketball games, assembly programs, music concerts, speech events, etc. This fee will not include school dances or the musical.

VISITORS

All visitors to North Union School – Swea City Campus must have a legitimate reason for being in the building or on school grounds. They need to sign in and out in the office and be pre-approved by the principal.

ATTENDANCE

Compulsory Attendance Parents within the school district who have children over age six and under age sixteen by September 15, in proper physical and mental condition to attend school, will have the children attend the school district at the attendance center designated by the board. Students will attend school the number of days or hours school is in session in accordance with the school calendar. Students of compulsory attendance age will attend school a minimum of 180 days. Students not attending the minimum days or hours must be exempted by this policy as listed below or, referred to the county attorney. Exceptions to this policy include children who:

- have completed the requirements for graduation in an accredited school or have obtained a high school equivalency diploma;
- are excused for sufficient reason by any court of record or judge;
- are attending religious services or receiving religious instruction;
- are unable to attend school due to legitimate medical reasons;
- has an individualized education program that affects the child's attendance;
- has a plan under Section 504 of the federal Rehabilitation Act, 29 U.S.C. §794, that affects the child's attendance;
- are attending an approved or probationally approved private college preparatory school;
- are attending an accredited nonpublic school;
- are receiving independent private instruction; or,
- are receiving competent private instruction. It is the responsibility of the parent of a child to provide evidence of the child's mental and physical inability to attend school or of the child's qualifications for one of the exceptions listed above. (Refer to Board Policy 501.03)

Chronic Absenteeism and Truancy

The district believes that traditional, in-person school attendance leads to the greatest learning opportunities for students. Students who are present in school and engaged active learners take greater ownership over their educational outcomes. For this reason, it is the priority of the district to foster regular student attendance throughout the school year and reduce barriers to regular

attendance for students in the district. Chronic absenteeism/absences means any absence from school for more than ten percent of the 90 days in the semester established by the district. Truant/truancy means a child of compulsory attendance age who is absent from school for any reason for at least twenty percent of the 90 days in the semester. Truancy does not apply to the following students who:

- have completed the requirements for graduation in an accredited school or has obtained a high school equivalency diploma are excused for sufficient reason by any court of record or judge;
- are attending religious services or receiving religious instruction;
- are attending a private college preparatory school accredited or probationally accredited;
- are excused under Iowa Code §299.22; and
- are exempt under Iowa Code §299.24.

Students are subject to disciplinary action for truancy including suspension and expulsion. It is within the discretion of the principal to determine, in light of the circumstances, whether a student may make up work missed because of truancy. Students receiving special education services will not be assigned to in-school suspension unless the goals and objectives of the student's Individualized Education Program are capable of being met. (Refer to Board Policy Code 501.09)

Daily, punctual attendance is an integral part of the learning experience. The education that goes on in the classroom builds from day to day and absences can cause disruption in the educational progress of the absent student. Irregular attendance or tardiness by students not only limits their own studies, but also interferes with the progress of those students who are regular and prompt in attendance. Attendance is a shared responsibility that requires cooperation and communication among students, parents and the school.

This regulation is divided into two sections: Section I addresses legal requirements related to chronic absenteeism and truancy and Section II addresses additional academic, disciplinary and extracurricular consequences students face due to chronic absenteeism and truancy. It is important for students to recognize that chronic absenteeism and truancy impacts all these facets of their educational experience.

SECTION I - Legal Requirements

Chronic Absenteeism

When a student meets the threshold to be considered chronically absent, the school official will send notice by mail or e-mail to the county attorney where the district's central office is located. The school official will also notify the student, or if a minor, the student's parent, guardian or legal or actual custodian via certified mail that includes information related to the student's absences from school and the policies and disciplinary processes associated with additional absences.

School officials will send notice when the student's absences meet the threshold, but before the student is deemed chronically absent. School Engagement Meeting

If a student is absent from school for at least fifteen percent of the 90 days in the grading period, the school official will attempt to find the cause of the absences and start and participate in a school engagement meeting. All of the following individuals must participate in the school engagement meeting:

- The student;
- The student's parent, guardian or legal or actual custodian if the student is an unemancipated minor; and
- A school official.

The purpose of the meeting is to understand the reasons for the student's absences and attempt to remove barriers to the student's ongoing absences; and to create and sign an absenteeism prevention plan.

Absenteeism Prevention Plan

The absenteeism prevention plan will identify the causes of the student's absences and the future responsibilities of each participant. The school official will contact the student and student's parent/guardian at least once per week for the remainder of the school year to monitor the performance of the student and the student's parent/guardian under the plan. If the student and student's parent/guardian do not attend the meeting, do not enter into a plan or violate the terms of the plan, the school official will notify the county attorney.

STUDENT DRESS AND APPEARANCE

We take pride in the appearance of our students and staff. Our students' dress reflects the quality of our middle school, and students are expected to come to school looking neat and clean. School is not the place to make fashion statements or gang statements. Inappropriate student appearance may cause substantial disruption to the school environment or present a threat to the health and safety of the students and staff. Students are expected to wear clothing that is appropriate to their age level and does not disrupt the school or educational environment.

Students are prohibited from wearing clothing advertising or promoting items illegal for use by minors including, but not limited to, alcohol or tobacco; from wearing shoes with cleats or rollers; and from wearing clothing displaying obscenity, profanity, vulgarity, racial or sexual remarks, making reference to prohibited conduct or similar displays. The principal will make the final determination of student appearance.

Hoods, bandanas, hats, caps, sunglasses, and other forms of head covering are not allowed to be worn in the building unless the student is given special permission by administration. Coloring hair and painting or piercing the body is absolutely not allowed at school or on school grounds.

Students dressed inappropriately will be required to change clothing or leave the school. Staff member can keep items and return the items at the end of the day.

INAPPROPRIATE PHYSICAL CONTACT

Any staff member may warn students that are seen displaying “inappropriate physical contact” which may include but is not limited to: kissing, full-frontal hugging, grabbing, slapping, poking, wrestling, groping, or otherwise intimate touching of another student.

ELECTRONIC DEVICE POLICY

In order to promote the best educational experience, students should feel connected to their educational environment and to others in the school community. Building meaningful connections can occur in a variety of ways. Technology has advanced peoples' ability to connect with one another across a variety of virtual platforms, and when used appropriately, adds value to the learning environment. However, it is vital to the developmental health and growth of students that the district provides opportunities for students to connect with peers and other members of their school community in-person whenever possible. In-person learning and interactions teach vital life and social skills that students will need for their continued success in the community.

For this reason, student use of personal electronic devices during instructional time is prohibited. Students have access to district-owned electronic devices as appropriate for the instructional needs of the learning environment and authorized by the classroom teacher. Parents or guardians who need to communicate with students during instructional time may contact the school building administrative office.

Instructional time is defined to mean periods of classroom instruction from the beginning of class bell until the end of class bell, including study halls. Electronic devices will be allowed during passing times and in the lunchroom for middle school students. Elementary students will be required to keep all electronic devices in their lockers for the duration of the day.

Personal electronic devices means any device that is capable of electronically communicating, sending, receiving, storing, recording, reproducing and/or displaying information and data. This may include but is not limited to electronic communication equipment, mobile phones, smart phones, video game devices and portable media players. Students may wear smart or electronic watches but may not use any communication applications or features that are prohibited from use on other electronic devices and all notifications must be turned off. Personal electronic devices that have been specifically authorized under a current individual education plan (IEP), a Section 504 plan, or an Individual Health Plan (IHP) are exempt from this policy.

Parents or guardians of students may request to building level administration that a student retain access to the student's personal electronic device during instructional time if the parent or guardian can establish there is a legitimate reason related to the student's mental or physical health for the student to retain access during instructional time. This reason must be tied to the student's multi-tiered system of support framework. Any denials may be appealed to the Superintendent, who will be the final decisionmaker on the request.

Students who choose to use personal electronic devices outside instructional time but while on school property, at school-sponsored events, or in a manner that may impact the educational environment must use these devices in accordance with all applicable laws and board policies. Students who violate this policy may face disciplinary consequences up to and including suspension or expulsion. The Superintendent, in conjunction with building level administration, will develop administrative regulations in accordance with this policy.

For a student's first violation of this policy, the students may pick up the device at the end of the school day and the student's parent/guardian will be notified. For the second violation of this policy the parents will need to come and pick up the device from the office. Subsequent violations of this policy the parents will need to come to the school and the device will be released after a meeting and a plan is developed to avoid future violations. If the student refuses to turn over their device after a violation, they may be sent home for the remainder of the day. Repeated violations of this policy may result in additional disciplinary consequences for students in accordance with board policy.

CHEATING

While students are encouraged to work cooperatively on approved projects, cheating on daily assignments, papers, projects, or tests is not allowed. Students who are not sure whether working together on a specific project is allowed should ask their teachers. Students who are caught copying assignments, tests, turning in plagiarized papers, or using technology to cheat may receive no credit for their work. The teacher has the option of allowing the student to re-do the test, project, or assignment. Infractions may also result in parent contacts, detention, or suspension

SEARCH AND SEIZURE

School district property is held in public trust by the board. School district authorities may, without a search warrant, search a student, student lockers, personal effects, desks, work areas or student vehicles based on a reasonable suspicion that a board policy, school rule or law has been broken. The search shall be in a manner reasonable in scope to maintain order and discipline in the schools, promote the educational environment, and protect the safety and welfare of students, employees and visitors to the school district facilities.

School authorities may seize any illegal, unauthorized or contraband materials discovered in the search. Items of contraband may include, but are not limited to, nonprescription controlled substances, marijuana, cocaine, amphetamines, barbiturates, apparatus used for controlled substances, alcoholic beverages, tobacco, weapons, explosives, poisons and stolen property.

Such items are not to be possessed by a student while they are on school district property or on property within the jurisdiction of the school district; while on school owned and/or operated school or chartered buses; while attending or engaged in school activities; and while away from school grounds if misconduct will directly affect the good order, efficient management and welfare of the school district. Possession of such items will be grounds for disciplinary action including suspension or expulsion and may be reported to local law enforcement authorities. The board believes that such illegal, unauthorized or contraband materials cause material and substantial disruption to the school environment or presents a threat to the health and safety of students, employees, or visitors on the school district premises or property within the jurisdiction of the school district.

LOST OR DESTROYED TEXTBOOKS (WORKBOOKS OR LIBRARY BOOKS)

The school will charge an appropriate replacement fee for any textbooks, workbooks, and library books lost or destroyed by students.

STUDENT LOCKERS AND DESKS

Students will be assigned a locker. Student lockers, locks and desks are the property of the school district. Students shall use the lockers and desks assigned to them for storing their school materials and personal items necessary for attendance at school. It is the responsibility of each student to keep the student's assigned locker and desk clean and undamaged. The expenses to repair damage done to a student's locker and desk are charged to the student.

Although school lockers, desks and other spaces are temporarily assigned to individual students, they remain the property of the school district at all times. The school district has a reasonable and valid interest in insuring the lockers, desks and other spaces are properly maintained. For this reason, lockers, desks and other spaces are subject to unannounced inspections and students have no legitimate expectations of privacy in the locker, desk or other space. Periodic inspections of all or a random selection of lockers, desks or other space may be conducted by school officials in the presence of the student or another individual. Any contraband discovered during such searches shall be confiscated by school officials and may be turned over to law enforcement officials.

The contents of a student's locker, desk or other space (coat, backpack, purse, etc.) may be searched when a school official has a reasonable and articulable suspicion that the contents contains illegal or contraband items or evidence of a violation of law or school policy or rule. Such searches should be conducted in the presence of another adult witness when feasible.

NOTE: This section reflects Iowa law on searches of lockers, desks, etc

INTERNET & WIFI

Students will be able to access the Internet through the North Union School server system. This privilege will allow students the ability to research, download education applications, and email instructors on a daily basis. If students misuse the internet/network with a

school issued device their internet privileges can be denied. If students misuse the internet/network with a personal device their device may be blocked from our server. WIFI: Students will not have access to the schools wifi between 8am – 3pm.

RESTRICTED MATERIAL

Student should not intentionally access or download any text file or picture or engage in any conference that includes material which is obscene, libelous, indecent, vulgar, profane, or lewd; advertises any product or service not permitted to minors by law; constitutes insulting or fighting words, the very expression of which injures harasses others; or presents a clear and present likelihood that, either because of its content or the manner of distribution, it will cause a material and substantial disruption of the proper and orderly operation and discipline of the school or school activities, will cause the commission of unlawful acts or the violation of lawful school regulations. Doing so may cause student to lose technology privileges and/or notification of law enforcement.

MEDIA RELEASE

North Union Elementary/Middle School attempts to acknowledge the great academic, athletic, and fine art accomplishments of students as much as possible. Throughout the year child's image, name and work as part of presentations, programs or publications, transmissions or other educational endeavors may be published on the web and/or released to the news media

North Union Technology Policies **Using and Caring for your Chromebook**

Students are expected to bring a fully charged Chromebook to school every day and bring their Chromebooks to all classes unless specifically advised not to do so by their teacher.

Taking care of your Chromebook

Students are responsible for the general care of the Chromebook which they have been issued by the school. Chromebooks that are broken or fail to work properly must be taken to the NUMS Technology Department. If a loaner Chromebook is needed, one will be issued to the student until their Chromebook can be repaired or replaced.

General Precautions:

- No food or drink should be next to your Chromebook while it is in use.
- Chromebooks should not be left unattended.
- Students should never carry their Chromebook while the screen is open.
- Chromebooks should not be taken into the restrooms or locker rooms.
- Chromebooks and cases must remain free of any writing, drawing, stickers, or labels.
- Chromebooks should be shut down when not in use to conserve battery life.
- Chromebooks should never be shoved into a locker or wedged into a book bag as this may break the screen.
- Heavy objects should never be placed on top of Chromebooks.
- Do not expose your Chromebook to extreme temperature or direct sunlight for extended periods of time. Extreme heat or cold may cause damage to the Chromebook.

- Always bring your Chromebook to room temperature prior to turning it on.
- Do not disassemble any part of the Chromebook or attempt any repairs.

Device Protection:

- Each student who is issued a Chromebook will also receive a protective case that should remain on at all times.
- Although the cases are reinforced to help protect the Chromebooks, they are not guaranteed to prevent damage. It remains the student's responsibility to care for and to protect his/her device.

Carrying Chromebooks:

- Always transport Chromebooks with care and in NUMS-issued protective cases. Failure to do so may result in disciplinary action.
- Never lift Chromebooks by the screen.
- Never carry Chromebooks with the screen open.

Screen Care:

- The Chromebook screen can be damaged if subjected to heavy objects, rough treatment, some cleaning solvents, and other liquids. The screens are particularly sensitive to damage from excessive pressure.
- Do not put pressure on the top of a Chromebook when it is closed.
- Do not store a Chromebook with the screen open.
- Do not place anything in the protective case.
- Make sure there is nothing on the keyboard before closing the lid (e.g. pens, pencils, or disks).
- Only clean the screen with a soft, **dry** microfiber cloth or anti-static cloth.

Charging Chromebooks:

- Chromebooks must be brought to school each day with a full charge.
- Students should charge their Chromebooks in their 8th period every evening.

Email:

- Students will have access to Gmail through the school domain issued account.
- Email will only be available within the nuwarriors.org domain. (Students will not be able to send or receive outside emails.)
- This email will ONLY be used to communicate with teachers and other students regarding school related information, projects and assignments. Any inappropriate communication will be turned over to administration for disciplinary action.

Logging into a Chromebook:

- Students will log-in using their school-issued Google Apps for Education (@nuwarriors.org) account.
- Students should never share their account passwords with others. In the event of a compromised account the North Union CSD Technology Department reserves the right to disable your account.

Using Your Chromebook Outside of School:

- Students are encouraged to use their Chromebooks at home and other locations outside of school for school use.
- A WiFi Internet connection will be necessary for the majority of Chromebook use; however, some applications can be used while not connected to the Internet.

Students are bound by the NUCSD Use of Technology Policy, Administrative Procedures, acceptable use agreement, and Board Policy wherever they use their Chromebooks.

Operating System and Security

Students will not use or install any operating system on their Chromebook other than the current version of ChromeOS that is supported and managed by the district.

No Expectation of Privacy

Students have no expectation of confidentiality or privacy with respect to any usage of a Chromebook, regardless of whether that use is for district-related or personal purposes, other than as specifically provided by law. The district may, without prior notice or consent, log, supervise, access, view, monitor, and record use of student Chromebooks at any time for any reason related to the operation of the district. By using a Chromebook, students agree to such access, monitoring, and recording of their use.

Monitoring Software

Teachers, school administrators, and the technology department staff may use monitoring software that allows them to view the screens and activity on student Chromebooks.

Inspection

Students may be selected at random to provide their Chromebook for inspection. The purpose for inspection will be to check for proper care and maintenance as well as inappropriate material being carried into the school.

Returning Your Chromebook

1. End of Year

At the end of the school year, students will turn in their Chromebooks and all issued accessories. Failure to turn in a Chromebook will result in the student being charged the full \$300.00 replacement cost. The district may also file a report of stolen property with the local Police Department.

0. Transferring/Withdrawing Students

Students who transfer out of or withdraw from the North Union CSD must turn in their Chromebooks and cases to the Media Center on their last day of attendance. Failure to turn in the Chromebook will result in the student being charged the full replacement cost. The district may also file a report of stolen property with the Police Department.

Chromebook Loss/Damage/Repair

In the event of damage not covered by the District's electronic device warranty, the student and parent will be fined for each incident. The student will be fined according to the following schedule in the case of accidental damage, theft, loss, or damage by fire:

- First incident - up to \$75
- Second incident - up to \$150

- Third incident - up to full cost of repair or replacement

The table below outlines costs and repairs for 1st, 2nd and 3rd offenses.

Damaged Part	1st Offense	2nd Offense	3rd Offense
Keyboard/palmrest	\$15.00	\$30.00	Full cost of repair (approx. \$80 + labor \$163)
Screen	\$25.00	\$50.00	Full cost of repair (approx. \$199 + labor \$163)
Charging Cord	\$20.00	\$20.00	Full cost of replacement (approx. \$20)
Other (determined by tech support team)	TBD	TBD	TBD

****Fines are subject to change based on model & availability.*

With 3rd offense, device remains in school. Full cost of repair includes parts and labor.

Internet

Students will be able to access the Internet through North Union Middle School's server system on a daily basis. This privilege will allow students the ability to research, collaborate, and share documents with teachers and fellow students. If a student misuses the internet/network with a school issued device, their internet privileges can be denied. If a student misuses the internet/network with a personal device, their device may be blocked from our server.

Restricted Material

Students should not intentionally access or download any text file or picture or engage in any conference that includes material which is obscene, libelous, indecent, vulgar, profane or lewd; advertises any product or service not permitted to minors by law; constitutes insulting or fighting words, the very expression of which injures or harrasses others; or presents a clear and present likelihood that, either because of its content or the manner of distribution, it will cause a material and substantial disruption of the proper and orderly operation and discipline of the school or school activities, will cause the commission of unlawful acts or the violation of lawful school regulations. Doing so may cause the student to lose technology privileges and/or notification of law enforcement.

Media Release

North Union High School attempts to acknowledge the great academic, athletic, and fine arts accomplishments of students as much as possible. Throughout the year, the student's image, name and work as part of presentations, programs or publications, transmissions or other educational endeavors may be published on the web and/or released to the news media.

Review and initial each statement below. Students will not be issued a Chromebook until this has been signed and returned to the school.

<i>The following items review some of the most important points covered in the Computer Handbook.</i>	<i>Student Initials</i>	<i>Parent Initials</i>
The district is implementing a 1-to-1 program for students in grades 9-12 and my child will be loaned a Chromebook for educational purposes.		
I understand I must follow the rules for taking care of my Chromebook as listed above.		
I understand it is my responsibility to bring my fully-charged Chromebook to school everyday.		
I understand my parents and I are fully responsible for costs associated with the repair and/or replacement of my Chromebook.		
I understand that teachers, school administrators, and the technology department staff may use monitoring software that allows them to view the screens and activity on my Chromebooks.		
I understand I must follow the Internet usage acceptable use policies as listed above and in School Board policy.		
I understand that students' images, names, and work may be published on the web and/or released to the news media, it is my responsibility to notify the school if this an issue.		

I have read the Technology Policy and agree with their stated conditions.

DAMAGE TO PROPERTY

Vandalism is the malicious or ignorant destruction of public or private property. For Each Offense Students will be expected to repair the property and/or make restitution. Students will be subject to detention, suspension, or other consequences deemed appropriate by the administration.

Students who are guilty of vandalizing school property (i.e. computers, desks, buildings, and grounds) shall be required to pay monetary restitution in full.

Students who damage property of any employee of North Union School District may be subject to school disciplinary procedures at the request of the property owner.

WEAPONS, EXPLOSIVES, AND DANGEROUS OBJECTS/INSTRUMENTS

The board believes weapons and other dangerous objects in school district facilities cause material and substantial disruption to the school environment or present a threat to the health and safety of students, employees and visitors on the school district premises or property within the jurisdiction of the school district.

School district facilities are not an appropriate place for weapons or dangerous objects and look-a-likes shall be taken from students and others who bring them onto the school district property or onto property within the jurisdiction of the school district or from students who are within the control of the school district.

Parents of students found to possess a weapon or dangerous objects or look-a-likes on school property shall be notified of the incident. Confiscation of weapons or dangerous objects shall be reported to the law enforcement officials, and the student will be subject to disciplinary action including suspension or expulsion.

Students bringing a firearm or knowingly possessing firearms at school shall be expelled for not less than one year. Students bringing to school or possessing dangerous weapons, including firearms, will be referred to law enforcement authorities. The superintendent shall have the authority to recommend this expulsion requirement be modified for a student on a case-by-case basis. For purposes of this portion of this policy, the term "firearm" includes any weapon, but not limited to, any weapons, or any explosive, incendiary or poison gas.

BULLYING & HARASSMENT

- North Kossuth CSD is committed to providing all students with a safe and civil school environment in which all members of the school community are treated with dignity and respect. A safe and civil school environment is necessary for students to learn and achieve. Bullying and/or harassment can seriously disrupt the ability for a school district to maintain a safe and civil environment, hindering the students' ability to learn and succeed. Bullying and/or harassment of students, employees, and volunteers is against federal and state law, and North Kossuth's rules, regulations, and policies.

Bullying and/or harassment will not be tolerated on school district property, on property within the jurisdiction of the school district, while on school-owned or operated or chartered vehicles, while attending or engaged in school activities, or while away from school grounds if the misconduct materially interferes with the orderly operation of the educational environment or is likely to do so.

Definitions

"Harassment" and "bullying" mean any repeated and targeted electronic, written, verbal, or physical act or other ongoing conduct toward an individual which creates an objectively hostile school environment that meets one or more of the following conditions:

- Places the student in reasonable fear of harm to the student's person or property.
- Has a substantially detrimental effect on the student's physical or mental health.
- Has the effect of substantially interfering with the student's academic performance.
- Has the effect of substantially interfering with the student's ability to participate in or benefit from the services, activities, or privileges provided by a school.

“Electronic” means any communication involving the transmission of information by wire, radio, optical cable, electromagnetic, or other similar means. It also includes but is not limited to communication via electronic mail, internet-based communications, pager service, cell phones, and electronic text messaging.

Complaint Procedure

Complaints of bullying and/or harassment may be filed promptly, reasonably and in good faith. Complaints will be investigated in accordance with adopted district policy and procedures. Within 24 hours of receiving the report that a student may have been the victim of conduct or behavior that constitutes bullying and/or harassment, the district will notify the parent, guardian, or legal custodian of the student.

After considering the totality of the circumstances, should the level 1 investigator determine after the investigation, that a student has suffered bullying and/or harassment by another student enrolled in the district; a parent, guardian, or legal custodian of the student may enroll the student in another attendance center within the district that offers classes at the student’s grade level, subject to the requirements and limitations established in Iowa law.

Retaliation and False Reports

Individuals who knowingly file false bullying and/or harassment complaints, and any person who gives false statements in an investigation may be subject to discipline by appropriate measures. Any student found to have violated this policy or retaliated against another student for filing a complaint under these rules is in violation of the bullying and/or harassment rules and may be subject to discipline up to and including suspension and expulsion.

Threats of Violence

Parents and guardians should review and become familiar with this policy. All threats of violence, which include a written, verbal, symbolic, electronic, or behavioral message, that either expressly or implicitly express an intention to inflict emotional or physical injury or damage against students, employees, visitors, or school facilities are prohibited. A student who makes a threat of violence, causes an incident of violence that results in injury or property damage, or who commits an assault, will be subject to escalating levels of discipline for each occurrence.

Threats will be promptly investigated. When appropriate, referrals will be made to local law enforcement. The district retains the authority to assign the level of disciplinary measures appropriate to the severity of the threat of violence or incident of violence.

Threats issued and delivered away from the school or school activities may be grounds for disciplinary action if the threat impacts the orderly and efficient operations of the school. Disciplinary measures may include discipline up to and including suspension and expulsion. The following factors will be considered in determining the extent to which a student will be disciplined for threats of violence.

- The student's intent and knowledge of their actions.
- The student's developmental level and the context of the incident.
- Whether a pattern of threats of violence exists.
- Age, grade level, and maturity of the student.
- The circumstances surrounding the threat.
- Cooperation of the student and his or her parent(s) or guardian(s).
- The degree of disruption to the school community created by the threat.
- Other relevant information from a credible resource.

TOBACCO PRODUCTS

North Union School grounds, buildings and vehicles are tobacco free. No person shall at any time smoke, vape, chew, give away, or sell on school grounds. This prohibition extends to all facilities, whether owned, rented, or leased, and all vehicles that the school owns, leases, rents, contracts for, or controls. Students shall not use or transmit any tobacco product of any kind in the following situations:

- A. On school property, during and immediately before or immediately after school hours.
- B. Off the school properties at a school activity, function or event.

CHEMICAL USE

It is the intention of the North Union School to establish an atmosphere in its schools that would promote respect for and understanding of drugs, including alcohol. Evidence of intoxication, or possession or use of controlled substances, unauthorized drugs, alcohol, or tobacco in a school building, on school grounds, or at a school activity may be grounds for suspension.

Students, regardless of age, may NOT possess, sell, consume, or be under the influence of alcohol, tobacco, or controlled substances; or possess or sell equipment for use in connection with the consumption of alcohol, tobacco and/or controlled substances.

This rule applies to the school building, school grounds, before, during, and after school hours, on the school busses at school activities, and school events that take place away from school property (e.g. field trips, athletic events, etc.).

Specified procedures for dealing with the violation of this policy will include but not be limited to the following:

1. The building administration will be notified.
2. Local law enforcement may be notified.
3. Parents/Guardians and students will attend a conference with the appropriate building administrator.
4. Suspension from school will take place.
5. North Union Activity Participation/Eligibility rules will be invoked for students involved in extra-curricular activities.

If at any time the referring principal does not feel the student or parent/guardian is complying with the procedures described above, proceedings for alternative education or expulsion may be initiated.

PROCEDURE FOR DISCUSSING CONCERNS WITH A TEACHER

Encourage students to talk to the teacher. Parents should call the teacher to discuss a student/teacher conference. If the teacher cannot be reached, contact the administration who will then try to set up a meeting with the teacher for you. If the issue is not resolved, the principal will convene a meeting including all parties.

LUNCH ROOM CONDUCT

In accordance with School Board policy, a closed noon hour is in effect. During the lunch period, students are to remain in the lunch room area. Students are not to be in any other part of the school complex during their lunch period without permission by the homeroom teacher or lunchroom supervisors. Lunchroom supervisors are responsible for assisting students in maintain a positive climate in the cafeteria area. Students must follow the directions and guidelines developed by the supervisors and principal.

1. Do not run or push to get to the lunchroom. Take your turn in line.
2. No food or beverage is to be taken from the lunch room.
3. An individual sack lunch may be brought from home. Sack lunches are to be eaten in the lunch room. Pop is not permitted. Milk is available for purchase in the lunch room.

In case of disciplinary problems, the lunchroom supervisors will warn the individual and report the problem to the principal. If the behavior does not sufficiently improve, the principal will determine the consequence for the inappropriate behavior.

EMERGENCY SCHOOL CLOSING OR DISMISSAL

The North Kossuth Community School District will utilize the service GovDelivery, along with other local media (radio and television), to announce notifications such as late starts and early dismissals due to weather conditions or other factors. Please follow the instructions below to sign up for new or continued notifications.

How to sign up for GovDelivery:

1. Go to the following web address:
<https://public.govdelivery.com/accounts/IAEDU0333/subscriber/new>
2. Choose to subscribe via Email or SMS/Text Message from the “Subscription Type” pull-down menu. You may choose to enter a password to access/update this information in the future.
3. Enter the wireless number (SMS/Text Message) or email address you would like the alert(s) to go to. Note: You will need to subscribe multiple times for each phone number and/or email address you would like the alerts to be sent.

Please do not call the school to ask if there is an early dismissal. Once that decision is made, stations and channels need to be notified. Incoming calls tie up the lines making it impossible to call out. If there is going to be an early dismissal, please listen or check your Internet devices

instead of calling the school. Parents/Guardians should have a plan in place for their student(s) should school be dismissed early

SCHOOL CLOSING

When school is to be closed because of inclement weather or for other reasons, announcements to this effect will be made over the following radio stations Spencer KICD (107.7), Fairmont KSUM (106.5), Algona KLGA (92.7), Blue Earth KBEW (98.1), Estherville KILR (95.9), Spirit Lake KUOO (103.9), and Emmetsburg (100.0), or on our North Union Website, nuwarriors.org.

FIRE AND DISASTER DRILLS

When the fire or disaster alarm sounds proceed to the assigned exit or shelter in an orderly manner. Fire exit routes and disaster shelter areas are designated on a sign posted in each classroom. At the beginning of the year teachers will also go over drill procedures and periodic drills will be taken. Take all drills seriously. Someday your life may depend on it.

OPEN ENROLLMENT TRANSFERS **(PROCEDURES AS A SENDING DISTRICT)**

The school district will participate in open enrollment as a sending district. As a sending district, the board will allow resident students who meet the requirements to open enroll to another public school district.

Parents requesting open enrollment out of the school district for their student will notify the sending and receiving school district no later than March 1 in the school year proceeding the first year desired for open enrollment. The notice is made on forms provided by the Department of Education. The forms are available at the central administration office.

OPEN ENROLLMENT TRANSFERS **(PROCEDURES AS A RECEIVING DISTRICT)**

The school district will participate in open enrollment as a receiving district. As a receiving district, the board will allow resident students who meet the legal requirements, to open enroll into the school district. The board will have complete discretion to determine the attendance center of the students attending the school district under open enrollment.

The superintendent will approve timely filed applications by June 1; incoming kindergarten applications; good cause application; or continuation of an educational program application filed by September 1.

The superintendent will notify the sending school district and parents within five days of the school district's action to approve or deny the open enrollment request. The superintendent will also forward a copy of the schools districts action with a copy of the open enrollment request to the Iowa Department of Education.

EDUCATIONAL EQUITY POLICY

It is the policy of the North Union School not to illegally discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, gender, disability, religion, creed, age (for employment), marital status (for programs), sexual orientation, gender identity and socioeconomic status (for programs) in its educational programs and its employment practices. There is a grievance procedure for processing complaints of discrimination.

AT-RISK PROGRAM

The board recognizes some students require additional assistance to ensure success in the regular education program. North Union shall offer a program to encourage and provide an opportunity for at-risk students to achieve goals of their potential.

FINES – FEES - CHARGES

The board believes students should respect school district property and assist in its preservation for future use by others. Students may be assessed fines, charges, or fees for the materials needed in a course, for overdue school materials, for participating in activities, or for misuse of school property.

The superintendent shall inform the board of the dollar amount to be charged to students or others for fines, charges, or fees annually. Parents of students meeting specific financial eligibility standards will be eligible for a waiver of student fees or a reduction of student fees based upon the request of the parent.

ABUSE OF STUDENT BY EMPLOYEES

Physical or sexual abuse of students, including inappropriate and intentional sexual behavior, by employees will not be tolerated. The definition of employees for the purpose of this policy includes not only those who work for pay but also those who are volunteers of the school district under the direction and control of the school district. Employees found in violation of this policy will be subject to disciplinary action up to and including large discharge.

The school district has appointed a Level 1 Investigator (*Mrs. Tigges*). The Level 1 Investigators have been provided training in the conducting of an investigation at the expense of the school district. The Kossuth County Sheriffs' Department will serve as the school district's Level 2 investigator.

EQUAL OPPORTUNITY GRIEVANCE OFFICER

The Equal Opportunity Grievance Officer for North Union School is Mrs. Runksmeier

HOMELESS LIASON

The homeless liaison for the North Union School is Mrs. Julie Runksmeier. She can be reached at (515) 272-4361

A homeless child or youth is defined as a child or youth from the age of 3 years through 21 who lacks a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence and includes the following:

1. A child or youth is sharing the housing of other persons due to loss of housing, economic hardship, or similar reason; are living in a motel, hotel, trailer parks, or camping grounds due to lack of alternative adequate accommodations; are living in emergency or transitional shelter; is abandoned in a hospital; or awaiting foster care placement;
2. A child or youth who has a primary nighttime residence that is a public or private place not designed for or ordinarily used as a regular sleeping accommodation for human beings;
3. A child or youth who is living in a car, park, public spaces, abandoned buildings, substandard housing, bus or train stations, or similar settings; or
4. A migratory child or youth who qualifies as homeless because the child or youth is living in circumstances described in paragraphs “1” through “3” above.

Enrollment Requirements: Homeless students including unaccompanied youth will be enrolled immediately even if they are missing records and documents normally required for enrollment.

School Selection & Placement: Homeless students may attend either the school of origin or the school in the attendance area where he/she is actually residing. According to the McKinney Vento Act, a child’s district of origin is the district or school where the child was last enrolled or school where the child last attended while permanently housed. The deciding factor shall be the best interests of the child. As much as feasible, the child will not be required to change attendance centers within the district every time the child changes residences.

Waiver of Fees & Charges: Fees and charges which may present a barrier to the enrollment or transfer of a homeless child or youth may be waived at the discretion of the superintendent or designee.

Transportation: When students enroll in a new school, they must be provided with any transportation services that are offered to non-homeless students. In addition, homeless students may be provided transportation to their school of origin as required by the McKinney Vento Act.

Special Services: All services which are available to resident students are made available to homeless children or youths enrolled in the school district. Services include special education, talented and gifted, Title I programs, vocational education, English as a second language program, health services, and food and nutrition programs.

Dispute Resolution Process: If a dispute arises over Enrollment or School Selection, the child or youth in transition will be admitted immediately to the school in which enrollment is sought, pending resolution of the dispute. The student will also have the right as a student in transition to all appropriate educational services, transportation, and free school meals while the dispute is pending.

The school homeless education liaison will provide the parent or unaccompanied youth with a written explanation of the district's decision on the disputed issue and the right of the parent or unaccompanied youth to appeal that decision. The parent or unaccompanied youth will be given every opportunity to participate meaningfully in the resolution of the dispute. The parent, guardian, or unaccompanied youth may appeal the school district's decision as provided in the state's dispute resolution process 281-IAC 33.9(256)

VALUABLES

You are asked not to bring large amounts of money or items of great value to school. If you choose to do so, you bring them at your own risk because the school is not responsible for lost or stolen articles. We ask that you take the following precautions:

Items for use in classes, authorized by a teacher, or any large amount of money for use after school, should be left in the main office for safekeeping until class time or after school.

SCHOOL BUS POLICY

The North Kossuth/North Union Community School Districts provide students bus services. The driver is in charge of the students and bus. Students should respond to the driver as they would to a teacher. The privilege of students to ride on the bus is conditional on their reasonable behavior and observation of the rules and regulations. Safety demands complete cooperation. Should any student persist in violation of the rules and regulations, it shall be the duty of the driver to notify the transportation director and, after due warning has been given to the student, the privilege of riding the bus could be revoked.

Bus Rules: 1) I am a responsible passenger. 2) I will respect the driver, myself, other passengers and property. 3) I am courteous. 4) I will act in a safe way.

Misbehavior on Bus: Penalty at discretion of the transportation director/principal depending on circumstances. (May include removal from bus for 1-10 days or permanent removal from bus by a formal hearing.) Serious misbehavior on the bus may also be cause for punishment up to and including suspension or expulsion from school.

ITEMS NOT COVERED IN THE POLICY GUIDE

It would be impossible to address every situation that arises during the school day and its related extracurricular activities. The administration has been directed and given the authority by the School Board to develop and implement additional procedures and policies that they see necessary in operating the school.

MIDDLE SCHOOL

CURRICULUM

All middle school students are scheduled to take:

“CORE” FULL YEAR COURSES

- Math or Algebra I
- Language Arts
- Science: Physical-6th/Earth-7th/Life-8th
- Social Studies: Ancient History-6th/World Studies-7th/US History-8th
- Reading
- Physical Education
- Technology
- Music: Band/Chorus

“EXPLORATORY” CLASSES – centered on 21st Century Skills

STUDENT SUCCESS CENTER - This program will assist students who are having difficulty passing classes without assistance. Students cannot be in Special Education or on an IEP.

MS GRADING SCALE

A	100-93%	D+	69-67%
A-	92-90%	D	66-63%
B+	89-87%	D-	62-60%
B	86-83%	F	59-0%
B-	82-80%		
C+	79-77%		
C	76-73%		
C-	72-70%		

ELIGIBILITY FOR EXTRA CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

We strive for students to do their best in the classroom, and it is a privilege, not a right, to participate in the North Union academic, athletic, and music programs.

Students will have grade checks during the mid-term of each of the four quarters, and they will receive report cards four times a year. The penalty is as follows:

- **Students who receive an F grade at mid-term or at the end of the quarters will be ineligible for one (1) week (on a week by week basis) immediately following**

notification. Students will become eligible once a student has a passing grade. After one week the student could be eligible and begin participation.

- Students receiving an F grade for a semester will be ineligible for 30 days.

GOOD CONDUCT

Students caught in possession of tobacco or alcohol, or caught cheating, stealing or violating the law will be subjected to the following penalties:

- First Offense – Ineligible for two (2) weeks and required to do three (3) hours of school service
- Second Offense – Ineligible for four (4) weeks & ten (10) hours of school service
- Third Offense – Ineligible for one calendar year

HONOR ROLL

There will be an honor roll posted for all four grading periods. A student must achieve a “B” average (3.0 or above) for the quarter, & we will also recognize students who have a perfect 4.0.

TECHNOLOGY

All 6th – 8th students will have technology available as needed in each classroom.

MIDDLE SCHOOL ACTIVITIES

All North Union Middle School activities are scheduled to be at Swea City except for the track meets which will be held in Armstrong. Practices will start at 3:15 & end at 5:00. Wednesday night there are no games or matches scheduled.

There is no admission fee to middle school activities.

7th/8th Football

7th/8th Volleyball

7th/8th Cross Country

7th/8th Wrestling

7th/8th Boys Basketball

7th/8th Girls Basketball

7th/8th Boys Track

7th/8th Girls Track

6th Band

7th/8th Band

6th Chorus

7th/8th Chorus

6th - 8th Quiz Bowl

7th/8th Show Choir

COACHES & EXTRA CURRICULAR ASSIGNMENTS

Athletic Director	Steve Ryan
Football	Adam Fisher
Football	Steve Ryan
Volleyball	Cortney Stevens and Kelsie Johnson
Cross Country	Chris Hansen
Boys Basketball	
Girls Basketball	
Wrestling	Gavin Morpew
Girls Track	Joe Johnson
Boys Track	
HS Baseball	
HS Softball	Kim Price
HS Wrestling	Joe Johnson
Student Council	Brooks Walter
Yearbook	Sierra Deling
Quiz Bowl	Brooks Walter
Math Bee	Chris Hansen

FOOD AND DRINK IN THE BUILDING

Individual teachers may allow students to have food and drinks in their classrooms at their discretion. Our school district encourages healthy food and drink. Students are expected to properly dispose of all waste. Students at any time may lose this privilege if they do not dispose of the waste or display any other inappropriate action concerning their food and/or drink.

ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

ELEMENTARY CURRICULUM

CORE SUBJECTS

Reading

Math

Science

Social Studies

Language Arts

Writing

SPECIALS:

Physical Education- 30 minutes 2 times a week

Music- 30 minutes 2 times a week

Library- 30 minutes 1 time a week

Guidance- 30 minutes 1 time a week

Art – 30 minutes 1 time a week

ELEMENTARY PROGRAMS

PBIS- Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports

Second Steps (Social and Emotional Learning)

BIRTHDAY TREATS AND INVITATIONS

If birthday treats are sent to school, please have them here for break or the last period of the day. When treats are brought, a treat should be brought for every child in the classroom. NO homemade treats, please!

Invitations for birthday parties may not be handed out in school unless each student in invited (all boys or all girls depending on the sex of the birthday person). **If all students are not invited, the invitations should NOT be handed out at school.** Please note that the parent/guardian will be responsible for transporting students for birthday parties. You will not be able to rely on the school's transportation.

CLASSROOM PARTIES

Special day observance may be arranged by individual classroom teachers.

LIBRARY

The elementary library has been established for the student's use and each child is encouraged to take full advantage of the facility.

Students may have 2 books checked out at any one time. Library books are loaned for 2 weeks at a time and may be renewed if necessary. After 2 weeks, books are considered to be overdue and it is the students' responsibility to return or pay for replacement of their book(s).

PLAYGROUND RULES

The playground areas are designated by the supervisors and may vary depending on the weather and condition of the playground area. Rules for the Playground are:

- I am a responsible learner.
- I respect myself, other and property.
- I am courteous.
- I will act in a safe way.
- I will ask permission to return to the building.
- I will not slide on the ice, throw snowballs, and play king of the mountain, tackle or touch football, or other games of this type.
- Boots need to be worn when muddy or snowy conditions.

Note: It is a good idea for the younger children to have an extra pair of sock and pants at school during the winter and spring months. Hats and gloves are necessary as well.

POP, JUICE, CANDY, AND FOOD

Pop, juice, candy and food are **NOT** permitted in classes unless it is part of an occasional day's lesson. Some elementary classes will have a designated snack time, which students will be allowed to bring a healthy snack. Pop, juice, candy and food are not allowed in student lockers. Water may be consumed in classes with teacher approval.

Anti-Harassment/Bullying Complaint Form

Name of Complainant: _____

Date of Complaint: _____

Name of Alleged Harasser or Bully: _____

Date & place of incident or incidents: _____

Description of misconduct: _____

Name of witnesses (if any): _____

Evidence of harassment or bullying, i.e., letters, photos, etc.: _____

Any other information: _____

I agree that all of the information on this form is accurate and true to the best of my knowledge.

Signature: _____

Date: _____