



Haverhill High School



Student Handbook 2025-2026

Haverhill High School
137 Monument Street
Haverhill, MA 01832

Principal's Message

To Haverhill High School Students, Parents and Guardians:

Welcome and welcome back everyone. Last year we made great strides in our operations and connecting to students. Our goal is to continue improving operations and procedures that will make this school safer and more efficient. Additionally, continue to make connections and find ways to connect instruction to all students. This document reflects many of these new operations and procedures.

As a team we reviewed this entire document to make our expectations clearer for students, staff and families. Each new procedure and policy is aligned with the core values of Haverhill High School. You will notice that consequences for actions are not clearly spelled out. The purpose is to allow the administration the discretion to do what is best for that student. However, please note the administration team is and will be calibrated in terms of procedures and consequences to make things as fair and consistent as possible. As it is difficult to provide an all-inclusive document that captures all incidents that may occur at the high school, it serves as a supplement to the decision making of the faculty and administrative team at Haverhill High School.

Whether you are a new parent/caregiver or one who has been with us before, please review this document with your student(s). The overall intent of the Student Handbook is to assist in providing an environment that best supports teaching and student learning. While all your inquiries may not be included in this document, a directory is included and will assist you in contacting the appropriate staff member.

Safety is paramount for everyone in the school; hence, the primary focus on changes is protocols and procedures. My primary job and focus is the safety of all and therefore we are implementing changes that will help us, along with the cooperation of the staff, students and families. Social probation and the restorative practice to get off of social probation are to serve as reminders that participation/attendance of any athletic event and/or club/activity are privileges. How students perform in school and follow our core values will determine access to those privileges. Students who do the right thing day in and day out and have earned those privileges should be recognized with participation/attendance. Additionally, everyone should be aware that excessive absences and tardies will negatively impact academic performance and prohibit participation in athletics and clubs.

The main message of accountability and fairness leads me to my final remarks. My staff and team are here to connect with students and this document will serve as the base for expectations for all of us. I hope your student(s) take advantage of the many great opportunities to join clubs and to participate on athletic teams that are listed in the Student Handbook. You will find that participation in these activities will assist you in making life-long connections.

Sincerely,

Michael J. Downs
Principal Haverhill High School

Table of Contents

Introduction

Principal's Message.....	2
HHS Core Values.....	5
HHS Expectations for Learning.....	5
Statement on Parent Responsibilities.....	6

Activities and Organizations

Class Officers.....	6
Student Council Officers and Class Representatives.....	7
Code of Class Officers and Student Council.....	7
National Honor Societies.....	8
Student Identification.....	9
Athletic Information.....	9

Facilities and Services

School Counseling.....	12
Financial Aid and Scholarships.....	13
Tests Administered.....	14
Health Services.....	15
Lost & Found.....	16
Cafeteria.....	16
School Store.....	17
Student Support Services.....	17
Special Education Services.....	17
Schedule Adjustment Procedure.....	17
Student Employment & Working Papers.....	19
Summer Credit Recovery Program.....	19

Academic Policies

Graduation Requirements.....	19
Guidelines for Promotion.....	20
Advanced Placement Program.....	20
Grading Practices.....	21
Class Rank and GPA.....	22
Honor Roll.....	22
Independent Study Course.....	22
Internet Use Policy.....	23
Acceptable Use Policy.....	23

Attendance Policies

Documented and Undocumented Absences.....	24
Automated Call System.....	24
Tardiness.....	25
Dismissal.....	25
Makeup Provisions.....	25

Student Conduct Regarding General Conduct and Procedures

A. Cooperation in Class.....	25
B. Conduct with Others.....	26
C. Lunch Period Procedures and Conduct.....	26
D. Rules of Dress.....	26
E. School Lockers.....	27
F. Automobiles and Motorized Vehicles.....	27
G. Appropriate Use of Personal Electronic Devices.....	28
H. HPS Student Technology Device Policy.....	29
I. Food and Drink.....	31

Additional Rules and Procedures

A. Student IDs.....	31
B. Student Passes.....	31
C. Visitors to School.....	31
D. Bus Rules.....	32
E. School Dances.....	32
F. Cheating / Plagiarism.....	32

Public Safety Rules, Regulations and Laws

A. Weapons.....33
B. Smoking and Use of Tobacco.....33
C. Drugs, Alcohol and Other Intoxicants..... 33
D. Drug Paraphernalia.....33
E. Fire Safety Rules.....33
F. Lockdown, Evacuation, and Fire Drills.....33
G. False Fire Alarm.....34
H. Vandalism and Property Damage.....34
I. Physical Abuse, Assault, Assault and Battery.....34
J. Insubordinate/Uncooperative Conduct in Crisis Situation.....34
K. Gambling.....34
L. Backpacks.....34
M. Bomb Threats35

Guidelines for Communication with Staff

Guidelines for Students, Parents, and Guardians for Communications with Staff.....35

Student Conduct and Discipline

A. Basic Guidelines.....35
B. Detention.....35
C. Student Discipline.....36
D. Disciplinary Procedures.....39
 1. Social Probation.....39
 2. Suspension.....40
 3. In-School Suspension.....40
 4. Academic Opportunities During Suspension/Expulsion.....40
 5. Student Due Process Rights.....41
 6. Discipline of Students with Disabilities.....43
 7. Police Action.....45
 8. Search and Seizure.....45

Academic Calendar and School Day Schedule

Academic Calendar.....46
Bell Schedule 25-26.....47
School Cancellation & Delayed Opening.....48
Early Dismissal.....48

Staff Directory

HHS Administration.....49
FAQs & People to Contact.....50
School and Community Support Services.....51

State and Federal Legislation

1. Rights of Privacy.....52
2. Drug-Free School Zones.....52
3. Tobacco.....52
4. Motor Vehicles.....53
5. Hazing.....53
6. Compliance Statement and Discipline Statutes.....53
7. Felony Complaints and Convictions.....54
8. Discrimination - Title IX.....55
9. Physical Restraint.....58
10. Student Educational Records.....60
11. The Family Education Rights Privacy Act (FERPA).....60
12. Notification:603 CMR 23.10.....61
13. Notification:603 CMR 26.05(1).....62
14. Protection of Pupil Rights Amendment.....62
15. Student Photographs and Issues of Privacy.....62
16. Harassment Policy.....63
17. Prohibition Against Bullying.....63
18. McKinney-Vento Homeless Students: Enrollment Rights & Services..64
19. Educational Stability for Students in Foster Care.....65
 Student/Parent Sign off Page.....67

🌀 Haverhill High School Core Values 🌀

Hillies are...

Global

Responsible

Engaged

Accepting

Tenacious

🌀 Haverhill High School 21st Century Expectations for Learning 🌀

Academic

1. Students will communicate by listening, writing, and speaking clearly and effectively in a variety of formats.
2. Students will apply critical thinking skills to solve problems that relate to real world application.
3. Students will use technology to research, solve problems, and design presentations, documents, and other products in a legal and ethical fashion.

Social

1. Students will embody the core values at Haverhill High School by being global, responsible, engaged, accepting, and tenacious in our school and community.

Civic

1. Students will demonstrate an understanding of civic responsibilities with a global perspective and in our local community.

Statement on Parent Responsibilities

It is the responsibility of parents/guardians to help ensure proper discipline and attendance in the school by:

1. Reading discipline policy themselves, explaining policy to their child, and acknowledging they have received policy and done so.
2. Showing interest in their child's school progress and working with school personnel to solve disciplinary and academic problems.
3. Getting to know their child's school, its staff, curriculum, programs, and activities; attending parent teacher conferences and school-parent functions.
4. Assisting their child in maintaining good health habits and grooming.
5. Making sure their child goes to school, on time, every day unless their child is ill or has a contagious disease or family emergency.
6. Following the state attendance law which requires that all persons between the ages of 6 and 16 must be enrolled in an approved education program.
7. Contacting the school, explain why their child is absent, and provide absent notes within 5 days or they may not be accepted.
8. Teaching their child, by word and example, respect for the law, for school, and for the rights and property of others.
9. Providing their child with the resources needed to complete class work.
10. Discussing quarterly progress reports, report cards and work assignments with their child.
11. Providing an updated list of home, work, cell, and additional emergency contacts and telephone numbers for the school.
12. Notifying the school of any medical concerns or special circumstances the school should know about.
13. Supporting the behavior and academic expectations of the school.
14. Ensuring that students are properly immunized (per 105 CMR 220.000).

Activities and Organizations

Class Officers

Class of 2026

Advisor: Ms. A. Aloisi

President: Sophia Lee

Vice President: Asher Snay

Secretary: Isabella Aloisi

Treasurer: Madonna Maldonado

Executive Committee: Brian Story

Executive Committee: Ava Xagaras

Class of 2027

Advisors: Ms. S. Aiello & Ms. S Harrison

President: Cameron Fawcett

Vice President: Irving Taveras

Secretary: Kiernan Doody

Treasurer: Bobby Caron

Executive Committee: Bella Nieves,
Keira Drouin, Aya Elkadmiri, Lauryn Calkins

Class of 2028

Advisor: Mrs. L. Fallon

President: Jacob Dube

Vice President: Graydon England

Secretary: Kaylee Mena

Treasurer: Vintage Veth

Executive Officer: Cadence Arivella

Executive Officer: Sadie Campbell

Class of 2029

Advisor: TBA

President: To Be Elected

Vice President: To Be Elected

Secretary: To Be Elected

Treasurer: To Be Elected

Student Council

The Student Council is an organization that serves as liaison between the school administration, the faculty, and the student body. Students with concerns and suggestions should express them regularly at scheduled Student Council meetings.

All activities of any school organization must be submitted to an Assistant Principal for review. Application forms for activities are available in the Main Office.

In addition to serving as a clearinghouse for student activities, the Student Council will be responsible for the following functions:

1. To work as a group with the school administration in regard to recommending changes and innovations in school policy;
2. To work as a service organization for the school and community;
3. To provide social activities for the student body in general;
4. To work in conjunction with all Class Executive Committees for coordinating activities;
5. To work with and in support of all student groups.

Student Council Officers

President: Molly Jordan

Vice President: Khoi Nguyen Le

Secretary: Edward Feoli

Treasurer: Aliza Ahmed

Students who participate in extracurricular clubs and activities, including Class Officers, Student Council and Student School Advisory Council, are expected to maintain exemplary conduct as representatives of Haverhill High School. Eligibility for such student activities and clubs is identical to the eligibility requirements for the athletics program of HHS. Participating students are expected to maintain their commitments to the programs through full participation.

Code of Class Officers and Student Council

Being a Class Officer or Student Council Representative is an enormous responsibility. We believe students should lead by example and be held to high standards of academic performance, ethics, and behavior.

The following applies to any student who runs for an office or who currently serves as a class officer or Student Council Representative.

Failure to adhere to any of the terms outlined below will result in immediate withdrawal of the nomination or the removal from office.

Grades - Academics should come first in all aspects of your high school career.

- A student can fail or be failing **no more than one course** during the year they run for office or the year they serve
- A student can have a D average in **no more than two courses** during the year they run for office or the year they serve

Attendance

- If a student has excessive absences, they will be precluded from running for office or they will be removed from office.

Behavior

- Any suspensions may result in disqualification from running for office, or removal from office
- Any serious out-of-school incidents will be reviewed by advisors and administration and may result in disqualification or removal from office

Ethics

- Any incident of cheating or [plagiarism](#) will result in immediate disqualification from nomination, or removal from office

Election of Class Officers and Student Council

- Elections will be run by the Student Council members and their advisor(s). All candidates for Class Office will have an opportunity to have posters run off by class advisors and have an opportunity to share a written statement (up to 150 words) with the students of their class in a manner determined by the Student Council.
- Students are eligible to run for Class Office and Student Council simultaneously. However, to promote greater participation from the student body, students who are successfully elected to both Class Office and Student Council will be asked to choose one office to hold.
- Candidates who are elected will be sworn in at Senior Chapel each year.

Removal from Office

- Any student removed from candidacy or office under terms of behavior and/or ethics, is no longer eligible to run for any office. Students removed for attendance or grades, may run for office in the future if they meet the criteria.
- Any Class Officer or Student Council member who is absent without acceptable excuse from more than two (2) meetings per quarter may be removed from office.
- The removal and replacement from Class Office or the Student Council will involve consultation with remaining class officers, class advisors and administration.
- If the class president is to be removed from office, the vice president would take over.
- If the Vice President, Secretary, or Treasurer is to be removed, then the next Officer in line will be given the right to move up to the vacant office, if he/she chooses. If that Officer refuses the right to move up, then the office will be offered to the next Officer, including the members of the Executive Committee, until the vacant office is filled. If none of the existing Officers wish to serve in the higher office, then the existing Class Officers and their Advisor(s) can appoint a new officer from the list of Class Officer candidates, beginning with candidates for the vacant office, from the most recent election.
- If, at any time, the Executive Committee offices are vacant, and there is a need for them to be filled, the Class Advisor can appoint students to fill those vacancies until the next election.

Failure to Fulfill Duties

- Class Officers or Student Council members who do not complete the responsibilities of their position as listed on their signed obligation sheet, may be removed from their positions.

National Honor Society

Haverhill High School is proud to offer students membership in eight different Honor Societies: National Honor Society, Business Honor Society, Fine Arts Honor Society, Foreign Language National Honor Society, National English Society, National Science Society, Rho Kappa (History Honor Society) and HHS Honor Society.

The purpose of these societies is to recognize students who have excelled in areas of scholarship, leadership, character, and service. They are organizations sponsored by the National Association of Secondary School Principals (NASSP), which provides the national guidelines for these organizations.

All eligible students for these Societies will be notified of such and given the opportunity to apply. A faculty council composed of members of the HHS staff will assist these societies in selection and general oversight of guidelines.

To be eligible to apply for membership, National Honor Society students must meet the following criteria by the **end of the first semester of their junior year:**

- Minimum 7.3 weighted GPA.
- Overall attendance of 90% or more
- Minimum of 15 documented community service hours. This will be implemented on a rolling basis as follows:
 - Class of 2026 - 10 documented hours
 - Class of 2027 & all classes thereafter - 15 documented hours

Any hours submitted for approval must include the name and contact information for a supervisor who can verify the hours if requested.

Student Identification

Students will be issued photo identification cards. For security reasons and for the safety of the student body, **a student is expected to have on their person their student identification card at all times and will present it upon request from an administrator or staff member.** The identification card **will** be requested before admittance to any function or activity sponsored by the school. The identification card will be shown when materials are borrowed from the library or guidance office. **It will also be used in the school lunch program.** Students who do not have an ID should go to the appropriate grade level AP Office to replace. **Misuse of ID card/ticket may result in disciplinary action.**

Under Mass School Records Regulations, 603 CMR 23.07 (4) (a) Haverhill High School may release the following information without prior consent of the eligible student or parent: a student's name, address, telephone listing, date and place of birth, major field of study, dates of attendance, weight and height of athletics team members, class (YOG), participation in officially recognized activities and sports, degrees, honors and awards, and post-high school plans. However, if parents or students 18 years of age or older wish to withhold such consent, they may do so by making contact with the high school main office, 978-374-5700.

Athletics Information

Haverhill High School sponsors a broad-based athletics program, offering 35 sports programs and fielding over 55 different teams. All programs are also governed by rules of the Massachusetts Interscholastic Athletic Association (MIAA) and the Merrimack Valley Conference (MVC).

The materials outlined below define some of the policies and procedures for all students participating in our High School Athletic program. Additional Rules and Regulations can be found in the MIAA Handbook and Haverhill Parent/Student-Athlete Guide.

Fall Season

Cheerleading (Football)
Cross-Country, B/G
Crew, B/G Football, (V/JV/FR)
Field Hockey, (V/JV/FR) Soccer, B/G, (V/JV)
Golf, B/G, Volleyball, G (V/JV/FR)
Swimming, G
Unified Basketball

Winter Season

Basketball, B/G (V/JV/FR) Wrestling (V/JV)
Ice Hockey, B (V/JV), G (V) Skiing, B/G
Swimming, B Indoor Track, B/G
Cheerleading (Basketball) Gymnastics

Spring Season

Baseball, (V/JV/FR) Softball, (V/JV/FR)
Tennis, B/G Track and Field, B/G
Volleyball, B (V/JV) Lacrosse, B/G, (V/JV)
Crew, B/G Unified Track and Field

Starting Dates

Fall Season: August 15, 2025, for Football, Other Sports August 18, 2025

Winter Season: December 1, 2025

Spring Season: March 16, 2026

Participation Requirements

Student-athletes and parents must submit the following prior to participation:

- **Participation Packet** – includes HHS Permission Form, Medical History and NRH Consent.
- **ArxEd Course** – All student-athletes must complete the ArxEd online education course prior to participating.
- **Physical Examination** - Student-athletes must present a valid physical on an annual basis. Physicals are valid for 13 months. Any student who has an expired or invalid physical will NOT be permitted to participate under any circumstances. Updated physicals should be submitted online or to the athletic department office through the course of the year. Physical examinations must be performed by a duly registered physician, physician's assistant, or nurse practitioner.

Haverhill High School is proud to announce that all user fees have been removed for the 2025/2026 school year.

Academic Eligibility

A student must secure during the last marking period preceding the contest (e.g. second quarter marks and not semester grades determine third quarter eligibility) a passing grade, and full credit, in the equivalent of four traditional yearlong major English courses. A transfer student may not gain academic eligibility if he/she was not, or would not be, eligible at the sending school, unless transfer was necessitated by a move of parents and then eligibility would be determined by receiving school's eligibility standards. (see Rule 57.7.1)

A student cannot at any time represent a school unless that student is taking courses which would provide Carnegie Units equivalent to four traditional yearlong major English courses.

To be eligible for the fall marking period, students are required to have passed and received full credits for the previous academic year, the equivalent of four traditional yearlong major English courses, per MIAA. Any summer school class should replace a course they failed to earn the fourth credit. The student cannot take an additional, different class to earn that fourth credit.

Academic eligibility of all students shall be considered as official and determined on the published date when the report cards for that ranking period are to be issued to the parents of all students within a particular class.

Department of Athletics Disciplinary Policies

All school rules and regulations are in effect for our athletes. In addition, the Department of Athletics has more stringent disciplinary measures and rules. Student-athletes must adhere to all rules set forth in the Parent/Student-Athlete Guide. Student-athletes involved in conduct deemed detrimental to the reputation of the school, team, or activity, will be reprimanded and could be suspended from the team. Additionally, student athletes will be held accountable to the following standards of behavior:

1. *Chemical Health*

From the earliest fall practice date, to the conclusion of the academic year or final athletic event (whichever is latest), a student shall not, regardless of the quantity, use, consume, possess, buy/sell, or give away any beverage containing alcohol; any tobacco product(including e-cigarettes, VAPE pens and all similar devices); marijuana (including synthetic); steroids; or any controlled substance. This policy includes

products such as “NA or near beer,” inhalants (defined as any substance that produces a mind-altering effect when inhaled), and misuse of over-the-counter medications and substances used for the purposes of altering one’s mental state. It is not a violation for a student to be in possession of a legally defined drug specifically prescribed for the student’s own use by his/her doctor.

This MIAA statewide minimum standard is not intended to render “guilt by association”, e.g. many student-athletes might be present at a party where only a few violate this standard. This rule represents only a minimum standard upon which schools may develop more stringent requirements. If a student in violation of this rule is unable to participate in interscholastic sports due to injury or academics, the penalty will not take effect until that student is able to participate again.

Minimum PENALTIES:

First violation: When the Principal confirms, following an opportunity for the student to be heard, that a violation occurred, the student shall lose eligibility for the next consecutive interscholastic contests (regular season and tournament) totaling 25% of all interscholastic contests in that sport. No exception is permitted for a student who becomes a participant in a treatment program. It is recommended that the student be allowed to remain at practice for the purpose of rehabilitation. During the suspension the disqualified student may not be in uniform and his/her attendance at the competition site is determined by the high school principal. All decimal part of an event will be truncated i.e. All fractional part of an event will be dropped when calculating the 25% of the season.

Second and subsequent violations: When the Principal confirms, following an opportunity for the student to be heard, that a violation occurred, the student shall lose eligibility for the next consecutive interscholastic contests (regular season and tournament) totaling 60% of all interscholastic contests in that sport. All decimal part of an event will be truncated i.e. All fractional parts of an event will be dropped when calculating the 60% of the season.

If after the second or subsequent violations the student of his/her own volition becomes a participant in an approved chemical dependency program or treatment program, the student may be certified for reinstatement in MIAA activities after a minimum of 40% of events provided the student was fully engaged in the program throughout that penalty period. The high school principal in collaboration with a Chemical Dependency Program or Treatment Program must certify that the student is attending or issue a certificate of completion. If a student does not complete the program, the penalty reverts back to 60% of the season. All decimal part of an event will be truncated i.e. All fractional parts of an event will be dropped when calculating the 40% of the season.

Penalties shall be cumulative each academic year, but serving the penalty could carry over for one year. Or, if the penalty period is not completed during the season of violation, the penalty shall carry over to the student’s next season of actual participation, which may affect the eligibility status of the student during the next academic year (e.g. A student plays only football: he violates the rule in winter and/or the spring of same academic year: he would serve the penalty [ies] during the fall season of the next academic year). If a student is not an athletic participant for one full year after affirmation of a violation, then the penalty period would close and the student would face no consequence. Prior to any chemical health violation a student's request for and enrollment in a substance abuse treatment shall not in and of itself constitute a violation of the chemical health/alcohol/drugs/tobacco Rule 62.

2. *School Equipment*

Student-athletes are responsible for proper care and maintenance of all athletic equipment and uniforms issued to them. Athletes will be charged replacement value for equipment that is lost, stolen or damaged. Stealing property of team members (Haverhill High School or our opponents) will result in expulsion from a team. Failure to turn in equipment at the end of season will render a student ineligible to participate in any other sport until all items are returned. Graduating seniors who do not return equipment will have their names submitted to the Assistant Principal for appropriate action.

3. *Team Rules & Regulations*

At the start of each season a coach, with the approval of the athletic director, may issue a set of team rules and regulations. It is recommended that these be in written form and distributed to all team members. These rules, which are not to be in conflict with any regulations of the High School or MIAA, may vary to reflect the program philosophy, the nature of the sport and the

practice/competition schedule. Coaches may immediately suspend athletes from participation for violations of any rules and regulations.

Procedures

1. Class Attendance Policy

An athlete must be in attendance in school before 8:00 a.m. and must stay in school for the entire school day in order to participate in practice sessions or contests. The Director of Athletics will assess extenuating circumstances on an individual basis. Students who are chronically tardy or absent, in season or out-of-season, will not be allowed to participate in our programs.

2. School Suspensions

Students who have been suspended from their regular classes (either in-house/Educational Resource Center or out-of-house) are not eligible to practice or compete until the day following their last day of suspension. A suspended student is ineligible for practice or competition for at least the number of days (or partial days) equal to the number of days of the suspension.

For further information on participation in athletics, please refer to the Haverhill Parent/Student Athlete Guide on www.haverhillhillies.com. If you have any questions, please contact the Department of Athletics at (978) 374-5732 or athletics@haverhill-ps.org.

Facilities and Services

School Counseling Program

A comprehensive program of guidance services and activities is provided to help students understand themselves, their abilities and interests, and to enhance their educational experience within the school system. Administration, school counselors, teachers, and students work together to promote the best interests of the school and the individual student.

Each student is assigned to a school counselor upon entering the high school based upon last name. The intent is for counselors to be assigned to the same students for all four years. As a student, you are entitled to and should seek out the counseling services and other assistance that is provided in the school counseling office. Students are encouraged to email their counselors directly, set up an appointment with the Guidance Clerks through email or in person in the Guidance Office and seek assistance when it is the least disruptive to the core class schedule. Counselors will hold workshops, in class lessons, parent/guardian nights for advising, be available for conferences and many opportunities to connect with students and families.

The focus of the school counselor is to work with the students and their parents/guardians in matters pertaining to educational, vocational, personal, emotional, and social issues. This could include adjustment to school, registering for courses, placement in classes, college and career exploration, testing, tutoring, and personal/emotional concerns. The counselors have access to a wide variety of community and collegiate resources in order to provide the students with the best possible options for all their needs.

Students can make an appointment with their counselor by visiting the School Counseling Office in the L Wing before or after school. Parents are encouraged to call or email their child's counselor to make an appointment to discuss any areas of concern. Conferences may be arranged before or after school or at designated time during the school day. Please note if an appointment is scheduled during the school day the parent/guardian must have state issued identification (driver's license, state ID) in order to gain access to the building. The office is diligent about tending to requests and will respond in a timely manner.

Course Selection

Students meet with their counselors during January-February regarding choosing courses for the following school year. It is recommended that families discuss course levels and options with their student along with the teachers. Recommendations will be made by the student's teachers regarding the appropriateness of leveling for the next school year. If a student and/or parent/guardian has a concern about the level, they must contact the teacher and put in writing the concerns particularly if a level change is requested. Students are encouraged to meet with their counselor to seriously consider electives for interest, ability and future plans. Schedules will be reviewed in the spring and made available to students at the end of the summer to be viewed on the student portal. Course selection is done prior to the

end of the year to avoid any disruptions to schedules in the fall. There is a small window for changes to be made prior to the add/drop deadline in which a “W” may be issued for withdrawing from a course. Yet, changes are discouraged unless it is a level change and/or students and families go through the proper channels of a course change. We encourage families and students to take active participation in their academic journey, understanding future plans, course levels, GPA/Rank and in monitoring graduation requirements. *Please review schedule adjustment procedure on page 17.

Conferences with College Representatives

In the fall, individual college representatives make appointments to meet with interested HHS students, yet schools will visit with an opportunity for students to sign up.. A list of admission counselors visiting each fall is available on Naviance, under the Colleges tab. These visits afford students the opportunity to speak one-on-one with admissions officers at a particular college to learn about academic offerings, the application process, scholarships/financial aid, and more. Students need to be in good standing, connect with their teacher and make up any missed work if attending college visits.

Additionally, the department hosts a Post Secondary Expo available for all students during lunches. Representatives from colleges, universities, technical programs, and branches of the armed services are in attendance to speak with interested students and parents.

Notification for these events are made by announcements, flyers, and School Messenger phone calls and emails. Additionally, all scheduled department events can be found on the HHS calendar.

Financial Aid and Scholarships

In view of the ever-increasing costs of college, families are encouraged to take advantage of all resources available to help finance their child’s higher education. The department partners with MEFA (Massachusetts Educational Financing Authority) to bring parents and students the most up-to-date information and assistance regarding financial aid for college. Parents are able to access this information from the school counseling website or by visiting the following:

- www.mefa.org
- www.fafsa.ed.gov
- www.collegeboard.org

As a service to families, the school counseling department sponsors various Financial Aid Workshops each year with personnel from MEFA and other professional organizations to assist families in the process of securing financial aid and the preparation of the FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) and the CSS-PROFILE.

Scholarships from other sources: Throughout the year, local, state, and national organizations notify HHS about various scholarship opportunities for our students. These scholarships are primarily from business, industrial, professional, and fraternal organizations. Criteria for these awards are usually based on academic achievement, community service, test scores, essays, and leadership qualities. These scholarships are publicized and updated weekly on HHS Naviance Family Connection and can be accessed through a student’s individual Naviance account. It is the responsibility of the student to regularly check Naviance Family Connection for updates and deadlines, and to pursue these opportunities. Counselors are available to offer any assistance with this process in regards to information, recommendation letters, and transcripts.

In addition, it is important for families to inquire about scholarships offered by their own employers, fraternal and veteran organizations, and church groups.

Local scholarships for HHS students: In addition to the scholarships on Naviance, numerous local scholarships are also available specifically for Haverhill students at the high school. These scholarships are published yearly on our HHS website with instructions for students as to how to pursue each scholarship. Selection for most of these scholarships is based on need and merit, and upon being awarded, will be announced at the various end of the year ceremonies held for the senior class. Please check the website after January for updates on deadlines and funding. The internal scholarship portal closes for student applications in the beginning of March.

School Counseling Office

Megan Arivella, Supervisor of School Counseling K -12, ext. 1187
Marie Gravel, Principal Clerk 978-374-5700, ext. 1134
Karin Casey, Principal Clerk 978-374-5700, ext. 1182

Tests Administered

Standardized Testing

The following is a summary of the testing programs made available to the students through the school counseling office. Most of this testing is voluntary; however, students who plan to attend college after high school should take full advantage of all the testing opportunities available. These tests are usually a requirement for college admissions, so students must do their research to see what each school or organization requires.

Information about testing will be available on the HHS school counseling website and on Naviance Family Connection, however, it is the responsibility of the student to register for these exams, watch their deadlines, and to research which colleges require additional testing (such as the SAT Subject Test).

The standardized tests recommended by the guidance department are:

- **PSAT/NMSQT- Preliminary Scholastic Aptitude Test and National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test**
- **SAT - Scholastic Aptitude Test**
- **ACT – American College Test**

PSAT/NMSOT- Preliminary Scholastic Aptitude Test and National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test

This two-hour version of the SAT is valuable for practice and to ensure that you are on the right track for college planning. Haverhill High School will be administering the PSAT to all sophomores. Families will have the option to opt out of this testing. This test is available for sophomores and juniors at Haverhill High School. All juniors are HIGHLY ENCOURAGED to take this exam, as it will qualify you for National Merit Scholarship opportunities.

A detailed individual online report is provided to each participant. This online score report will provide summaries of a student's performance in each test and content area, highlight what a student has done well and what he/she should focus on to better prepare for the SAT, and assess college and career readiness via benchmark scores. This test is offered only once per year and will be offered at HAVERHILL HIGH SCHOOL ONLY on the Wednesday testing date. Registration information will be available in the student counseling office at the beginning of each school year. Space is limited and so students are encouraged to sign up early.

SAT- Standardized Aptitude Test - The SAT is a globally recognized college admission test that lets you show colleges what you know and how well you can apply that knowledge. It tests your knowledge of reading, writing, and mathematics subjects that are taught every day in high school classrooms. Most students take the SAT during their junior or senior year of high school, and many colleges and universities use the SAT to make admission decisions. Practice tests, tips, as well as registration information is available at www.collegeboard.org.

MCAS Updates:

Graduation Requirement Changes: As a result of a new law passed in late 2024, passing MCAS tests will no longer be the required method for students to meet the state's Competency Determination to graduate high school, beginning with the class of 2026. *Competency Determination:* Instead of MCAS scores, students will now need to demonstrate competency by satisfactorily completing district-certified coursework. While the graduation requirement has changed, MCAS tests will still be administered in grades 3-8 and high school in 2025 for other purposes. *System Changes:* The Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) is transitioning to new testing systems for MCAS in 2025, including the MCAS Portal and MCAS Student Kiosk

platforms. Specific Tests: In 2025, DESE will be expanding the availability of bilingual Spanish/English MCAS tests for several subjects and grades. Field Tests: DESE plans to field test performance tasks for MCAS Grades 5 and 8 Science and Technology/Engineering (STE) tests in the spring of 2025 and 2026. Competency Determination: At this time, the district continues to review students individually to determine eligibility for a diploma based on certified coursework requirements. Student Participation: Participating in the assessment is important to both our school and community. Student participation helps us understand how our students and school compare to others across the state, allows tracking academic progress over time, and identifies areas where we can improve. The score data also plays a key role in measuring our school's progress toward meeting DESE targets. Additionally, strong MCAS scores can be an indicator of a student's preparedness for college and future careers.

Health Services

Health Services are available to all high school students for in-school injuries, illnesses, and school-related accidents. Students are assessed by a licensed nurse, and treatment provided as appropriate. In consideration of the importance of time on learning and attendance, every effort will be made to see students in a timely manner in an effort to get students back in class. Feminine hygiene products are readily accessible there, as well.

Medications: Students are not allowed to carry any medicine (over the counter or prescription) in school, *unless* appropriate medication administration documents are on file in the nurse's office, including current physician prescription, parent/guardian permission form, and nurse validation of ability to self-carry. This includes Epi-pens and rescue inhalers. If a student must take medicine during school hours, an order from a licensed physician, and a signed permission form from a parent or guardian must be on file each school year in the nurse's office. All medications must be delivered to the nurse's office by an adult. Medication must be in an original pharmacy labeled container with current prescription. Nurse and student will identify an appropriate time of day for routine medication administration in the nurse's office.

Student Profile Information Sheets must be returned to the main office completely filled out and signed by a parent or guardian immediately after they are received on or before the first day of school. This information is necessary in the event a parent or guardian must be reached during the day. On this information sheet, you may also include additional names and contact numbers in the event of an emergency. Please notify the school of any changes in emergency telephone numbers during the school year.

Absences of five (5) or more consecutive days due to illness require a note from a physician when the student returns to school.

Parents and students with serious student health problems (i.e. diabetes, seizures, etc.) must notify the school nurse annually. Parents are encouraged to call or visit the nurse concerning any student health problems. The telephone number is 374-5700, ext. 1111 or 1112. Parents are notified of needed, required immunizations.

Please observe the following procedures when visiting the Nurse's Office:

1. A student who feels ill must obtain a ***student pass*** from the scheduled teacher to the Nurse's Office.
[Students are not to call their parents to be dismissed prior to seeing the nurse]
2. A student must not report to the Nurse's Office without a pass except in an emergency.
3. A student must not leave school unless dismissed by the school nurse.
4. A student must not fail to attend a class unless permission is granted.
5. Injuries that occur or have occurred other than on school grounds or during school-sponsored activities cannot be treated by the school nurse or other school personnel except in an emergency situation.
6. All accidents or injuries that occur at school or school-sponsored activities must be reported to the school nurse.

Lost & Found

Students who have lost articles should come to the main office to report what they have lost. Articles that are found will be brought to the main office. It is recommended that students visit the main office frequently as the article may not be turned in immediately. If everyone follows this procedure, the return of lost articles to their owners will be expedited.

Cafeteria

Beginning SY19/20, ALL students will receive **FREE** breakfast/lunch.

Note: Students **are NOT permitted** to place outside food orders to be delivered to the school. The food **will be confiscated.**

While school breakfast/lunches are at no cost to all students, all students are issued an ID card/ticket for daily use. **Misuse of ID card/ticket may result in disciplinary action.** Students must present valid ID to receive a breakfast/lunch.

The cafeteria is to be used as a student would use the dining area in his or her own home. Students are responsible for appropriate social behavior in the cafeteria at all times. Trays and empty containers are to be removed and other trash disposed of before students leave the cafeteria. **Students are not to take food or drinks (except water) out of the cafeteria area unless approved by an administrator.** Any inappropriate behavior will result in disciplinary action that may include assigned seating, detention, or suspension. Cooperation of all students is expected. All school rules apply in the cafeteria. Students are only permitted to be in the cafeteria/mall during lunch time. Students who need to leave designated lunch areas must first have administrative permission.

An online payment option called, My School Bucks, will be available at the start of the school year. My School Bucks allows parents to monitor their students' meal history, set spending limits, set-up recurring payments, and receive low-balance e-mail notifications. To enroll, please visit www.MySchoolbucks.com. The district's account number is **122249**. The applications are also available on the Haverhill Public School website under Food Services.

Non-Discrimination Statement: This explains what to do if you believe you have been treated unfairly. In accordance with Federal civil rights and U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) civil rights regulations and policies, the USDA, its Agencies, offices, and employees, and institutions participating in or administering USDA programs are prohibited from discriminating based on race, color, national origin, sex, disability, age or reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity in any program or activity conducted or funded by USDA.

Persons with disabilities who require alternative means of communication for program information (e.g. Braille, large print audiotape, American Sign Language, etc), should contact the Agency (State or local) where they applied for benefits. Individuals who are deaf, hard of hearing or have speech disabilities may contact USDA through the Federal Relay Service at (800) 877-8339. Additionally, program information may be made available in languages other than English.

To file a program complaint of discrimination, complete the USDA program Discrimination Complaint Form, (AD-3027) found online at http://www.ascrusda.gov/complaints_filing_cust.html, and at any USDA office, or write a letter addressed to USDA and provide in the letter all of the information requested in the form. To request a copy of the complaint form, call (866) 632-9992. Submit your completed form or letter to USDA by:

Mail: U.S. Department of Agriculture
Office of Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights
1400 Independence Avenue, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20250-9410

Fax: (202) 690-7442

Email: program.intake@usda.gov

This institution is an equal opportunity provider.

School Store

The Hillies Shop is operated by students in the Learning for Life classes and sells school apparel and supplies. The store is located in the mall between the Library and Cafeteria.

Student Support Services

Special Education Services

Special education services are in place at Haverhill High School to enhance and supplement learning opportunities for eligible students presenting specific needs. Support services are offered in the regular education classroom and in academic support resource centers. In addition to supporting the traditional curriculum, the resource room serves as a setting where students can engage in separate and modified course work. Special education services, including pre-vocational opportunities through a school café, school store and work-study program are available. This area includes both experiential and classroom exposure to the work world. A fulltime subject-oriented resource room is an important part of Special Education Services at Haverhill High School. This resource provides a multi-graded setting where students can meet educational requirements while receiving significant support. In addition, counseling, speech and language therapy, physical therapy and occupational therapy are provided to our students. Such services may be delivered in various combinations. An in-house evaluation team including the student and his or her parents determines service delivery.

Transition planning is an important part of the Special Needs Program. Parents can request further information directly from the Haverhill High Special Needs team. Transition planning is also part of preparation for graduation. During the high school years, the team discusses future goals for living, working and further education. These goals are also part of the Individual Education Plan and may involve adult services providers such as the Department of Developmental Services, the Department of Mental Health and Massachusetts Department of Rehabilitation.

Schedule Adjustment Procedure

The course selection process is designed to create an appropriate and balanced schedule for each student. Graduation requirements, teacher input, and student preferences are all carefully considered during schedule development.

The School Counseling Department encourages students to select their courses thoughtfully each year, as opportunities to change or drop electives are extremely limited once schedules are finalized. Any requests to drop, add, or change classes should be made with careful consideration and are subject to space availability. Changes that are made will be recorded within an internal class change document that counselors have access to. If applicable, grades will be transferred to the receiving class.

Students have an opportunity to add/drop a class during the add/drop time (typically 1 week after school begins and/or second semester starts). Including and after the specified window, the process of parental/guardian/teacher/student communication should occur. Any change made outside of the add/drop time may result in a “W” (withdrawn) placed on the student transcript. Schedule adjustments during the school year should only be made if the following criteria are met:

1. If a level change is requested by teacher, parent/guardian and/or student, the classroom teacher will provide input regarding the student’s classroom performance. The teacher may determine whether or not the student is capable of doing the work assigned as evidenced by supporting data or if a schedule change is appropriate. It is highly recommended that contact is made between parent and teacher to discuss potential changes.
2. If a parent or guardian does not agree with a teacher recommendation during a potential change and/or during the course selection process for the next school year, a parental conference with the teacher is highly recommended and the parent/guardian is asked to put the request in writing. A member of administration will review the statements by classroom teacher and parent or guardian and determine whether an adjustment may be made. If the administrator feels the adjustment is not appropriate, the school counselor will contact the parent. A conference involving the teacher, student, parent, administrator, and school counselor will be arranged.
3. A student must meet with his/her school counselor to discuss a proposed schedule change. If this change in schedule is in regards to switching the level of a class, the conversation must always begin with the student

and the classroom teacher and then communicate with teacher and parent/guardian. If a student is looking to drop a class, they must maintain a minimum of 7 units of credit on his/her schedule.

4. Students who wish to drop a class must continue to attend that class until all criteria are met and their counselor informs them that the class has been changed. They will then receive a new schedule. Students who stop attending class without meeting all criteria will face disciplinary action.

Timeline for Schedule Adjustments

<u>Action</u>	<u>Deadlines</u>	<u>Requirements</u>	<u>Important Comments and Notes</u>
Course Changes	6 th day of course	Parent signature Student must present solid rationale for the course change	Acceptable Rationale: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Scheduling errors ● Final Summer School adjustments ● Misplaced levels ● Career goal changes for which a course change is absolutely necessary. ● Student previously failed the same course with the same teacher
Add Courses	6 th day of course	As in “Course Changes” above	Full year and semester courses can only be added within the first 6 days of the semester
Drop Half Year Courses	End of the 5 th week of Semester 1 or Semester 2	Documents/confirmation from: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Teacher ● Parent/Guardian ● School Counselor ● Supervisor of School Counseling 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● A student cannot drop a course if dropping course will result in less than 7 classes ● The request is made after the deadline ● The proper communications are not documented
Drop Full Year Courses	End of Semester 1	As in “Drop Changes” above	As Above
Change Levels for Half Year Courses	End of the 5 th week of Semester 1 or Semester 2	Documents/confirmation from: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Teacher ● Parent/Guardian ● School Counselor ● Supervisor of School Counseling 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Change of levels will be done if students demonstrate clearly that the level they are seeking is consistent with their documented ability. ● Students must first discuss their reasons for the level change with the teacher.
Change Levels for Full Year Courses	End of Semester 1	As in “Change Levels” above	As Above

Student Employment & Working Papers

Enrolled Haverhill High School students aged 14-17 are required to have working papers when seeking employment. Applications for working papers may be obtained at the School Department Central Administrative Office, located at City Hall, 4 Summer Street, Room 104, during the hours 2:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m. Monday-Friday, or, during the school year, at HHS in the Main Office, M-Wing, S-Wing, F-Wing and C- Wing offices. All applicants must present evidence of their chronological age, and that they have successfully completed grade 6.

Summer Credit Recovery Program

Haverhill High School Summer Credit Recovery Program (SCRP) is a four-week session beginning soon after the close of the academic school year. Offerings are contingent upon the number of course registrations and the availability of instructors. Students from schools other than Haverhill High School may attend. The objectives of the SCRCP are as follows:

1. To give students an opportunity to make up work failed during the regular school year. SCRCP is offered as an opportunity for students to make up classes in which a “good faith effort has been made to pass.”
2. To raise grades in sequential subjects, thus permitting a student to continue with the subject.
3. To preview and/or review courses for self-education.

The question of course credit, in every instance, is to be resolved by school administration. A printed announcement describing school rules is distributed the first day of the program.

Academic Policies

Beginning with the class of 2025 and later, twenty (20) credits are required for graduation. All students must satisfy the graduation requirements listed below. Instead of MCAS scores, students will now need to demonstrate competency(CD) by satisfactorily completing district-certified coursework. All students are strongly encouraged to meet the MassCore graduation requirements set forth by the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education. **MassCore is a state recommended, rigorous program of study that aligns high school course work with college and workforce expectations.** MassCore requires an additional credit in Mathematics, one credit in both World Language and Fine Arts, and two and a half additional courses, for a total of 24 credits.

Area of Study	HHS Class of 2026 and beyond Credits 20 total for graduation (24 for Mass Core Completion)
English (I, II, III, IV)	4.0
Social Studies	3.0
Mathematics (*Must include Algebra II)	3.0
Lab-based Science	3.0
Fine Arts	1.0 or World Language*
World Languages (*Must be the same language)	1.0 or Fine Arts*
Wellness	2.0**
Electives (*can include technology and/or school-to-career. A 4th year of Math is strongly encouraged)	4.0
Additional Mass Core credits (*Must be from technology, school-to career, business, or additional core academic areas)	--- 5.0 (for 24 credit completion)

*Note: Graduation requirements subject to change with School Committee approval. ** Required by law*

Guidelines for Promotion for 2025-2026:

For Class of 2026 and beyond:

Grade 9 to 10: Earn 5 credits **and** pass both English I **and** Algebra I

Grade 10 to 11: Earn 10 accumulated credits **and** pass English II

Grade 11 to 12: Earn 15 accumulated credits **and** pass English III

All seniors are required to submit an Exit Portfolio to their English teacher as a final exam requirement. The portfolio must demonstrate that the student has sufficient language art skills to pass senior English and earn a diploma from Haverhill High School.

Advanced Placement Program

Are you ready for a unique learning experience that will help you succeed in college? Through AP's college level courses and exams, students can potentially earn college credit, stand out in the admission process, and build the skills needed in the college years. Advanced Placement classes provide students with a rigorous curriculum where students engage in intense discussions, solve problems collaboratively, strengthen study habits and time management skills, and prepare students for the academic expectations of future college classes.

Haverhill High School offers a rich program of Advanced Placement courses designed for students who wish to pursue this unique learning experience. In addition to courses taught at HHS, students also have the option to take AP courses offered through Edgenuity.

Many colleges/universities in the United States award student's college credit, allow students to place out of introductory courses and move directly into upper-level classes, or both on the basis of AP Exam Scores. By entering college with AP credits, students may have additional openings in their schedule for a second major or minor, taking extra electives, or pursuing other interests such as study abroad.

All students who enroll in and participate in an AP course at Haverhill High School must take the AP exam administered in May of the school year. This exam is NOT optional. There are NO fees for these exams.

Advanced Placement Exams (AP)

AP Exams are offered in May to all students who have participated in an AP course throughout the school year, either at the high school or online through Edgenuity. There are currently 17 AP courses offered at HHS, with the opportunity to take other classes not offered at HHS online through Edgenuity. Students who enroll in any AP course at HHS or through Edgenuity are required to sit for and take the corresponding AP exam in May. This is not optional. It is important to note that students who do not take the AP exam will also lose the AP credit and weight on their transcript, which could impact grade point average and class rank.

2025-2026 AP Exam Dates

WEEK 1	MORNING 8AM	AFTERNOON 12PM
Monday, May 4	AP Biology AP Latin	AP European History AP Microeconomics
Tuesday, May 5	AP Chemistry AP Human Geography	AP United States Government and Politics
Wednesday, May 6	AP English Literature and Composition	AP Comparative Government & Politics AP Physics 1: Algebra-Based
Thursday, May 7	AP Physics 2: Algebra-Based AP World History: Modern	AP African American Studies AP Statistics

Friday, May 8	AP Italian Language and Culture AP United States History	AP Chinese Language and Culture AP Macroeconomics
Friday, May 8 (8 p.m. ET)	Deadline for the AP Art and Design students to submit their three portfolio components as final in the AP Digital Portfolio	

WEEK 2	MORNING 8AM	AFTERNOON 12PM
Monday, May 11	AP Calculus AB AP Calculus BC	AP Music Theory AP Seminar
Tuesday, May 12	AP French Language and Culture AP Precalculus	AP Japanese Language and Culture AP Psychology
Wednesday, May 13	AP English Language and Composition AP German Language and Culture	AP Physics C: Mechanics AP Spanish Literature and Culture
Thursday, May 14	AP Art History AP Spanish Language and Culture	AP Computer Science Principles AP Physics C: Electricity and Magnetism
Friday, May 15	AP Environmental Science	AP Computer Science A

Grading Practices

Based on a large body of research on the topic of grading practices and their effect on student learning, our administrative team has taken proactive steps designed to offer all of our students consistent grading parameters while increasing our student learning expectations. As such, there is a floor of 40 for all assessments and quarterly grades.

The basic grading guidelines at Haverhill High School are that 100% of a grade for a particular class are mastery-specific components. We are grading students more specifically on how much and what they know about a given subject. We believe our students are capable of reaching higher academic levels, and we must focus more on helping them achieve a greater knowledge base with better understanding.

The grading policy is in place for all academic disciplines at Haverhill High, and teachers are well-versed in explaining what the mastery grade percentage is composed of in their particular classes.

Class Rank and GPA

Grade Point Average (GPA): A student's GPA is calculated at the end of each semester. Therefore, Haverhill High School calculates GPA twice a year coinciding with the end of semester one and semester two.

Class Rank: A student's class rank is calculated on three occasions: at the end of junior year, senior mid year, and at the end of senior year.

Grade Point Average (GPA): At Haverhill High School GPA is unweighted. This means GPA is a straight average of courses taken over the course of a student's high school career based on the earned GPA value for each course. The following chart shows the grades and their equivalent GPA value:

Grade Numeric range GPA Value

A+ (97-100) 4.00	C (73-76) 2.00
A (93-96) 3.85	C- (70-72) 1.70
A- (90-92) 3.70	D+ (67-69) 1.30
B+ (87-89) 3.30	D (63-66) 1.00
B (83-86) 3.00	D- (60-62) 0.70
B- (80-82) 2.70	F (59-40) 0.00
C+ (77-79) 2.30	

For example: A student who earns a 95 (A) in a class has a GPA value of 3.85 for that class.

Group Level: Levels courses at Haverhill High School have been assigned to one of the four group levels, each group level being assigned a group level value as follows:

Group Level- Group Level Values

- Level 1- Advanced Placement/College Courses 3.0
- Level 2- Honors Accelerated 2.7
- Level 3- Honors 2.5
- Level 4- College Preparatory 2.0

Class Rank and Quality Points: Rank at Haverhill High School is weighted and determined by a quality point calculation. To calculate quality points one must multiply the grade point value by the weight of the group to which the pupil is assigned. The quality points are then divided by the total credits attempted to determine a Quality Point Average (QPA).

Honor Roll

Honor Roll Group Requirement

- Distinction - No quarterly grades below 95
- Highest Honors - No quarterly grade below 90
- High Honors - Avg. quarterly grade 87 or higher, no quarterly grade below 83
- Honors - No quarterly grade below 80

Independent Study Courses

Independent Study is for students who would like to explore a specific course or topic in depth. Students interested in an independent study must complete a formal application that can be obtained through their school counselor. Teachers who conduct approved independent study courses do so on a voluntary basis. All final approvals for independent studies are at the discretion of the teacher, counselor, and administration.

Internet Use Policy

Access to telecommunications will enable students and staff to explore thousands of libraries, databases, and bulletin boards while exchanging messages with people throughout the world. The School Committee believes that the benefits to students and staff from access in the form of information resources and opportunities for collaboration exceed the disadvantages. But ultimately, parents and guardians of minors are responsible for setting and conveying the standards their children should follow when using media and information sources. To that end, The Haverhill Public School System supports and respects each family's right to decide whether or not to grant permission for supervised access.

The School Committee authorizes the Superintendent to prepare appropriate procedures for implementing this policy and for reviewing and evaluating its effect on instruction and student achievement. Copies of the Internet Policy are available in the Main Office.

Acceptable Use Policy (approved 7/3/2020)

- All use of a school's HPS Account or email system must be in support of education or research, consistent with the purposes of Haverhill Public Schools.
- Users shall not intentionally seek information on, obtain copies of, modify files, other data, or passwords belonging to other users or misrepresent other users on the HPS network.
- Users shall not share their HPS Account login and password information to peers or colleagues.
- Hate mail, harassment, discriminatory remarks, and other antisocial behaviors are prohibited on the HPS network/Internet/online systems.
- Malicious use of the HPS Account to develop programs that harass other users or infiltrate a computer system and/or damage the software components of a computer or computing system is prohibited.
- Use of the HPS network/Internet to access or produce pornographic material, inappropriate text files, or files dangerous to the integrity of the HPS network is prohibited.
- HPS network/Internet accounts are to be used only by the authorized owner of the account for the authorized purpose.
- All communications and information accessible from HPS Accounts should be assumed to be confidential to Haverhill Public Schools and follow all Local, State, and Federal privacy and security guidelines.
- Any use of the HPS Account for commercial or for-profit purposes is prohibited.
- Any use of the HPS Account for personal and private business is prohibited, except for use by exclusive union representatives as provided by M.G.L. c. 150E, s. 5A(e).
- The installation of illegally obtained copyrighted software for use on Haverhill Public School devices is prohibited.
- Making copies of copyrighted software is prohibited.
- All HPS email (or any other computer communication system supplied by HPS) should be used only for appropriate, legitimate, and responsible communication.
- All files/data stored within an HPS Account will be considered property of HPS and may be subject to retention under Local, State, and Federal guidelines.
- This policy will be reviewed regularly and is subject to change.

Attendance Policies

The goal of the student attendance policy is to ensure the safety of our students and promote consistent and daily school attendance. The expectation is that all students will have, at a minimum, attended at least ninety five percent (95%) of the school year or fewer than 9 days absent in school. A student who is truant, frequently absent or frequently tardy to school without adequate reason is in violation of this policy.

National research indicates students who miss over 10% (18 days) of the school year have lower academic performance and are at high risk of being dropouts later in life. Based on that knowledge, Haverhill Public Schools is strengthening its enforcement of Massachusetts General Law Chapter 76 Sections 1-4 and Chapter 119 Section 21, and Haverhill School Committee Policy JH-R2, regarding school attendance. These regulations and policies require students to attend school on a daily basis, for parents to send their children to school daily and to contact the school on any day their child is absent.

The District will work to recognize students who are not attending school consistently and attempt to intervene early. To accomplish this goal parents will be notified daily of their child's absence through an automated phone system. School staff will reach out to students and their families when a pattern of absenteeism is recognized and At-Risk Liaisons and Attendance Officers will conduct home visits. Students, who despite our best efforts continue to be absent, may be referred to the Department of Children and Families or to the Essex County Juvenile Court for the filing of a Child Requiring Assistance (CRA) Petition.

Documented and Undocumented Absences

Documented Absences

Students absent for the following reasons with written documentation will be allowed makeup work with full credit.

Reason Required Documentation

Student Illness Doctor/Nurse Note

Death in Family Documented

Religious Holiday Note from parent

Court Appearance Note from Court

Two College Visits Per Year Note from parent or college

Documentation must be submitted to the main office within two days of returning to school.

Undocumented Absences

If documentation is not brought into school within two days of returning, the student's absences will be considered undocumented. Other examples of undocumented absences include caring for siblings, oversleeping, missed bus, car problem, parent notes, and family trips or vacations. Please see page 24 for make-up work provisions.

If a student is absent five (5) or more unexcused absences or has five (5) days in which the student misses two or more periods, the school will make a reasonable effort to notify the parent or guardian for the purpose of developing an action plan for student attendance.

In accordance with MGL, Chapter 76, sect. 18, no student sixteen years of age or older shall be considered to have permanently left public school unless an administrator of the school which such student last attended has sent notice within five days of the tenth consecutive absence to the parent or guardian of such student in both the primary language of such parent or guardian and English, stating that such student and his parent or guardian may meet with the superintendent or the superintendent's designee for an exit interview. The time for meeting may be extended at the request of the parent or guardian and with consent of the school committee or designated representatives, provided no extension shall be for longer than fourteen days. The superintendent or designee shall convene a team that may consist of the principal, guidance counselor, teachers, attendance officer and other relevant school staff, to participate in the exit interview. During the exit interview, the student shall be given information about the detrimental effects of early withdrawal from school, the benefits of earning a high school diploma and the alternative education programs and services available to the student. The superintendent shall annually report to the department of education the number of students sixteen years of age or older who have permanently left school, the reasons for such leaving and any alternative educational or other placement which each such student has taken.

The provisions of this section shall not apply to a student who has completed the regular course of education, apply to a student whose absences have been excused, nor shall this section be construed to permanently exclude a student who wishes to resume his education.

Automated Call System

Parents/Guardians will be informed of student absences by an automated call system. It is essential that parents and students provide up-to-date telephone numbers. Calls are made daily informing parents of absences. Parents who receive an automated call and are unaware of an absence, have other attendance issues, or have a family emergency should call the main office at (978)-374-5700, x1100, 1101, and 1102. If you have attendance questions regarding how students can recover credit due to excessive absences, please contact the At-Risk Liaisons at TBD.

Tardiness to Class Procedure

The objective of the student when the bell rings should be to report directly to class. Students should take direct routes, and plan accordingly to ensure they report to class in the five (5) minute timeframe. At no point should students:

- Linger in the hallways
- Go to areas of the building that is not their class

Students will receive a consequence for multiple offenses.

Dismissal

Students who need to be dismissed during the day must bring a parental note to the Main Office **before** school, where they will be issued an official dismissal slip to present to their teacher at the assigned dismissal time. The student must leave the dismissal slip and sign out in the Main Office. Only dismissals from the nurse or a medical note requesting the dismissal shall be considered documented.

Please note:

- *The school cannot dismiss students nor permit students to be absent from school to work at elections.*
- *Only students who are 18 years of age and have an Age of Consent form on file may dismiss themselves.*
- *Students may not initiate dismissals. Students who use a cell phone to initiate dismissals are subject to disciplinary action.*

Make-Up Provisions

Make-up is the responsibility of the student and has priority over extracurricular activities, sports and work. Make-up provisions vary depending on the duration and type of absence:

I. Retake Policy

- A. Retake Major/Summative Assignments for grades below 60, 1 time after student completes some type of remediation (determined by the teacher)
 - 1. Retakes are assessments that measure the same skills and standards as the original assessment
 - 2. It is a replacement grade; if students score less, their grade goes down
 - 3. Examples of remediation options are test corrections, skills practice, and revisions. etc.

II. Late Work Policy

- A. **Formative Assessments:** allowed until the unit is complete, in front of the teacher
 - 1. Additional time is still in front of a teacher
 - a) After school help with the teacher by appointment
- B. **Summative Assessments:** students who were absent will make arrangements with their teacher on the day of their return to make up the assessment at *After School Help*
 - 1. Students who were not absent: late summatives will be accepted with a penalty of 2 points a day for 14 days past the due date

Student Conduct

One of our primary goals is to foster an atmosphere of trust and communication, which encourages and seeks parental input. Parents are vital to the success of the school process. They have the responsibility in shared partnership with the school to reinforce acceptable standards of behavior as well as the entire learning process at home.

Students are expected to maintain proper standards of behavior and will:

- Respect the rights of others;
- Exercise common sense, good judgment and self-discipline;
- Apply themselves to the best of their abilities to continued educational growth;
- Contribute to a positive school environment;
- Accept responsibility for their behavior and actions.

It is expected that students and staff will treat one another with dignity and respect; that teachers will consistently enforce all school rules and policies.

The school administration is charged with maintaining a school environment conducive to optimum learning. It is also the responsibility of the administration to implement the school code of discipline in a consistent, firm and fair manner. The administration recognizes the importance of exhibiting compassion and understanding, when possible and appropriate, in dealing with specific violations of the code by individual students. All decisions will be made based upon available facts, good faith judgment, common sense, consistency, and the general good of the school and what is in the best interest of all students.

Rules and Procedures Regarding General Conduct

A. Cooperation in Class

1. A student may not use abusive, obscene, or otherwise disruptive language at any time.
2. Students are expected to follow the rules and procedures specific to each class and school situation.
3. Students are expected to be honest and truthful when dealing with school personnel.

B. Conduct with Others

The guiding principle for conduct between students is to maintain respect for others. Respect and civility in both language and behavior are expected of all students.

1. Abusive name calling, teasing, taunting, bullying and hazing are prohibited.
2. The use of racial or ethnic epithets (names) is abusive and is not allowed.
3. Cursing or shouting obscenities is not allowed.
4. Intimidation of others is not allowed.
5. Fighting is not allowed.
6. Striking another is not allowed.
7. Taking something belonging to another without permission is not allowed; attempting to force such permission is also not allowed.

C. Lunch Period Procedures and Conduct

1. Lunch lines are to be orderly and students are not to cut into lines.
2. Each student is expected to clean his or her area after lunch.
3. Students are not allowed to leave the cafeteria areas without a hall pass.
4. Students are not allowed to leave the building without permission.
5. Students are not to remain near snack bar windows.
6. Students are not to take food or drink from the cafeteria to other parts of the building.
7. Use of beverage machines in the gym lobby are not permitted during class hours.
8. Bottle water only may be permitted outside the cafeteria.
9. Students who are at lunch must remain in the cafeteria. The parking lots and other areas of the school are off limits.

D. Rules of Dress

It is expected that all Haverhill students will be dressed appropriately while in school. Students are not permitted to dress in any manner that disrupts the educational process or interferes with access to education. This may include clothing that promotes illicit or illegal activities, violation of school rules and/or policy, contains profanity, or does not comply with health and safety standards.

This includes but is not limited to:

- Clothing containing inappropriate or suggestive language or pictures.
- Undergarments should not be exposed.
- Clothing that identifies students as members of a gang or in imitation of gang paraphernalia will not be

- permitted in school.
- While headwear is not prohibited at Haverhill High School in general. Any student wearing headwear that may present a safety issue may be asked to remove headwear by school personnel. **This privilege is subject to change at the discretion of the building principal, particularly as it pertains to safety.**
- Clothing or jewelry that advertises or promotes products or activities that are illegal (ie. Alcohol, other drugs and violence...)
- Any other dress that interrupts the learning process, intimidates or provokes can be deemed inappropriate by the administration.

Students who do not comply with the dress code must arrange for their own transportation home to make necessary changes in clothing. The Principal has discretion to announce or approve modifications to this policy when extenuating circumstances make it necessary, such as arising concerns regarding disruption to the school environment, or health and safety standards.

E. School Lockers

1. School lockers assigned to students for their use remain the property of the school district and are subject to search by school personnel at any time. Metal detector wands may be used as part of the search. Students should have no expectations of privacy with their lockers.
2. Students will use lockers in a safe and hygienic manner.
3. Students who permit others to use their lockers continue to assume full responsibility for that locker and its contents.
4. Students assume the responsibility for any intentional damage or defacing of their assigned locker.
5. Students are encouraged to **lock** their belongings at all times. This includes wellness lockers in P.E. areas. Any locker problems or theft should be reported to an Assistant Principal.
6. Lockers must be cleaned out at the end of the school year on the designated date. Anything left in lockers may be discarded. Students will be responsible for lost/ missing books.

F. Automobiles and Motorized Vehicles

Driving on school grounds is a privilege not a right, and **as such may be suspended or revoked for cause**, including, but not limited to, misuse of motor vehicle, failure to wear seatbelt, using vehicle to leave school property without permission, speeding, not complying with security personnel, and excessive discipline referrals.

As such, **automobiles brought on school property or to school events by students may be subject to a search by school officials.**

All vehicles parking on school property must be registered with the C-Wing office and Main Office. They must exhibit a permit. Students who are not registered or have lost their parking privileges may be towed. Students must follow the below regulations in order to receive a parking permit.

1. Students are to park only in a **delineated parking spot** in the student lots (D and F), as well as the last lot near the treeline.
2. **Students must display their parking tag at all times. Students who do not display their tag may be ticketed and/or towed.**
3. Students may lose their parking privileges if they do not park responsibly.
4. Students that are found to have left property without permission will lose their parking privileges as follows:
 - a) 1st offense - 1 week
 - b) 2nd offense - 2 weeks
 - c) 3rd offense - 1 month
 - d) 4th offense - Remainder of the school year
5. Students who have 7 unexcused tardies to school, per term, may have their parking privileges removed by administration. A warning will be issued after the fifth tardy.

Students are not permitted to go into their vehicle, especially during any type of evacuation or drill, or be in the parking lot at any time without permission and an escort from their Assistant Principal or Security.

There is absolutely no parking in the designated staff lots (A, B, E, G), on the grass, in fire lanes or handicapped areas and violators may be towed and subject to disciplinary action.

Vehicles on school grounds are subject to search for banned materials or substances when reasonable suspicion exists. Seat belts must be worn at all times and safety is of paramount importance when students are behind the wheel.

When entering or leaving the parking lot from the Brook Street entrance, please respect the rules of the road and our neighbors. **Please note:** On school property and Brook Street the speed limit is **5 mph**.

It is important for the student to realize the responsibility of obtaining a parking permit. If the permit is “lost”, the student will re-apply for the permit, costing \$10.00.

G. Appropriate Use of Personal Electronic Devices.

The words “electronic device” means a privately owned wireless and/or portable electronic piece of equipment that includes laptops, netbooks, tablets/slates, iPod touches, cell and smartphones. The student takes full responsibility for his or her device and keeps it with himself/herself. The school is not responsible for the security of the device.

Cell phones are a normal means for parents/guardians to coordinate after-school activities, schedules, and transportation issues. However, cell phones are a distraction in the classroom, taking away from the educational process by decreasing classroom engagement, hindering student communication, negatively impacting school culture, and limiting student success. Recognizing this reality, the following policy will apply to cell phones within the school:

Prohibited Cell Phone Use: No cell phones in the classroom. Upon entering class, cell phones (and other electronic devices) must be turned off and cell phones must be put into the designated classroom container or on silent in a backpack grade. No cell phone use is allowed while out on a hall pass during class time.

Allowed Cell Phone Use: In the hallway during class changing times, and in the cafeteria during assigned lunch. Cell phone privileges must not interfere with students arriving at class on time. Any student who repeatedly violates the cell phone policy will have his or her phone confiscated, and lose the privilege to carry a cell phone in school. The parent will need to come collect the phone during school hours and discuss the potential disciplinary action.

Photography and videography are prohibited in school or on school grounds without prior permission. Using the cell phone in unauthorized ways including inappropriate picture taking or filming, harassing and bullying behavior, or a complete disregard for the policy could result in more serious disciplinary consequences.

Cell phones and other electronic devices must be off and put away while in school except as itemized:

- Cell phones and other electronic devices may be used in the cafeteria during lunches. Silent cell phone use may occur in the hallways during class changing times. This right can be taken away at any point if so, determined by the administration.
- Cell phone use will not be allowed at any time in class as students have school-issued devices. Substitute teachers are not authorized to allow students to use cell phones during the class period being covered.

Cell phone privileges must not interfere with students arriving at class on time. The phone must be turned off before entering class. Students are not allowed to use cell phones during class time while on passes between classrooms or to and from the bathroom and class.

Any student who repeatedly violates the cell phone policy will have his or her phone confiscated, and lose the privilege to carry a cell phone in school. The parent will need to come collect the phone and discuss the potential disciplinary action. Failure to surrender the device to a faculty member or administrator when asked may result in a one-day in-school suspension or further action as determined by the administration.

Though the school will secure the phone, the ultimate responsibility for any loss or damage remains with the student who violated this policy.

Parents/guardians are requested not to contact their child via cell phone during the school day. Any parent/guardian who feels the need to reach his/her child during the school day is asked to call the grade level office of the student. In the case of an emergency, students can be reached quickly.

Remove student personal device access to school Wi-Fi.

Students shall not turn on any electronic device in locker rooms and bathrooms; any violation of this policy may result in suspension or other disciplinary proceedings.

Students shall not turn on any electronic device during an altercation or a medical situation in any part of the building or during any school-sponsored event, unless it is to make a 9-1-1 call; any violation of this policy may result in suspension or other disciplinary proceedings.

Students cannot audio or videotape teachers and students without their expressed permission. Any violation of this will result in disciplinary actions and possible criminal charges under the Massachusetts and federal wiretapping laws.

Utilizing technology is a privilege and a responsibility that all students must learn; however, inappropriate and malicious use of the device and its applications will not be tolerated in the school community. Inappropriate use, insubordination to the classroom rule, or using it in a disruptive manner will result in disciplinary action. Taking or capturing images with devices and/or recordings with devices is not permitted at any time without prior approval from a teacher or an administrator. Failure to comply will result in disciplinary action.

In the event of an emergency at the high school, all students will cooperate and cease use of technology. They must pay attention to the situation at hand and follow the given directions.

H. HPS Student Technology Policy

Personal Responsibility

It is the responsibility of the assigned user to maintain their device with the best care possible and to communicate any issues with their classroom teacher. If the device does not work for academic purposes, it can be swapped with a daily spare (returned at the end of the school day) from the students' school until a replacement device is ready for take-home use. If physical, purposeful damage occurs on an HPS issued device, appropriate discipline can be issued by the school. Multiple occurrences of damage may result in the loss of privilege of the take-home device.

Using Your Device at School

Students are expected to bring a FULLY CHARGED Device to school every day. All Devices should be transported everywhere in the provided sleeve/case. Students should leave their charging cables at home, as there is enough battery life in the devices to last a full school day if charged each evening.

Ownership of the Device

Haverhill Public Schools retain sole right of possession of the device. Haverhill Public Schools lends the device to the students for educational purposes only. Additionally, Haverhill Public Schools administrative staff and faculty retain the right to collect and/or inspect devices at any time, including via electronic remote access and to alter, add, or delete installed software or hardware.

Content Filter

Haverhill Public Schools utilizes an Internet content filter that is in compliance with the federally mandated Children's Internet Protection Act (CIPA). All devices will have all Internet activity protected and monitored while being used. If an educationally-valuable site is blocked, students should contact their teachers to request the site be unblocked. Intentionally subverting or attempting to navigate around the filter may be grounds for discipline.

No Expectation of Privacy

Students shall have no expectation of confidentiality or privacy with respect to any usage of a device, regardless of whether that use is for school-related or personal purposes, other than as specifically provided by law. The district may, without prior notice or consent, log; supervise; access; or view online history. The district may also, without prior notice or consent, monitor device usage or student online activity through software specifically designed for this usage. The

district may, without prior notice or consent, also record said monitored activity at any time for any reason related to the operation of the school. This recording would not employ either the camera or microphone in the device. By using a device, students agree to such access, monitoring, and recording of their activity.

Damage and Repair Process

If a device is broken, students should work with a classroom teacher to report the issue to HPS Technology. A loaner device can be borrowed from the school on a daily basis until the assigned device is either repaired or replaced.

Parent/Guardian Responsibilities

Parents and Guardians should assist their students with adhering to the policies in this document, including providing additional monitoring for Internet content and supporting the student learning with navigating websites, online class materials, and other related information from the schools.

It is also the responsibility of the Parent/Guardian to pay for the cost of replacement parts of the HPS-issued device due to physical/liquid damage or loss, as invoiced by HPS Technology.

Damage Waiver Fee (Optional)

To help protect the device and its related peripherals, students will have the opportunity to pay a Damage Waiver Fee to protect their assigned device with Haverhill Public Schools for \$20 a year, which will cover a single incident of damage or repair for the school year (not covering lost equipment). If a student declines this optional fee, they may be held responsible for the individual costs of the item(s) damaged. Likewise, if there are multiple incidents over the course of a single year, additional costs and/or disciplinary action may be assessed, per the discretion of the school or District Administration. More information can be found under the Device Waiver Fee page of the Technology Website, <https://www.haverhill-ps.org/technology/device-waiver-fee/>.

Lost/Stolen Devices

Devices that are lost or stolen should be reported to the local authorities, as well as school administration as soon as possible. Devices that have been reported as lost or stolen will be locked down by HPS Technology and unable to be utilized.

Transferring/Graduating/Withdrawing from HPS

Students that transfer out, graduate, or withdraw from Haverhill Public Schools must turn in their device, chargers, and cases to school office personnel on or before their last day of attendance.

Guidelines for Proper Care

- I will keep food and drink away from the device.
- I will be the ONLY user of my school-issued device.
- I will give the same care to my assigned device at all times that I would give to my most valued possession.
- I will not attempt to make repairs to my assigned device if it is damaged or malfunctioning.
- I will not deface the device: No stickers (except district issued) will be allowed, nor writing, drawing, or labels of any kind.
- I will use care in transporting my assigned device to and from school in the provided sleeve.
- I will keep the screen clean with a soft, dry, anti-static cloth, or with a screen cleaner designed specifically for the screen only.
- I will take care of my device and will not intentionally damage it in any way.

Policies

- I agree to abide by the HPS Technology Acceptable Use Policy, the Student Technology Device Expectations, and all local, state, and federal laws.
- I agree that my use of HPS technology is for educational purposes only.
- I agree that use of Haverhill Public Schools' technology is a privilege. I am responsible for the proper care of my HPS-issued Device. I understand that a device will be issued to me as long as I am a student at HPS.
- I agree to promptly report any damage to the device to my teacher or the school.

I. Food and Drink

Students who are here for breakfast may report to the cafeteria at 7:00 a.m. and should leave the cafeteria by 7:20 a.m., with all food disposed of before leaving the cafeteria.

Students can not walk into the building in the morning with beverages when entering tardy.

Students may not have food delivered to the school during school hours.

Individual teachers set their own classroom policies pertaining to the consumption of beverages. Students are expected to comply with the teachers' individual class policies. Food is not allowed in the classroom.

Additional Rules and Procedures

A. Student ID's

1. Students will be issued IDs at the beginning of the school year.
2. All students are required to have their ID's on their person while in school, at school events and while using school transportation.
3. Students must present IDs when asked and during lunch in the cafeteria
4. Students who do not have an ID on their person will be issued a one-time temporary ID.
5. **Misuse of ID card/ticket may result in disciplinary action.**

B. Student Passes

1. No student is to be anywhere in school or on school grounds without having been issued an online pass via SmartPass or a laminated bathroom pass by the period teacher, especially during lunchtime. **Exceptions are when directly accompanied by a staff member or other authorized adult, or during passing periods.**
2. No passes should be issued in the first 10 minutes or the last ten minutes of class.
3. A student excused or summoned from class must have a properly authorized pass. **No passes shall be issued after 1:40 p.m. except in an emergency.**
4. A student entering a class after the tardy bell must present a proper pass. Students who are not in possession of an appropriate pass will **not** be turned away from class and will be subject to tardy policy procedures.
5. Students may not attend class other than one that has been assigned.

C. Visitors to School

In an effort to ensure the safety of the building, visitors to Haverhill High School will be limited to those on official school business. All other visitors will not be permitted to be on school grounds during the school day (i.e. former employees/students). HPS retains the right to deny visitors access to any HPS property at any time.

1. All visitors must check in at the main entrance security desk & present a valid ID to receive a visitor's pass. This pass must be on display for the duration of their stay in the building.
2. A visitor who has not received prior permission will be required to leave the premises immediately, and is considered trespassing.

D. Bus Rules

The safety of all students while riding in school buses is a major concern. Students are expected to behave in a courteous and safety-conscious manner while on school buses. Haverhill High School students are required to obey the directions of the bus driver and to conduct themselves in a reasonable and orderly manner. Students should ride on their assigned bus only. The following bus policies apply to all students. Parents are urged to ensure that the following expectations are met:

1. Waiting for the bus

- a. Be on time for the bus but do not arrive at your bus stop earlier than ten minutes before the time at

which the bus usually arrives.

- b. Do not allow younger children who are not yet attending school to accompany you to the bus stop.
- c. Observe all safety precautions while waiting for your bus.
- d. Avoid "Horseplay."
- e. Be respectful of the property in your neighborhood.

2. Riding the bus

- a. Obey all instructions issued by the driver.
- b. Keep seated.
- c. Do not throw anything.
- d. Do not extend arms or other body parts out of windows.
- e. Do not change seats while the bus is moving.
- f. Do not shout or make excessive noise (drivers cannot be distracted)
- g. Help keep buses clean.
- h. Be courteous to other students.
- i. No smoking.
- j. Students should only ride their assigned bus.

3. School Authority

Violations of the Haverhill Public Schools conduct and discipline codes which occur during the time a student is being transported, waiting to board a school bus, or has just disembarked from a school bus are subject to punishment including temporary and long term denial of bus transportation. Additional disciplinary guidelines are posted on the Transportation Department page of the Haverhill Public Schools website.

E. School Dances and Events

1. Dances, with the exception of Junior Social and Senior Prom, are intended for **Haverhill High School students only**. For Junior Social and Senior Prom, any outside student will have to turn in a picture of ID and a signed letter by the current administration in their school. **Guests who are over 18 and not attending school will be subject to a CORI background check.**
The administration has discretion to deny any former students or nonstudents access to school dances or events, subject to state and federal law. School IDs are required for admission.
3. Students absent from school on the day of the dance or event will not be allowed to attend the dance or event unless they have received prior approval.
4. Students who have been suspended or placed on social probation will not be allowed to attend the dance or event until the day following their last day of suspension or social probation.
5. Students who fail to complete assigned disciplinary consequences may be denied participation in any school sponsored activity.
6. Students who leave the building during a dance will not be readmitted to the dance.
7. Designated times for dismissal will be posted for certain special events (i.e., proms, senior activities, etc.)
8. **Students may be breathalyzed to enter any school event.** Students who fail the breathalyzer or appear to be under the influence of alcohol / controlled substances will be denied entry, have parents notified, and will face disciplinary action on the following school day.
9. While attending school dances or school-sponsored events, vehicles are subject to searches.

F. Cheating/Plagiarism/Use of AI

Haverhill High School expects all students to apply themselves and to work to the best of their abilities within the guidelines of class policies, school policies, and general honesty. Personal honesty and integrity are values that are developed in our students through adult models, reflection, and individual and group efforts.

Students who cheat or plagiarize are subject to failure for the assignment *and additional disciplinary action by the teacher and the administration. After verifying an incident of cheating or plagiarism on the part of a student, appropriate disciplinary action will follow including the possible removal from any team, club, organization or elected office affiliated with Haverhill High School. A letter will be sent to the student's parents, and the incident may be recorded in the student's permanent file. All students will be required to sign a form acknowledging they have been made aware of the plagiarism policy. This sign off will occur early in the school year. Students will be instructed on plagiarism (including internet plagiarism) and receive a packet of information detailing the correct way to acknowledge sources and prevent plagiarism.

*Cheating/Plagiarism on an assignment will not be subject to the grading floor.

Definitions:

- Cheating - (taking) an examination in a dishonest way, as by having improper access to answers.
- Plagiarism - The unauthorized use of the language and thoughts of another author or Artificial Intelligence (AI) and the representation of them as one's own either for part of or an entire assignment or assessment.

Please refer to the [HPS Artificial Intelligence Policy](#) for district policies on AI use.

Public Safety Rules, Regulations and Laws

A. Weapons

1. All weapons including, but not limited to, knives, clubs and guns are banned from school, school grounds, and school-sponsored events.
2. Sharp objects of any kind are totally banned without exception.
3. Items that can be used as weapons, including but are not limited to, chains, wallet chains, spiked jewelry or leathers or similar items, are not permitted in school.

B. Smoking and Use of Tobacco, including vaping products may be life threatening for the user and for those subjected to second hand smoke

1. Students may not use or be in possession of tobacco products in school, on school grounds or at school-sponsored events.
2. Students who remain where tobacco products are being used will be considered in violation of our tobacco policy.
3. Students in violation of our tobacco policy will be subject to disciplinary action.

C. Drugs, Alcohol and Other Intoxicants

1. Students may not sell, give away or possess drugs, alcohol or other illegal substances.
2. Students may not be under the influence of such substances.
3. Any other substance used as an intoxicant is similarly banned.
4. Any and all forms of prescription and non-prescription drugs, if required, must be administered under the supervision of the school nurse.

D. Drug Paraphernalia

1. Students may not be in possession of pipes, rolling papers, vapes, Juls, or other such devices associated with the use of drugs or other banned substances.

E. Fire Safety Rules

1. Students may not ignite or be in possession of matches, lighter, or other flaming devices.
2. Igniting any material or property will be considered arson and subject to discipline and referral to the police and fire departments.
3. Students may not possess or ignite any fireworks, firecrackers or other incendiary or explosive devices.
4. In the event of a fire alarm, students are required to follow the evacuation procedure.

F. Lockdown, Evacuation, and Fire Drills

1. As part of Haverhill High School's efforts to maintain a safe school environment, lockdown, evacuation, and fire drills will be conducted periodically throughout the school year. Use of electronic devices is prohibited during drills. Backpacks remain in the classrooms during evacuations.

G. False Fire Alarm

1. Setting off a false alarm is a violation of school rules and will be referred to the police and fire departments for Prosecution.

H. Vandalism and Property Damage

1. Students will not deface or damage school property or the property of others.
2. Malicious defacement including “tagging” or destruction of property is vandalism and will be disciplined and referred to the police.
3. Tampering with AED (cardiac resuscitation machines), tampering/vandalizing video surveillance equipment or science lab equipment will result in disciplinary action and restitution.
4. Students will be held liable for all damages.

I. Physical Abuse, Assault, Assault and Battery

1. A student who assaults another student will be subject to discipline, which could include long-term suspension. In addition, in the event such conduct is suspected to be criminal activity, it may be referred to the police.
2. Any student who assaults educational personnel or other school employees or volunteers is subject to expulsion by the Principal (or School Committee) as provided in the applicable law. In addition, in the event such conduct is suspected to be criminal activity, it may be referred to the police.
 - **Students should be aware that the definition of “assault” includes not only harmful or offensive touching, but also putting another person in fear of imminent harm.**

J. Insubordinate or Uncooperative Conduct

1. At all times students must respond immediately to directives from adults. Students who fail to do so will be disciplined.
2. Students must provide their name when asked by a staff member.

K. Gambling

1. Gambling and/or card-playing/dice, etc. are not allowed on school property. Students will be subject to disciplinary action.

L. Backpacks

1. Teachers may require that backpacks be placed in a specific location in the classroom in order to minimize hazards and distractions.
2. In accordance with state and federal law, safety circumstances may arise that require backpacks to be searched. In order to ensure safety at times administration/security may use metal detector wands as part of the search.

M. Bomb Threats

1. Bomb threats or other threats against public safety, as clearly stated in state and federal laws, will result in severe discipline and referral to the police and fire departments.

Guidelines for Students, Parents, and Guardians for Communications with Staff

Generally, the primary contact person for parents and guardians is the school counselor. Other staff may be contacted as needed. Examples are listed below:

Concern	Contact Person
A. Student Attendance	Attendance Office, Main Office, Guidance Counselor, or Assistant Principal
B. Student's performance level or behavior in a class	The teacher of that course, Dean, Guidance Counselor, Student Support Coordinator(SSC) or Assistant Principal
C. Student's general performance in school	Guidance Counselor or SSC
D. General behavior problems in school	Guidance Counselor, SSC, or Assistant Principal
E. General questions about curriculum, grading system, school records, etc.	Guidance Counselor, SSC, Dean
F. If a teacher or Guidance Counselor has been contacted but the issue is not resolved.	Director of Guidance, SSC, or the Dean for that Subject course or Assistant Principal
G. If the issue has not been resolved at the E level	Assistant Principal
H. If the issue has not been resolved at the F level	Principal
I. If the issue has not been resolved	Superintendent

The effort should be made to resolve an issue or concern at the level from which it arises.

Student Conduct and Discipline

Basic Guidelines

1. Normal procedures at Haverhill High School involve teachers, parents, administrators and other staff members.
2. All staff members are encouraged and expected to resolve minor conflicts and minor violations of rules when and where they occur.
3. Except for trivial incidents, parents are to be informed of violations as soon as possible.
4. Parents are to be informed as soon as a pattern of inappropriate behavior occurs.
5. All applicable procedures and school rules are in force off school grounds during school sponsored activities.
6. Each school adult is responsible for bringing misconduct to the attention of students and, if appropriate, parents/guardians. If a conference alone does not or will not resolve the issue, a disciplinary referral will be made.

Detention

1. Each professional and paraprofessional staff member is authorized to issue detentions to students afterschool. Teacher detention is at the discretion of the teacher and office detention is 45 minutes.

2. A detention may be imposed on the day of the infraction if the staff member is satisfied that the student does not have an important prior commitment or transportation problem. Student athletics or other club activities are not acceptable reasons for missing detentions.
3. In case of such a problem, the detention may be imposed for the next school day. The student shares responsibility for informing parents or guardians regarding detention(s).
4. After-school activities or athletics will not be participated in until detentions are served. Failure to report for detention or arrange for an approved deferral may result in additional detentions or suspension from school.
5. The second and subsequent incident of a student failing to report for detention or arrange for an approved deferral may result in time in the Educational Resource Center, or ERC.
6. Disruption of the detention room may result in additional consequences.

Student Discipline

The purpose of disciplinary action is to restore acceptable behavior. When disciplinary action is necessary, it shall be administered with fairness and shall relate to the individual needs and the individual circumstances.

Students violating any of the rules of student conduct and control will be subject to disciplinary action.

Certain breaches of conduct are so serious that the Principal may long term suspend or expel a student under the provisions of M.G.L. c. 71, §37H and 37H ½. These include:

- Possession of a dangerous weapon while on school grounds or at a school-sponsored event
- Possession of a controlled substance while on school grounds or at a school-sponsored event
- An assault on a School Administrator, teacher, teacher’s aide, or other staff person.
- A felony charge or conviction

Other violations of the code of conduct will subject a student to disciplinary action up to and including suspension under the provisions of M.G.L. chapter 71, §37H ¾.

The School Administration has the authority to exercise discretion in deciding the consequences for a student who has violated disciplinary rules. Any student suspended is not allowed to be on school grounds and/or school-sponsored activities. Students will be considered trespassing and will need to leave on their own.

The following actions will result in disciplinary action at the discretion of the School Administration in accordance with Massachusetts Law:

It is not practical or even possible to list every student action which is prohibited in a school setting and which may subject a student to discipline. Any act by a student that is disruptive to the educational environment, whether listed below or not, may result in discipline. Moreover, the particular form of discipline may vary for each student and each incident, based upon all relevant circumstances. Thus, the following list merely presents examples of prohibited behavior and guidelines for response.

Note that any suspected criminal activity may be referred to the police department. Such referral is separate and distinct from discipline which may be imposed in the school setting. However, for the information of students, “police referral” is listed next to those actions which may be criminal in nature and which are thus likely to result in referral to the police department.

1-1 Tardiness to homeroom/school

1-2 Tardiness to class

2-1 Truancy from class or part of a class [Cutting Class]

- 2-2 Truancy from school for whole or part of a school day
- 3-1 Hall pass violation or loitering, or misconduct in hallways
- 3-2 Disruption in class or out of class
- 3-3 Lunch period misconduct
- 3-4 Refusal to follow direct instructions in disruptive or conflict situations
- 3-5 Misconduct while serving detention or In-School-Suspension (ISS)/Educational Resource Center (ERC)
- 3-6 Students in unauthorized/restricted area; i.e parking lots, opposite gender restrooms or locker rooms, fields or wooded areas surrounding school, roof, etc.
- 3-7 Misconduct on field trips
- 3-8 Possession of and/or throwing snowballs at school, on school grounds, at school bus stops or on school bus
- 3-9 Misconduct during participation in school-sponsored students activities (on or off school grounds, during or after school hours)
- 3-10 Misconduct during transition of classes or after school/Opening locked doors to allow students/strangers entrance to the building
- 3-11 Misconduct on school buses or at school bus stops
- 3-12 Improper or disruptive conduct such as verbal harassment, inappropriate language, pushing, shoving, tripping, kicking, displays of affections, wrestling in hallways, classrooms or other areas.
- 3-13 Chronic misconduct that constitutes a threat to public order or presents a threat to the safety of students or staff members
- 3-14 Insubordination/disrespect to school personnel-refusal to follow direct instruction from staff Disciplinary
- 3-15 Violation of Internet Policy
- 3-16 Violation of Student Dress Code
- 4-1 Forged/counterfeit school related documents such as absence or dismissal notes, report cards, progress reports
- 4-2 Forged signature on any school-related document such as hall pass, comment/appraisal form, etc.
- 4-3 Giving a false name or refusal to give name to school personnel
- 4-4 Giving false information to school personnel
- 4-5 Cheating/Plagiarism
- 5-1 Arson
- 5-2 Vandalism
- 5-3 Vandalism of computers to computer programs
- 5-4 Theft

5-5 Littering or failure to clean cafeteria table

5-6 Misuse of motor vehicle

5-7 Graffiti

6-1 Smoking, use or possession of tobacco products in the school building including Vapor Pens, on school grounds or at school-sponsored event:

6-2 Being in possession of a controlled substance as defined in Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 94C. Such substances include, but are not limited to, cocaine, marijuana, heroin, barbiturates, amphetamines, and Ritalin.

6-3 Being under the influence of a controlled substance as defined in Massachusetts General Laws, chapter 94C, or possessing paraphernalia related to the use of such controlled substances.

6-4 Possession, use, or being under influence of alcohol

6-5 Using legal drugs in an illegal or hazardous manner, or possessing selling, or giving away such drugs

6-6 Selling, buying, receiving or giving away a controlled substances when no physical evidence can be directly associated with the student or students involved

7-1 Possession or use of lighters, matches or other flammable devices.

7-2 False fire alarm, tampering with fire equipment, AED machines, video surveillance equipment, etc.

7-3 Intentionally switching off lights or power sources for tools or equipment in shops, corridors or in any other part of the school facility

7-4 Possession of firecrackers, sparklers, or other such devices

7-5 Detonating firecrackers, stink bombs or other such devices

7-6 Possession and/or use of disruptive devices: pagers, cell phones, cell phone cameras, Bluetooths, CD players, signal devices, laser pointers, squirt guns, water balloons, etc.

7-7 Gambling, and/or possession of gambling apparatus

8-1 Possession of a firearm

8-2 Possession of a weapon [other than a firearm]

9-1 Fighting

9-2 Assault and Battery

9-3 Assault and Battery against a school employee or volunteer staff member

9-4 Malicious physical abuse or assault

9-5 Physical abuse of others, fighting or disorderly conduct when expressly related to religion, race, ethnicity, sexual orientation, or gender and/or violation of nondiscrimination policy

9-6 Hazing

9-7 Use of derogatory language referring to religion, race, ethnicity, sexual orientation, or gender and/or violation of nondiscrimination policy. Use of racial slurs in reference to any other person:

9-8 Hate Crime

9-9 Sexual Harassment

9-10 Harassment and/or violation of Bullying Prevention and/or Non-Discrimination Policy

Students are prohibited from knowingly making false statements or knowingly submitting false information during a grievance process, including but not limited to harassment/bullying reports and investigation.

9-11 Threats to another person, threatening note, or bomb threats

10-1 Failure to serve an assigned (teacher/office) detention or to arrange for an approved deferral

Disciplinary Procedures

Social Probation

A student, whose behavior does not meet the expectations established by the Haverhill High School, may be placed on Social Probation (i.e., ineligible to participate in ALL school sponsored activities).

Social Probation prohibits student participation or attendance in any school function or co-curricular activity (games, performances, contests, dances, awards banquet, etc.). Students on Social Probation must leave school grounds at the end of the regular school day unless he or she is receiving tutorial assistance or serving a detention. Students may be granted permission to attend practices, rehearsals, or meetings with prior approval of the administration, but will not be allowed to *attend* games, performances, contests, dances, proms, awards banquets, senior chapel, field trips, school sponsored travel, etc.

Subject to prior approval of the Principal, seniors on Social Probation will be able to walk at graduation and attend Class Awards ceremony provided all requirements are met.

In addition to the preceding restrictions students on Social probation will also adhere to the following:

- Parking privileges may be revoked for up to two weeks.
- Seniors on Social Probation will not be allowed to participate in any “Senior Week” activities.

Social probation is automatic with an out of school suspension offense. At the discretion of the Administration, social probation may begin on the first day of the suspension or when the student returns to school. Generally, for suspensions of 1 to 3 days a student will be on probation for one week, and for 4- 6 days, two weeks. A suspension of greater than 10 days will result in a social probation of up to one marking period (nine weeks). However, administrators have discretion to amend these time periods based on the nature and circumstances of the offense. Administration may put a student on social probation due to excessive referrals.

As part of our Restorative Practices, students may be removed from social probation if they complete community service for the school or community at large. The amount of hours will be on a case by case basis and will require documentation.

Suspension

A suspension is a short term or long term removal from regular classroom activities.

Short term suspension is the removal of a student from the school premises and regular classroom activities for ten (10) consecutive days or less.

Long term suspension means the removal of a student from the school premises and regular classroom activities for more than 10 consecutive days, or for more than ten (10) days cumulatively for multiple disciplinary offenses in any school year.

A suspended student is restricted from entering the school buildings, or coming onto school grounds; and a suspended student may not participate in any school sponsored activities or functions during the suspension period.

The Principal or his/her designee has the sole responsibility for determining who is suspended.

In-school suspension/(ERC)

At the discretion of the Principal, an in-school suspension may also be imposed for violation of the student code of conduct. In-school suspension means the student is removed from regular classroom activities, but not from the school premises, for no more than ten (10) consecutive school days. In-school suspension for less than ten (10) days shall not be considered a short-term suspension. An in-school suspension of more than 10 days shall be deemed a long-term suspension.

For an in-school suspension, the principal shall inform the student of the disciplinary offense charged and the basis for the charge, and provide the student an opportunity to dispute the charges and explain the circumstances surrounding the alleged incident. If the principal determines that the student committed the disciplinary offense, the principal shall inform the student of the length of the student's in-school suspension, which shall not exceed 10 days, cumulatively or consecutively, in a school year.

On the same day as the in-school suspension decision, the principal shall make reasonable efforts to notify the parent orally of the disciplinary offense, the reasons for concluding that the student committed the infraction, and the length of the in-school suspension. The principal shall also invite the parent to a meeting to discuss the student's academic performance and behavior, strategies for student engagement, and possible responses to the behavior. Such a meeting shall be scheduled on the day of the suspension if possible, and if not, as soon thereafter as possible. If the principal is unable to reach the parent after making and documenting at least (2) attempts to do so, such attempts shall constitute reasonable efforts for purposes of orally informing the parent of the in-school suspension.

The principal shall send written notice to the student and parent about the in-school suspension, including the reason and the length of the in-school suspension, and inviting the parent to a meeting with the principal, if such meeting has not already occurred. The principal shall deliver such notice on the day of the suspension by hand-delivery, certified mail, first-class mail, email to an address provided by the parent for school communications, or by other method of delivery agreed to by the principal and the parent.

Academic Opportunities During Suspension/Expulsion

Any student receiving in-school suspension, short-term suspension, or long-term suspension shall have the opportunity to make up assignments, tests, papers, and other school work as needed to make academic progress during the period of removal from the classroom or school.

Students receiving a suspension for nonviolent offenses may be eligible to attend the Positive Alternatives to Student Suspension (PASS) program. The PASS program is located at the Haverhill YMCA and is a therapeutic-based intervention. This is an opportunity for students to participate in group counseling with a clinician, to receive support in completing their schoolwork and access recreation activities with program staff.

Any student who is expelled or suspended from school for more than ten (10) consecutive days shall have an opportunity to receive educational services that will enable the student to make academic progress toward meeting state and local requirements through the school-wide educational services plan. Services available under the school-wide educational services plan may include tutoring and on-line classwork

Student Due Process Rights

In administering discipline, school officials will be careful to observe the right to due process under the law for each student. The nature of the violation determines the due process that school officials follow.

1. DUE PROCESS RIGHTS FOR STUDENTS CHARGED WITH POSSESSION OF A DANGEROUS WEAPON, POSSESSION OF A CONTROLLED SUBSTANCE, ASSAULT ON SCHOOL STAFF AND/OR STUDENTS WHO HAVE BEEN CHARGED WITH OR CONVICTED OF A FELONY (M.G.L. c. 71, §37H and M.G.L. c. 71, §37H ½).

Short Term Disciplinary Sanctions (§37H and §37H ½): Prior to the imposition of any disciplinary sanction that might result in a student's suspension from school for ten (10) consecutive school days or less, the student will be given oral notice of the offense with which he/she is charged and an opportunity to respond. In the event that the Principal or designee determines that the student will be suspended from school, the student's parent(s)/guardian(s) will be notified by telephone and in writing.

Long Term Disciplinary Sanctions (§37H and §37H ½): Prior to the imposition of any disciplinary sanction that might result in the student's suspension from school for more than ten (10) consecutive school days or expulsion, the parents/guardians will be given written notice of a hearing at which they may be represented by an attorney at their expense and may examine and present witnesses and documentary evidence. Following this hearing, a written decision will be issued. The parent(s)/guardian(s) will have the right to appeal any decision imposing a long term suspension or expulsion from school to the Superintendent. Where the student is excluded in accordance with M.G.L. c. 71, §37H, the student shall have ten (10) days from the effective date of the exclusion to file a written appeal with the Superintendent of Schools. For exclusions imposed pursuant to M.G.L. c. 71, §37H ½, the student shall have five (5) days from the effective date of the exclusion to file a written appeal with the Superintendent. For exclusions imposed by the School Committee in accordance with M.G.L. c. 76, §17, the student shall have the right to file a written request for reconsideration by the committee within ten (10) days of the effective date of the exclusion. Pending the outcome of any such appeal, the disciplinary sanction imposed shall remain in effect. M.G.L. c. 76, §17, M.G.L. c. 71, §37H and M.G.L. c. 71, §37H ½.

2. DUE PROCESS RIGHTS FOR STUDENTS CHARGED WITH OTHER VIOLATIONS (M.G.L. c. 71, §37H ¾)

Notice and principal's meeting (§37H ¾):

For any suspension under this section, the principal or a designee shall provide prior notice of the charges and the reason for the suspension to the parent(s)/guardian(s) in English and the primary language spoken in the student's home. The student shall receive written notice of the charges and the opportunity to meet with the principal or designee to discuss charges and reasons for the suspension and/or exclusion prior to suspension/exclusion taking effect.

The principal or designee shall make reasonable efforts to notify the parent orally of the opportunity to attend the hearing. The meeting may take place without the student's parent(s)/guardian(s) so long as the principal has sent written notice and has documented at least two (2) attempts to contact the parent in the manner specified by the parent for emergency notification.

The purpose of the principal's hearing is to hear and consider information regarding the alleged incident for which the student may be suspended, provide the student an opportunity to dispute the charges and explain the circumstances surrounding the alleged incident, determine if the student committed the disciplinary offense, and if so, the consequences for the infraction.

The principal shall determine the extent of the rights to be afforded the student at a disciplinary hearing based on the anticipated consequences for the disciplinary offense.

a. Short-term Suspension (§37H ¾)

The principal shall discuss the disciplinary offense, the basis for the charge, and any other pertinent information. The student also shall have an opportunity to present information, including mitigating facts, that the principal should consider in determining whether other remedies and consequences

may be appropriate. The principal shall provide the parent, if present, an opportunity to discuss the student's conduct and offer information, including mitigating circumstances, that the principal should consider in determining consequences for the student.

Based on the available information, including mitigating circumstances, the principal shall determine whether the student committed the disciplinary offense, and, if so, what remedy or consequence will be imposed.

The principal shall notify the student and parent of the determination and the reasons for it, and, if the student is suspended, the type and duration of suspension and the opportunity to make up assignments and such other school work as needed to make academic progress during the period of removal. The determination shall be in writing and may be in the form of an update to the original written notice.

If the student is in a public preschool program or in grades K through 3, the principal shall send a copy of the written determination to the superintendent and explain the reasons for imposing an out-of-school suspension, before the short-term suspension takes effect.

If a student receives a short term suspension, the student shall have the opportunity to earn credits, as applicable, make up assignments, tests, papers, and other school work as needed to make academic progress during the period of his or her suspension.

b. Long Term Suspension (§37H 3/4)

In addition to the rights afforded a student in a short-term suspension hearing, the student shall also have the opportunity to review the student's record and the documents upon which the principal may rely in making a determination to suspend the student or not; the right to be represented by counsel or a lay person of the student's choice, at the student's/parent's expense; the right to produce witnesses on his or her behalf and to present the student's explanation of the alleged incident, but the student may not be compelled to do so; the right to cross-examine witnesses presented by the school district; the right to request that the hearing be recorded by the principal, and to receive a copy of the audio recording upon request. If the student or parent requests an audio recording, the principal shall inform all participants before the hearing that an audio record will be made and a copy will be provided to the student and parent upon request.

If present, the Parent shall have an opportunity to discuss the student's conduct and offer information, including mitigating circumstances, which the principal should consider in determining consequences for the student.

Based on the evidence, the principal shall determine whether the student committed the disciplinary offense, and, if so, after considering mitigating circumstances and alternatives to suspension, what remedy or consequence will be imposed, in place of or in addition to a long-term suspension. The principal shall send the written determination to the student and parent by hand-delivery, certified mail, first-class mail, email to an address provided by the parent for school communications, or any other method of delivery agreed to by the principal and the parent.

If the student is in a public preschool program or in grades K through 3, the principal shall send a copy of the written determination to the superintendent and explain the reasons for imposing an out-of-school suspension, whether short-term or long-term, before the suspension takes effect.

If a student receives a long term suspension, the student shall have an opportunity to receive education services and to make academic progress toward meeting state and local requirements, through the school-wide education service plan. If the student is suspended for more than 10 days for a single infraction or for more than 10 days cumulatively for multiple infractions in any school year, the notice will include written notification of the right to appeal to the Superintendent and the process for appealing in English and the primary language spoken in the student's home. No student will be suspended for greater than 90 days, beginning on the first day the student is removed from the building.

Emergency Removal (§37H ¾):

The principal may remove a student from school temporarily when a student is charged with a disciplinary offense and the continued presence of the student poses a danger to persons or property, or materially and substantially disrupts the order of the school, and, in the principal's judgment, there is no alternative available to alleviate the danger or disruption. The temporary removal shall not exceed two (2) school days following the day of the emergency removal.

In the event of an emergency removal, the principal shall make immediate and reasonable efforts to orally notify the student and the student's parent of the emergency removal, the reason for the need for emergency removal. The principal shall provide written notice to the student and parent as provided above, and provide the student an opportunity for a hearing with the principal as provided above, and the parent an opportunity to attend the hearing, before the expiration of the two (2) school days, unless an extension of time for hearing is otherwise agreed to by the principal, student, and parent.

The principal shall render a decision orally on the same day as the hearing, and in writing no later than the following school day, which meets the requirements as described above.

In the event of an emergency removal from school, the principal will not release the student until adequate provisions have been made for the student's safety and transportation.

Superintendent's Hearing (§37H ¾):

The parent(s)/guardian(s) shall have 5 calendar days following the effective date of a long term suspension or expulsion to submit a written request for an appeal to the Superintendent but may be granted an extension of time of up to 7 calendar days. There is no right to appeal a short term suspension to the Superintendent. If the appeal is not timely filed, the superintendent may deny the appeal, or may hear the appeal in his or her discretion, for good cause. The Superintendent will hold a hearing with the student and the parent(s)/guardian(s) within 3 school days of the student's request for an appeal. The time may be extended up to 7 calendar days if requested by the parent(s)/guardian(s). The Superintendent's hearing may proceed without the parent(s)/guardian(s) if a good faith effort was made to include parent(s)/guardian(s). The superintendent shall be presumed to have made a good faith effort if he or she has made efforts to find a day and time for the hearing that would allow the parent and superintendent to participate. The superintendent shall send written notice to the parent of the date, time, and location of the hearing.

At the hearing, the superintendent shall determine whether the student committed the disciplinary offense of which the student is accused, and if so, what the consequence shall be. Students shall have all of the rights afforded to students at the principal's hearing for long-term suspension. The Superintendent will issue a written decision within 5 calendar days of the hearing. If the superintendent determines that the student committed the disciplinary offense, the superintendent may impose the same or a lesser consequence than the principal, but shall not impose a suspension greater than that imposed by the principal's decision. The Superintendent's decision is the final decision of the district.

Discipline of Students with Disabilities

All students are expected to meet the requirements for behavior as set forth in this handbook. In addition to those due process protections afforded to all students, the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act and related regulations require that additional provisions be made for students who have been found eligible for special education services or who the school district knows or has reason to know might be eligible for such services. The school is deemed to have knowledge that a student is a student with a disability if before the behavior that precipitated the disciplinary action occurred: (1) the student's parent expressed concern in writing to supervisory or administrative personnel, or the student's teacher, that the student is in need of special education and related services; (2) the student's parent requested an evaluation of the child; or (3) the student's teacher, or other school personnel, expressed specific concerns directly to the director of special education or to other supervisory personnel about a pattern of behavior demonstrated by the student. The school is not deemed to have knowledge of a disability if (1) the parent has not allowed an evaluation or has refused special education and related services, or (2) the child has been evaluated and determined not to be a child with a disability. If a request for an evaluation is made during the time period in which the student is subjected to disciplinary measures, the evaluation must be conducted in an expedited manner.

Students who have been found to have a disability that impacts upon a major life activity, as defined under §504 of the Rehabilitation Act, are, generally, also entitled to increased procedural protections prior to imposing discipline that will result in the student's removal for more than ten (10) consecutive school days or where there is a pattern of short term removals exceeding ten (10) school days in a given year. The following additional requirements apply to the discipline of students with disabilities:

1. The IEP for every student eligible for special education or related services shall indicate whether the student can be expected to meet the regular discipline code of the school or whether the code should be modified to address the student's individual needs.
2. Students with disabilities may be excluded from their programs for up to ten (10) school days to the extent that such sanctions would be applied to all students. Before a student with a disability can be excluded from his/her program for more than ten (10) consecutive school days in a given school year or ten (10) cumulative school days in a given school year, building administrators, the parents/guardians and relevant members of the student's IEP or 504 team will meet to determine the relationship between the student's disability and behavior (Manifestation Determination). During disciplinary exclusions exceeding ten (10) school days in a single school year, the student shall have the right to receive services identified as necessary to provide him/her with a free appropriate public education during the period of exclusion.
3. If building administrators, the parents/guardians and relevant members of the student's IEP or 504 Team determine that the student's conduct was not a manifestation of the student's disability, the school may discipline the student in accordance with the procedures and penalties applicable to all students but will continue to provide a free appropriate public education to those students with IEPs. The student's IEP team or 504 Team will identify the services necessary to provide a free appropriate public education during the period of exclusion, review any existing behavior intervention plan or where appropriate, conduct a functional behavioral assessment.
4. If building administrators, the parents/guardians, and relevant members of the student's IEP or 504 Team determine that the conduct giving rise to disciplinary action was a manifestation of the student's disability, the student will not be subjected to further removal or exclusion from the student's current educational program based on that conduct (except for conduct involving weapons, drugs or resulting in serious bodily injury to others) until the IEP or 504 Team develops, and the parent/guardians consent to, a new placement, or unless the District obtains an order from a court or from the Bureau of Special Education Appeals (BSEA) authorizing a change in the student's placement. The Student's Team shall also review the student's IEP, and modify as appropriate, any existing behavioral intervention plan or arrange for a functional behavioral assessment.
5. If a student with a disability possesses or uses illegal drugs, sells or solicits a controlled substance, possesses a weapon, or causes serious bodily injury to another on school grounds or at a school function, the District may place the student in an interim alternative educational placement (IAES) for up to forty-five (45) school days. A court or BSEA hearing officer may also order the placement of a student who presents a substantial likelihood of injury to self or others in an appropriate interim setting for up to forty-five (45) school days.

School-Wide Education Service Plan for Expelled or Suspended Students

Haverhill Public Schools has developed a list of **options** available to students who have been Long-Term Suspended or Expelled due to a serious Discipline Offense as outlined in the Student Handbook. The School Department in Haverhill will work with the families of the students who are Expelled or Long-Term Suspended to ensure the student's education is continuing.

Each time a student is Long Term Suspended, a Building Administrator will review the educational options with the family and explain the steps, if more information is needed.

Police Action

Haverhill High School has a Student Resource Officer (SRO) assigned to the school on a full-time basis. The SRO is an officer of the Haverhill Police Department and serves in a preventative role. If necessary and should circumstances warrant police intervention, the SRO will respond. The SRO is also available to students during the school day for private consultations.

Search and Seizure

Students and their personal belongings are subject to search in the event a principal / their designee has reasonable suspicion that such a search would yield evidence that the student violated the law or school rules. In order to ensure safety at times administration/security may use metal detector wands as part of the search. In the event of a search of a student of his belongings, the parents will be notified as soon as possible following the search.

In addition, students are again reminded that school lockers and desks made available to them for their use remain the property of the school district. Additionally, automobiles brought on school property by students may be subject to a search by school officials. They should have no expectation of privacy in such areas, as they are subject to search by school personnel at any time.

Students are responsible for all items on their persons or in their desks, lockers, backpacks, or any other containers. If a student is assigned a locker and does not use it, the student is still accountable for all items in the locker. It is important that a student reports immediately to the office any items not belonging to them discovered in lockers, desks, book bags, or other containers. Sharing lockers is not allowed.

Academic Calendar and School Day Schedule

Academic Calendar: This can be found on the next page and indicates school vacations, half school days, start of school and end of school, etc. Please visit the HHS website for additional events posted on the district calendar.

Haverhill Public Schools Grades Pre-K-12 | 2025-2026 Student Calendar (Revised 4.14.25)

JULY '25						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
		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	31		

4	Independence Day
Summer Programs	
6/30-7/24	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Summer Language Institute Discovery Club/Access 21 Morning Bridge to HHS Early Literacy Institute PreK-4 HHS Credit Recovery & Advancement Math Acceleration Academy
6/30-8/7	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Moody Special Education Extended School Year (ESY) K-12

JANUARY '26 = 19						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
				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	31

1 & 2	No School - Winter Recess
5	Schools Reopen Pre-K-12
15	HHS Marks Close Term 2
16	HHS Term 3 Begins
19	No School - Holiday
22	HHS Term 2 Report Cards Issued
22	PreK-8 Progress Reports Issued 2 nd Trimester
28	Early Release - Students Only - Staff Prof. Dev.

AUGUST '25 = 4						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
					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
31						

19	New Teacher Orientation (begin 8:30am)
21	Language Institute
25	Staff Report Open House K-8
26	First Day of School Grades 1-12
26 - 28	Kindergarten Screening
29	Early Release - Students Only - Staff Prof. Dev.

FEBRUARY '26 = 15						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
20	23	24	25	26	27	28

4	PreK-4 Parent/Teacher Conferences
5	5-8 Parent/Teacher Conferences
16 - 20	No School - February Recess
25	HHS Term 3 Progress Reports Issued

SEPTEMBER '25 = 21						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
	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				

1	No School - Labor Day
3	First day of School Pre-K and K
4	HHS Meet the Faculty
24	Early Release - Students Only - Staff Prof. Dev.

MARCH '26 = 22						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
20	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

5	HHS Parent/ Teacher Conferences
9	PreK-8 Marks Close 2nd Trimester
11	Early Release - Students Only - Staff Prof. Dev.
13	Pre-K-8 Report Cards Issued - 2 nd Trimester
27	HHS Marks Close Term 3
30	HHS Term 4 Begins

OCTOBER '25 = 22						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
			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	31	

9th & 23rd - School Committee Meeting

8	HHS Term 1 Progress Reports Issued
9	HHS Parent/Teacher Conferences
13	No School - Holiday
14	PreK-8 Progress Reports Issued - 1 st Trimester
15	Early Release - Students Only - Staff Prof. Dev.
16	PreK-4 Parent/Teacher Conferences
23	5-8 Parent/Teacher Conferences
29	HHS Marks Close Term 1
30	HHS Term 2 Begins

APRIL '26 = 16						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
			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		

2	HHS Term 3 Report Cards Issued
3	No School - Holiday
8	Early Release - Students Only - Staff Prof. Dev.
20 - 24	No School - Spring Recess
28	PreK-8 Progress Reports Issued 3 rd Trimester

NOVEMBER '25 = 16						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
						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						

4	No School Students Only - Election Day - Staff Prof. Dev.
5	HHS Term 1 Report Cards Issued
11	No School - Holiday
21	PreK-8 Marks Close 1 st Trimester
26	Early Release - Holiday Break
27-28	No School - Holiday Recess

MAY '26 = 20						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
						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						

6	HHS Term 4 Progress Reports Issued
13	Early Release - Students Only - Staff Prof. Dev.
25	No School - Memorial Day
29	Early Release - HHS Students Only - Chapel

DECEMBER '25 = 17						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
	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	31			

2	Pre-K-8 Report Cards Issued - 1 st Trimester
10	HHS Term 2 Progress Reports Issued
11	HHS Parent/ Teacher Conferences
23	Half Day - Students & Staff Start of Winter Recess
24 - 2	No School - Winter Recess

JUNE '26 = 8						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
	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				

TBD	HHS Semester II Finals last four (4) days of school
5	HHS Graduation
5	HHS Report Cards (Issued Grade 12)
10	Last Day of School - Early Release Students Only - 180 days
17	185 Days (Includes five (5) no school days due to weather)
19	No School - Juneteenth Holiday

11th - School Committee Meeting
23 - Remote School Committee Meeting (Warrant Approval Only)

	School Committee Meeting
	First Day, Last Day Students
	No School Days
	PreK-8 Parent/Teacher Conf
	HHS Parent/Teacher Conf.
	Early Release Day - Students

Bell and Lunch Schedule 2025-2026

Five Minutes until Period A Begins:...7:20

Two Minutes until Period A Begins:...7:23

A. Bell and Lunch Schedule

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
7:25 am - 8:18 am	A	A	A	B	E
8:23 am - 9:16 am	B	C	D	D	C
9:21 am - 10:14 am	C	D	E	E	B
10:14 am - 12:14 pm	D	E	B	C	A
12:19 pm - 1:09 pm	F	G	F	G	F
1:15 pm - 2:05 pm	G	F	G	F	G
DROP	E	B	C	A	D

B. Lunches

10:14 - 10:44	30 minutes	Lunch 1
10:44 - 11:14	30 minutes	Lunch 2
11:14 - 11:44	30 minutes	Lunch 3
11:44 - 12:14	30 minutes	Lunch 4

Lunch 1			Lunch 2			Lunch 3			Lunch 4		
	begins	Ends		begins	ends		begins	ends		begins	ends
Lunch	10:14	10:44	Class	10:14	10:44	Class	10:14	10:44	Class	10:14	10:44
Class	10:44	11:14	Lunch	10:44	11:14	Class	10:44	11:14	Class	10:44	11:14
Class	11:14	11:44	Class	11:14	11:44	Lunch	11:14	11:44	Class	11:14	11:44
Class	11:44	12:14	Class	11:44	12:14	Class	11:44	12:14	Lunch	11:44	12:14
	90 minutes			90 minutes			90 minutes			90 minutes	

Please refer to the [Updated Lunch Schedule with Wings](#) for the specific days, blocks and classes.

School Cancellation & Delayed Openings

School closing and delayed announcements will be televised on channels 4, 5, 7, 10 and 99; along with the School Messenger System during the early morning news programs and will be broadcast on radio station WBZ AM 1030.

Two-Hour Delayed Opening Schedule

The Haverhill Public School District has implemented a “Two (2) hour” delayed opening of school if it is necessary to give additional time in preparing the roads for safe transportation. Students who ride buses should adjust bus pick-up time by adding two (2) hours to the regular pick-up time. Remember that on stormy days, there can still be a delay in bus pick-up. **On a delayed opening day, school will begin at 9:25 a.m.**

Block 1 9:25 - 10:14 am.

A, B, C, D & E will rotate as the Delayed Openings occur.

F and G will rotate.

One-Hour Delayed Opening Schedule

Period A: 8:25 am. - 9:16 am.

Period B/C/D/E: 9:21 am. - 10:14 am. as the Delayed Openings occur.

The rest of the regular schedule will follow.

Early Dismissal Schedule (alternating)

Block 1: 7:25-8:48 (Attendance and announcements)

Blocks A, B,C, D, and E will rotate. F and G will rotate, also.

Block 2 8:53-10:15 am.

Early Dismissal Professional Development

STUDENTS DISMISSED AT 10:15 a.m. Classes held on half days will rotate starting with A with Blocks B, C, D, and E will rotate according to the day- so all classes have equal instructional time.

HAVERHILL HIGH SCHOOL ADMINISTRATION

Main Number
(978) 374-5700

Position	Name	Extension
Principal	Michael Downs	x1101 or 1154
Associate Principal	Victoria Lu	x1104
Assistant Principal, Grades 12	Nelly Garcia-Santana	x1131
Assistant Principal, Grade 11	Sean McLaughlin	X 1139
Assistant Principal Grade 10	Daniel Thorton	x1130 x1138
Assistant Principal, Grade 9	Margaret Fitzgerald	x1109
Assistant Principal, Grade 9	Thomas Wright	x1118
Athletic Director	Thomas O'Brien	(978) 374-5732 x1141
CTE/CTVE	Victoria Kelley, Supervisor	(978)808-3494
English	Jennifer Peterson, Supervisor	(978)226-8160
Humanities Department Chair	Joyce Kimani	x1113
Multilingual Learner Education	Heidi Perez, Supervisor Meghan Greco, Dean	(978) 420-1933
Fine Arts Classical Academy	Susan Hatfield, Supervisor Ellen Mullane, Dean	(978)219-4336
School Counseling, Guidance and Student Support Services	Jami Dion, Director of Guidance, Counseling and Student Support Services Megan Arivella, Supervisor of School Counseling K-12	x1133 x1187
STEM Department Chair	Grace McIntyre	x1113
Library / Media Services	Henry Toromoreno	x1143
Mathematics	Catherine Lally, Supervisor	(978) 219-9012
Physical Education and Wellness	Meghan Correll, District Coach Dawnmarie Paradis, Dean	meghan.correll@haverhill-ps.org

Science & Technology K-12	Meghan DeLong, Supervisor	(978)206-1032
Social Studies	Meghan DeLong, District Coach	(978) 225-3286
Special Education	Deborah Ibanez, Executive Director Matthew Scanlon, HHS Supervisor	(978) 374-5700 x1189
Student Success Coordinator K-12	Victoria Hernandez-Bailey	(978) 216-2592
World Languages	Zachary Eldridge, Dean	978-374-5700

<http://www.haverhill-ps.org> or www.hillies.org

Haverhill Public Schools does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, gender, gender identity, sexual orientation, or disability in admission to, employment in, or treatment in its programs and activities.

Frequently Asked Questions People to Contact

<i>Issue</i>	<i>Person to Contact</i>
Academic Difficulty	Course teacher, Guidance counselor
Address/Telephone Number Changes	https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfaQDKJQwHIDkfuLmqA0KkngRiRV4XIMNjegDj9R84W4MttLQ/viewform
Athletics Questions	Tom O'Brien, Athletic Director
Attendance Question	Attendance Office, Main Office, School counselor, or Assistant Principal
Career Assistance	Your counselor or other counseling staff
College Information	Your counselor
Concerns about yourself or another student (personal, emotional, alcohol, drugs, other)	Your counselor, Assistant Principal, or Substance Abuse Counselor
Course Schedule	Your counselor
Difficulty Finding Way Around School	Any staff member
Drop or Add a Class	Your Counselor
Extracurricular Activity Questions	Your Counselor or Assistant Principal
GPA/QPA, etc. Questions	Your Counselor
Grade Error	Course Teacher
Idea for New Student Organization	Student Council, Mr. M. Downs

Illness or Injury	School Nurses, Health office
Locker or Lock Problem	Security staff, Assistant Principal's offices
Lockers	F Wing Office
Lunch Issues	Anna Perracchio, 978-374-3416
Medication Questions	School Nurses x1111 or x1112
National Honor Society	Samantha Aiello
Need a Transcript or Other Student Records	Guidance Secretary x1134 or x1182
Need to Call Home During School Hours?	Emergency only – Assistant Principal's office
Parking Questions	C Wing Office, Ext. 1115
Parking Space	C Wing Office, Ext. 1115
Problems with Teacher	Principal
Question about Rules	Student Handbook; see Assistant Principal for info
Research Help	Library staff
SchoolBrains	portalsupport@haverhill-ps.org
Sexual Harassment	Any teacher, counselor or administrator with whom you feel comfortable, School Resource Officer
Suggestion for School Improvement	Student Council, any Administrator
Supplies, Pen, Paper, etc.	School Store
Testing, Make-Up	Course Teacher
Violence/ Harassment	Administration, School Resource Officer
Volunteer Information	Your Counselor & Counseling Connection Newsletter
Work Permit	Main Office, S Wing, M Wing, F Wing or C-wing, or Central Office at City Hall Room 104 (Between 2:05 p.m. and 4:00 p.m.)

School and Community Support Services

Haverhill High School

Guidance Department 978-374-5700, ext 1134 or 1117; Nurses' Office 978-374-5700, ext 1111 or 1112; Special Education 978-374-5700, ext 1115 or 1116

Community

Cartwheel (Virtual Counseling Services) 617-272-7439; Eliot North Shore Community

Behavioral Health Center 888-769-5201; Family Services of the Merrimack Valley 978-327-6600; Haverhill Community Action, Inc. 978-373-1971; HealthQ Sexual and Reproductive Health 978-575-8420; Holy Family Hospital 978-374-2000; Jennie Geiger Crisis Center, Inc. 978-834-9710; NFI Massachusetts (Substance Abuse, Counseling Services) 978-373-1181; Northeast Health Services 617-917-9181 / 781-874-6815 (for new client appointments)

Hotlines

Suicide and Crisis Help Line 988; National Suicide Prevention Lifeline 1-800-273-TALK (8255); Samaritans 24-Hour Response 1-877-870-4673; Massachusetts Behavioral Health Help Line 1-833-773-2445; National Domestic Violence Hotline 1-800-799-SAFE (7233); National Sexual Assault Hotline 1-800-656-HOPE (4673); Jennie Geiger Crisis Hotline 978-388-1888; SafeLink (Domestic Violence) 1-877-785-2020; National Alliance on Mental Illness HelpLine 800-950-6264; Disaster Distress Helpline (Natural or Human-Caused Disasters) 800-985-5990; Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration National HelpLine 800-662-HELP (4357); MA Child-At-Risk Hotline (Child Abuse) 800-792-5200

State and Federal Legislation Summaries of Interest to Students

(1) Rights of Privacy

Your privacy will be respected by school staff. You cannot be required to reveal anything about your personal life or family as part of a classroom activity.

Classroom discussions will focus on the subject you are learning, not on you personally. Sometimes you will talk about personal things in class, such as your feelings or attitudes. Nevertheless, you cannot be required to reveal anything about your family, relationships, problems, or anything else about your personal life. You also will not be required to make any comparisons involving yourself or your family.

HHS may use audio and video camera surveillance in public locations with posted notification. Any student may be disciplined based on evidence gathered through audio and video surveillance.

(2) Drug Free School Zones-An Act Providing for Such

Anyone convicted of dealing drugs within three hundred feet of an elementary, vocational, or secondary school will face a two- year mandatory prison sentence. It will not matter whether the dealer knew he/she was near a school, whether it is a public or private school, or in session. The law will pertain to drug distributors, manufacturers, or persons possessing a controlled substance with intent to distribute it. A fine of up to ten thousand dollars may also be imposed but not in lieu of the two year term of imprisonment.

Any person who violates the provisions of the law while in or on, or within three hundred feet of the real property comprising a public or private elementary, vocational, or secondary school whether or not in session shall be punished by a term of imprisonment in the state prison for not less than two and one-half or no more than fifteen years or by imprisonment in a jail or house of correction for not less than two no more than two and one-half years. No sentence imposed under the provisions of this section shall be for less than a mandatory minimum term of imprisonment of two years.

Lack of knowledge of school boundaries shall not be a defense to any person who violates the provision of this section.

(3) Tobacco-Chapter 71 2A, General Laws of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts

An act prohibiting The Use of Tobacco in the Public Schools of The Commonwealth of Massachusetts Section 2A. It shall be unlawful for any student, enrolled in either primary or secondary public schools in the

Commonwealth, to use or to be in possession of tobacco products of any type on school grounds during normal school hours.

Each school committee shall establish a policy dealing with students who violate this law. This policy may include, but is not limited to, mandatory education classes on the hazards of tobacco use.

Section 2. This act shall take effect September first, nineteen hundred and eighty-nine.

(4) Motor Vehicles-Chapter 90, General Laws of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts

An act providing for suspension of a license to operate a motor vehicle upon conviction of violation of the controlled substance act.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:

Section 22 of chapter 90 of the General Laws, as appearing in the 1988 Official Edition, is hereby amended by adding the following paragraph:

(f) The registrar shall suspend, without hearing, the license or right to operate of a person who is convicted of a violation of any provision of chapter ninety-four C or adjudged a delinquent child by reason of having violated any provision of chapter ninety-four C; provided, however, that the period of such suspension shall not exceed five years; provided further, that any person so convicted who is under the age of eighteen years or who is adjudged a delinquent child by reason of having violated any provision of chapter ninety-four C, and is not licensed to operate a motor vehicle shall, at the discretion of the presiding judge, not be so licensed for a period no later than when such person reaches the age of twenty-one years.

(5) Hazing- M.G.L. Chapter 269, Section 17, Crime of Hazing; Definition; Penalty

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

The term hazing as used in this section and in sections eighteen and nineteen shall mean any conduct or method of initiation into any student organization, whether on public or private property, which willfully or recklessly endangers the physical or mental health of any student or other person. Such conduct shall include whipping, beating, branding, forced calisthenics, exposure to the weather, forced consumption of any food, liquor, beverage, drug or other substance, or any other brutal treatment or forced physical activity which is likely to adversely affect the physical health or safety of any such student or person, or which subjects such student or other person to extreme mental stress, including extended deprivation sleep or rest or extended isolation.

Notwithstanding any other provisions of this section to the contrary, consent shall not be available as a defense to any prosecution under this action.

(5a.) M.G.L. Chapter 269, Section 18, Failure to Report Hazing

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

(6) M.G.L. Chapter 269, Section 19, Statues to be Provided to Student Groups; Compliance Statement and Discipline Policy Required

Each institution of secondary education and each public and private institution of post-secondary education shall issue to every student group, student team, or student organization which is part of such institution or is recognized by the institution or permitted by the institution to use its name or facilities or is known by the institution to exist as an unaffiliated student group, student team, or student organization, a copy of this section and sections seventeen and

eighteen; provided, however; that an institution's compliance with this section's requirements that an institution issue copies of this section and sections seventeen and eighteen to affiliated student groups, teams or organizations shall not constitute evidence of the institution's recognition or endorsement of said unaffiliated student groups, teams, or organizations.

Each such group, team or organization shall distribute a copy of this section and sections seventeen and eighteen to each of its members, plebes, pledges or applicants for membership. It shall be the duty of each such group, team, or organization, acting through its designated officer, to deliver annually, to the institution an attested acknowledgment stating that such group, team, or organization has received a copy of this section and said sections seventeen and eighteen, that each of its members, plebes, pledges, or applicants has received a copy of sections seventeen and eighteen, and that such group, team or organization understands and agrees to comply with the provisions of this section and sections seventeen and eighteen.

Each institution of secondary education and each public or private institution of post-secondary education shall, at least annually, before or at the start of enrollment, deliver, to each person who enrolls as a full-time student in such institution a copy of this section and sections seventeen and eighteen.

Each institution of secondary education and each public or private institution of post-secondary education shall file, at least annually, a report with the regents of higher education and in case of secondary institutions, the board of education, certifying that such institution has complied with its responsibility to inform student groups, teams, or organizations and to notify each full-time student enrolled by I of the provisions of this section and sections seventeen and eighteen and also certifying that said institution has adopted a disciplinary policy with regard to the organizers and participants of hazing, and that such policy has been set forth with appropriate emphasis in the student handbook or similar means of communicating the institution's policies to its students. The board regents and, in the case of secondary institutions, the board of education shall promulgate regulations governing the content and frequency of such reports, and shall forthwith report to the attorney general any such institution which fails to make such report.

(7) Felony Complaints and Felony Convictions- M.G.L. Chapter 71, Section 37H1/2

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

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

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

The student shall have the right to appeal the expulsion to the superintendent. The student shall notify the superintendent, in writing, of his request for an appeal no later than five calendar days following the effective date of the expulsion. The superintendent shall hold a hearing with the student and the student's parent or guardian within three calendar days of the expulsion. At the hearing, the student shall have the right to present oral and written

testimony on his behalf, and shall have the right to counsel. The superintendent shall have the authority to overturn or alter the decision of the principal or headmaster, including recommending an alternate educational program for the student. The superintendent shall render a decision on the appeal within five calendar days of the hearing. Such a decision shall be the final decision of the city, town or regional school district with regard to the expulsion.

Any school district that suspends or expels a student under this section shall continue to provide educational services to the student during the period of suspension or expulsion, under section 21 of chapter 76. If the student moves to another district during the period of suspension or expulsion, the new district of residence shall either admit the student to its schools or provide educational services to the student under an education service plan, under section 21 of chapter 76.

(8) Discrimination-Title IX, Chapter 622 Regulations

In accordance with Title IX regulations of the Education Amendments of 1972, and Chapter 622 of the General Laws of Massachusetts, Acts of 1971, Haverhill High School re-states its adherence to the following policies:

Title IX states “No person in the United States shall on the basis of sex be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any education program or activity receiving Federal funds.”

Chapter 622 of the General Laws States: “No person shall be excluded from or discriminated against in admission to a public school of any town, or in obtaining the advantages, privileges and courses of study of such public school on account of race, color, sex, religion or national origin.”

Notice of Nondiscrimination

Haverhill Public Schools does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, ethnicity, religion, national origin, sex, gender identity, sexual orientation, age, homelessness, or disability in admission to, access to, employment in, or treatment in its programs and activities.

Title IX Notice and Procedures

In accordance with Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1973, and Chapter 622 of the Acts of 1971 the school system has designated school officials as coordinators to publicize anti-discrimination requirements and handle all complaints. The coordinator/grievance officer is:

Maureen Irons

Safe and Supportive Schools Liaison

Title IX Coordinator

Haverhill Public Schools

137 Monument St., Haverhill MA 01832

(978) 374-5740

mirons@haverhill-ps.org

Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 states: No person in the United States shall, on the basis of sex, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any educational program or activity receiving Federal financial assistance. (20 USC §1681).

The District does not discriminate on the basis of sex and prohibits sex discrimination in any education program or activity that it operates, as required by Title IX and its regulations. The District shall respond promptly and meaningfully to all allegations of discrimination based upon sex, including sexual harassment.

Please note that while this policy sets forth the District’s goals of promoting an environment that is free of harassment including sexual and sex-based harassment, the policy is not designed or intended to limit the District’s authority to discipline or take remedial action for conduct which we deem unacceptable, regardless of whether that conduct satisfies the definition of harassment or sexual or sex-based harassment.

Inquiries or complaints related to Title IX may be referred to the District’s Title IX Coordinator: Maureen Irons, Safe & Supportive Schools Liaison, Haverhill Public Schools, 137 Monument St., Haverhill MA 01830 (978) 228 - 0432, mirons@haverhill-ps.org.

The District’s grievance procedures can be located at the HPS website under Parent/Student Resources

Discrimination-Title IX. Pursuant to regulations promulgated by Title IX, the District must provide an environment free from discrimination based upon sex, including sexual harassment. According to Title IX, the following definition shall apply:

Sex-Based Harassment is a form of sex discrimination and means sexual harassment and other harassment on the basis of sex, including on the basis of sex stereotypes, sex characteristics, pregnancy or related conditions, sexual orientation, and gender identity, that is:

(1) Quid pro quo harassment. An employee, agent, or other person authorized by the recipient to provide an aid, benefit, or service under the recipient's education program or activity explicitly or impliedly conditioning the provision of such an aid, benefit, or service on a person's participation in unwelcome sexual conduct;

(2) Hostile environment harassment. Unwelcome sex-based conduct that, based on the totality of the circumstances, is subjectively and objectively offensive and is so severe or pervasive that it limits or denies a person's ability to participate in or benefit from the recipient's education program or activity (i.e., creates a hostile environment).

(3) Specific offenses: (i) Sexual Assault, (ii) Dating Violence, (iii) Domestic Violence, and (iv) Stalking, as defined by federal law.

Retaliation: The District expressly prohibits retaliation in all forms. Retaliation is an action by a peer or employee aimed at infringing upon a person's rights under this policy (examples: intimidation, threats, coercion, or discrimination).

Electronic Mail: OCR.Boston@ed.gov

Discrimination/Harassment Complaint Procedures

I. WHERE TO FILE A COMPLAINT

Any Haverhill Public School student, employee, or third party who believes that a Haverhill Public School student, employee, or third party has discriminated against or harassed them because of their race, color, national origin, sex, disability, or age in admission to, access to, treatment in, or employment in its services, programs, or activities may file a complaint with:

Maureen Irons
Safe and Supportive Schools Liaison
Title IX Coordinator
Haverhill Public Schools
137 Monument St., Haverhill MA 01832
cell: 978-228-0432
mirons@haverhill-ps.org

504 Coordinator (for complaints regarding disability-based discrimination)
Students will report their complaints to their respective guidance counselors.

Title IX Coordinator (for complaints regarding sex-based discrimination)
Maureen Irons
Safe and Supportive Schools Liaison
Title IX Coordinator
Haverhill Public Schools
137 Monument St., Haverhill MA 01832
cell: 978-228-0432
mirons@haverhill-ps.org

II. CONTENTS OF COMPLAINTS AND TIMELINES FOR FILING

Complaints under this procedure must be filed within twenty (20) days of the alleged discrimination or harassment. Complaints filed after this 20 day period will be accepted, however, the investigation may be impacted due to the passage of time. Complaints may be submitted orally or in writing. The complainant may select another person to help with the filing of the complaint. Any responsible employee who receives an oral complaint will memorialize the allegations in writing and forward the written allegations to the Office of the Superintendent or the Superintendent's designee by the following school day. The written complaint should include the following information:

1. The name and grade level (or address and telephone number if not a student or employee) of the complainant;
2. The name (and address and telephone number if not a student or employee) of the complainant's representative, if any;
3. The name(s) of the person(s) alleged to have committed or caused the discriminatory or harassing action, or event (respondent);
4. A description, in as much detail as possible, of the alleged discrimination or harassment;
5. The date(s), time(s), and location(s) of the alleged discrimination or harassment;
6. The names of all persons who have knowledge about the alleged discrimination or harassment (witnesses) as can be reasonably determined; and
7. A description, in as much detail as possible, of how the complainant wishes to see the matter resolved.

III. INVESTIGATIONS AND RESOLUTION OF THE COMPLAINT

Complaints will be investigated promptly and resolved as quickly as possible.

Due process procedures apply to issues of identification, evaluation, and placement under Section 504. Any person who alleges discrimination on the basis of a disability relative to the identification, evaluation, or educational placement of a person, who because of a disability is believed to need regular or special instruction and related aids or services, pursuant to Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, Massachusetts General Law chapter 71B, and/or the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, may use the procedure outlined in the Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education's Parents' Rights Brochure, rather than this procedure. Information on this alternative process may be obtained from the Director of Student Services for the Haverhill Public Schools.

The Discrimination/Harassment Complaint Procedure applies to issues of disability discrimination and harassment, as well as other forms of discrimination/harassment including race, color, national origin, sex, disability, or age. Respondents will be informed of the charges as soon as the grievance officer deems appropriate based upon the nature of the allegations, the investigation required, and the action contemplated, and in no case later than fifteen (15) school days following receipt of the complaint. The grievance officer will interview witnesses who are deemed to be necessary and appropriate to determine the facts relevant to the complaint, and will gather other pertinent information. Interviews of students will be conducted in such a way as to reflect the age and emotional condition of the student. The complainant(s) and respondent(s) shall have an equal opportunity to present witnesses and other evidence. Such interviews and gathering of information will be completed within fifteen (15) school days of the receipt of the complaint.

Within twenty (20) school days of receiving the complaint, the grievance officer will meet with the complainant and/or his/her representative and the respondent and/or his/her representative to review information gathered and, if appropriate, to propose a resolution designed to stop the discrimination or harassment, prevent its recurrence and to correct its effect.

Within ten (10) school days of meeting with the complainant and/or his/her representative and the respondent and/or his/her representative, the grievance officer will provide written disposition of the complaint to the complainant and/or his/her representative and to the respondent(s) and/or his/her representative, including a statement regarding whether the complaint was found to be credible and whether discrimination was found to have occurred. Where the grievance officer finds that discrimination has occurred, Haverhill Public Schools will take steps that are reasonably calculated to end discrimination that has been found; prevent recurrence of any discrimination, and correct its discriminatory effects on the complainant and others, if appropriate. The grievance officer will contact the complainant within 10 school days

following conclusion of the investigation to assess whether there has been on-going discrimination or retaliation, and to determine whether additional supportive measures are needed. If the grievance officer determines that additional supportive measures are needed, he or she shall offer such measures to the complainant within fifteen school days following conclusion of the investigation.

Notwithstanding the above, it is understood that in the event a resolution contemplated by the grievance officer involves disciplinary action against an individual, the complainant will not be informed of such disciplinary action, unless it directly involves the complainant (e.g., a directive to “stay away” from the complainant, as might occur as a result of a complaint of harassment). Any disciplinary action imposed upon an individual will be subject to applicable procedural requirements. All the timelines indicated above will be implemented as specified, unless the nature of the investigation or exigent circumstances prevent such implementation in which case the matter will be completed as quickly as practicable. If the timelines specified above are not met, the reason(s) for not meeting them must be clearly documented.

Confidentiality of complainants/respondents and witnesses will be maintained, to the extent consistent with the obligations of the Haverhill Public Schools relating to the investigation of complaints and the due process rights of individuals affected.

IV. RETALIATION PROHIBITED

Retaliation against someone because he/she has filed a complaint under this procedure is strictly forbidden. Retaliation against someone who has participated in an investigation is strictly prohibited. Haverhill Public Schools will take appropriate steps as necessary to prevent retaliation. Acts of retaliation may result in disciplinary action, up to and including suspension or expulsion/discharge.

Upon request, the grievance officer will provide the complainant with the names and addresses of those state and federal agencies which handle discrimination and harassment matters.

(9) Physical Restraint Policy

603 CMR 46.00 was promulgated by the Board of Education to govern the use of physical restraint on students in publicly funded elementary and secondary school programs. The purpose of 603 CMR 46.00 is to ensure that every student participating in a Massachusetts public education program is free from unreasonable use of physical restraint.

Physical restraint, including prone restraint where permitted, shall be considered an emergency procedure of last resort and shall be prohibited in public education programs except when a student’s behavior poses a threat of assault, or imminent, serious, physical harm to self or others and the student is not responsive to verbal directives or other lawful and less intrusive behavior interventions, or such interventions are deemed to be inappropriate under the circumstances.

Physical restraint shall not be used:

- As a means of discipline or punishment;
- When the student cannot be safely restrained because it is medically contraindicated for reasons including, but not limited to, asthma, seizures, a cardiac condition, obesity, bronchitis, communication-related disabilities, or risk of vomiting;
- As a response to property destruction, disruption of school order, a student’s refusal to comply with a public education program rule or staff directive, or verbal threats when those actions do not constitute a threat of assault, or imminent, serious, physical harm; or
- As a standard response for any individual student. No written individual behavior plan or individualized education program (IEP) may include use of physical restraint as a standard response to any behavior.

Physical restraint is an emergency procedure of last resort.

In accordance with 603 CMR 46.00, restraint is defined as follows:

- Extended restraint: A physical restraint the duration of which is more than twenty (20) minutes. Extended restraints increase the risk of injury and, therefore, require additional written documentation and require approval of the principal prior to the restraint.

- Physical escort shall mean a temporary touching or holding, without the use of force, of the hand, wrist, arm, shoulder, or back for the purpose of inducing a student who is agitated to walk to a safe location.
- Physical restraint shall mean direct physical contact that prevents or significantly restricts a student's freedom of movement. Physical restraint does not include: brief physical contact to promote student safety, providing physical guidance or prompting when teaching a skill, redirecting attention, providing comfort, or a physical escort.
- Mechanical restraint, medication restraint, and seclusion shall be prohibited in public education programs.
- Medication restraint shall mean the administration of medication for the purpose of temporarily controlling behavior. Medication prescribed by a licensed physician and authorized by the parent for administration in the school setting is not medication restraint.
- Parent shall mean a student's father, mother, or legal guardian or person or agency legally authorized to act on behalf of the student in place of or in conjunction with the father, mother, or legal guardian.

603 CMR 46.03 requires that public education programs develop written procedures regarding appropriate responses to student behavior that may require immediate attention. Such procedures are annually reviewed and provided to school staff and parents. Such procedures include methods for preventing student violence, self-injurious behavior and suicide. It further requires that school policy be established that explains the program's method of restraint, a description of the training requirements, reporting requirements and follow up procedures, and a procedure for receiving and investigating complaints regarding restraint practices. To ensure procedural compliance with 603 CMR 46.03, the Haverhill School Committee commits to the following:

Required training for all staff. Each principal or director shall determine a time and method to provide all program staff with training regarding the program's restraint prevention and behavior support policy and requirements when restraint is used. Such training shall occur within the first month of each school year and, for employees hired after the school year begins, within a month of their employment. Training shall include information on the following:

- The role of the student, family, and staff in preventing restraint;
- The program's restraint prevention and behavior support policy and procedures, including use of time-out as a behavior support strategy distinct from seclusion;
- Interventions that may preclude the need for restraint, including de-escalation of problematic behaviors and other alternatives to restraint in emergency circumstances;
- When behavior presents an emergency that requires physical restraint, the types of permitted physical restraints and related safety considerations, including information regarding the increased risk of injury to a student when any restraint is used, in particular a restraint of extended duration;
- Administering physical restraint in accordance with medical or psychological limitations, known or suspected trauma history, and/or behavioral intervention plans applicable to an individual student; and
- Identification of program staff who have received in-depth training pursuant to 603 CMR 46.03(3) in the use of physical restraint.

In-depth staff training in the use of physical restraint. At the beginning of each school year, the principal of each public education program or his or her designee shall identify program staff who are authorized to serve as a school-wide resource to assist in ensuring proper administration of physical restraint. Such staff shall participate in in-depth training in the use of physical restraint. The Department recommends that such training be competency-based and be at least sixteen (16) hours in length with at least one refresher training occurring annually thereafter.

Advisement of right of referral to law enforcement agencies. Nothing in the regulations prohibits any individual from reporting to appropriate authorities a crime committed by a student; law enforcement authorities from detaining a student or other person alleged to have committed a crime or posing a risk; or an individual's responsibilities as a mandated reporter pursuant to MGL c. 119, §51A to report neglect or abuse of a child to the appropriate state agency.

Safety requirements. Additional requirements for the use of physical restraint:

- No restraint shall be administered in such a way that the student is prevented from breathing or speaking. During the administration of a restraint, a staff member shall continuously monitor the physical status of the student, including skin temperature and color, and respiration.
- Restraint shall be administered in such a way so as to prevent or minimize physical harm. If, at any time during a physical restraint, the student expresses or demonstrates significant physical distress including, but not limited to, difficulty breathing, the student shall be released from the restraint immediately, and school staff shall take steps to seek medical assistance.
- If a student is restrained for a period longer than 20 minutes, program staff shall obtain the approval of the principal. The approval shall be based upon the student's continued agitation during the restraint justifying the need for continued restraint.
- Program staff shall review and consider any known medical or psychological limitations, known or suspected trauma history, and/or behavioral intervention plans regarding the use of physical restraint on an individual student.
- After the release of a student from a restraint, the public education program shall implement follow-up procedures. These procedures shall include reviewing the incident with the student to address the behavior that precipitated the restraint, reviewing the incident with the staff person(s) who administered the restraint to discuss whether proper restraint procedures were followed, and consideration of whether any follow-up is appropriate for students who witnessed the incident.

Informing the principal. The program staff member who administered the restraint shall verbally inform the principal of the restraint as soon as possible, and by written report no later than the next school working day. The written report shall be provided to the principal for review of the use of the restraint. If the principal has administered the restraint, the principal shall prepare the report and submit it to an individual or team designated by the superintendent or board of trustees for review. The principal is to identify individual students restrained multiple times within the previous week and convene a review team (Regulation 46.06 {5}). The principal shall conduct a monthly review of school wide restraint data. (Regulation 46.06 {6}) The principal or director or his/her designee shall maintain an ongoing record of all reported instances of physical restraint, which shall be made available for review by the parent or the Department upon request.

Informing parents. The principal or director of the program or his/her designee shall make reasonable efforts to verbally inform the student's parent of the restraint within 24 hours of the event, and shall notify the parent by written report sent either within three school working days of the restraint to an email address provided by the parent for communications about the student, or by regular mail postmarked no later than three school working days of the restraint. If the school or program customarily provides a parent of a student with report cards and other necessary school-related information in a language other than English, the written restraint report shall be provided to the parent in that language. The principal shall provide the student and the parent an opportunity to comment orally and in writing on the use of the restraint and on information in the written report.

(10) *Student Education Records*

603 CMR 23.00 is promulgated by the Board of Education pursuant to its powers under MGL c. 71, §34 D which directs that "The board of education shall adopt regulations relative to the maintenance, retention, duplication, storage and periodic destruction of student records by the public elementary and secondary schools of the commonwealth. Such rules and regulations shall provide that a parent or guardian of any pupil shall be allowed to inspect academic, scholastic, or any other records concerning such pupil which are kept or are required to be kept". 603 CMR 23.00 was originally promulgated on February 10, 1975, and was reviewed and amended in August 15, 2006. 603 CMR 23.00 is in conformity with federal and state statutes regarding maintenance of and access to student records, and are to be construed harmoniously with such statutes.

(11) *The Family Education Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA)*

The Family Education Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) (20 U.S.C. § 1232g; 34 CFR Part 99) is a federal law that protects the privacy of student education records. The law applies to all schools that receive funds under an applicable program of the U. S. Department of Education.

FERPA gives parents certain rights with respect to their children's education records. These rights transfer to the student when he or she reaches the age of 18 or attends a school beyond the high school level. Students to whom the

rights have transferred are “eligible students”.

As parents or eligible students you have the right to inspect and review the student’s education records maintained by the school within 45 days of the day the school receives request for access. Parents or eligible students should submit a written request to the building principal identifying the specific record(s) they wish to inspect. Principals will make notification of time and place for access. Schools are not required to provide copies of records unless, for reasons such as great distance, it is impossible for parents or eligible students to review the records. A fee may be charged for processing.

Parents or eligible students also have the right that a school correct records which they believe to be inaccurate or misleading. If the school decides not to amend the record, the parent or eligible student then has the right to a formal hearing. After the hearing, if the school still does not amend the record, the parent of an eligible student has the right to place a statement with the record setting forth his or her view about the contested information.

A student record consists of the transcript and the temporary record, including all information, recording or computer tapes, microfilm, microfiche, or any other materials, regardless of physical form or characteristics concerning a student that is organized on the basis of the student’s name or in a way that such a student may be individually identified, and that is kept by the Haverhill Public Schools. The term as used in 603 CMR 23.00 shall be an all such information and material regardless of where they are located, except for the information and materials specifically exempted by 603 CMR 23.04. The temporary record consists of all the information in the student record which is not contained in the transcript. Such information is important to the educational process and may include standardized test results, class rank, extracurricular activities, and evaluations of the student by school staff.

Generally, schools must have written permission from the parent of an eligible student in order to release any information from a student’s education record. However, FERPA allows schools to disclose those records, without consent, to the following parties or under the following conditions (34 CFR § 99.31):

- School officials with legitimate educational interest;
- Other schools to which a student is transferring;
- Specified officials for audit or evaluation purposes;
- Appropriate parties in connection with financial aid to the student’
- Organizations conducting certain studies for or on behalf of the school;
- Accrediting organizations;
- To comply with a judicial order or lawfully issued subpoena;
- Appropriate officials in cases of health and safety emergencies; and
- State and local authorities, within a juvenile justice system, pursuant to state law.

Upon request, the District discloses education records without consent to officials of another school district in which a student seeks or intends to enroll. Reasonable attempt to notify the parent of the student of the records request will be provided.

The right to file a complaint with the U.S. Department of Education concerning alleged failures by the School District to comply with the requirements of FERPA may be filed with the Office for Family Compliance Policy, U.S. Department of Education, 400 Maryland Avenue, SW, Washington, DC 20202-8520.

(12) 603 CMR 23.10: Notification

The Haverhill Public Schools generally releases directory information: relative to its students, as that term is defined under 603 CMR 23.07 (4)(a). The following information is considered directory information which may be released to third parties without the prior consent of the eligible student or his/her parent: “a student name, address, telephone listing, date and birthplace, major field of study, dates of attendance, weight and height of members of athletic teams, class, participation in officially recognized activities and sports, degrees, honors and awards, and post-high school plan.”

In addition, school districts are required to provide military recruiters with the same access to secondary school students as provided to post-secondary institutions or to prospective employers. This provision includes students’ names, addresses, and telephone listings.

However, before the school releases this information it must give public notice that it releases these types of

information and it must inform parents and eligible students that they have the right to request that this information not be released without prior consent. Please consider this statement as such notice. If it is your desire to request that such directory information not be released without your prior consent please contact the building principal.

(13) 603 CMR 26.05(1):Notification

Consistent with Massachusetts regulations, 603 CMR 26.05(1), the Haverhill Public Schools, through its curricula and materials, encourages respect for the human and civil rights of all individuals, regardless of race, color, sex, gender identity, religion, national origin or sexual orientation. In accordance with district guidelines, families may request information from the building principal on available accommodations related to curriculum content.

(14) Protection of Pupil Rights Amendment (PPRA)

The Protection of Pupil Rights Amendment (PPRA), 20 U.S.C. §1232h, requires the Haverhill Public Schools to notify you and obtain consent or allow you to opt your child out of participating in certain school activities. These activities include a student survey, analysis, or evaluation that concerns one or more of the following eight areas (“protected information survey”).

1. Political affiliations or beliefs of the student or students’ parents;
2. Mental or psychological problems of the student or student’s family;
3. Sex behavior or attitudes;
4. Illegal, anti-social, self-incriminating, or demeaning behavior;
5. Critical appraisals of others which whom respondents have close family relationships;
6. Legally recognized privileged relationships such as with lawyers, doctors, or ministers;
7. Religious practices, affiliations, or beliefs of the student or parents of; or
8. Income, other than as required by law to determine program eligibility.

This requirement also applies to the collection, disclosure or use of student information for marketing purposes (“marketing surveys”), and certain physical exams and screenings.

The Haverhill Public Schools will provide parents, within a reasonable period of time prior to the administration of the survey and activities, notification of the surveys and activities and provide an opportunity to opt their child out, as well as an opportunity to review the surveys. If you wish to review any survey instrument or instruction material used in connection with any protected information or marketing survey, please submit a request to the building principal. The principal will notify you of the time and place where you may review these materials. You have the right to review a survey and/or instruction materials before the survey is administered to the student.

Parents who believe that their rights have been violated may file a complaint with the Office for Family Compliance Policy, U.S. Department of Education, 400 Maryland Avenue, SW, Washington, DC 20202- 8520.

(15) Student Photographs and Issues of Privacy

Individual schools may arrange, in cooperation with the school’s parent organization, student council, designated student committee, or a staff committee, to take individual student and/or class group pictures. Awarding of the photographic services shall be conducted through bidding procedures.

Individual and/or class group pictures may be taken at the school facility and during the regular school day hours. The pictures shall be made available for purchase by students and/or parents on a voluntary basis. The building principal or his/her designee shall have final authority in authorizing the picture-taking program and will be responsible for overseeing the process.

Students may be required to have an individual picture taken for the cumulative file or identification purposes; however, no student shall be pressured or required to purchase photographs.

The purpose of the policy is to: **1.** Enhance the safety of students through visual identification in an emergency situation, **2.** Facilitate the social, educational, and administrative activities conducted in the school, **3.** Provide a service to parents and students, and **4.** Allow any excess monies realized from the picture-taking program to be used by the sponsoring group as authorized by the building principal.

(16) *Harassment Policy*

COMPLAINTS OF DISCRIMINATION BASED UPON DISABILITY: A person who alleges discrimination on the basis of disability relative to the identification, evaluation, or educational placement of a person, who because of a handicap needs or is believed to need special instruction or related services, pursuant to Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, Chapter 766, and/or the individuals with Disabilities Education Act, must use the procedure outlined in the Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education's Parents' Rights Brochure rather than this grievance procedure.

A copy of the brochure is available from the following individuals:

Deborah Ibanez, Executive Director of Student Support Services
Haverhill Public Schools
4 Summer Street Room 104
Haverhill, Massachusetts 01830
(978) 374-3435
deborah.ibanez@haverhill-ps.org

A person with a complaint involving discrimination on the basis of a disability other than that described above may either use the grievance procedure or file the complaint with the U.S. Department of Education at the address provided at the end of this grievance procedure.

(17) *Prohibition Against Bullying*

Haverhill Public Schools strives to create a safe and respectful learning atmosphere for not only its students but also the faculty and community. Therefore, we, in accord with The Massachusetts Bullying Prevention and Intervention Law, will not tolerate unlawful, disruptive behavior or any form of bullying. The Haverhill Public Schools believes that the target's sense of safety and security is necessary for learning and productivity, and therefore all reports and complaints will be addressed with prompt action. This pledge toward action and respect is supported by our school community, our curricula and extracurricular programs, staff development and procedures, and parent or community involvement.

Bullying is the repeated use by one or more students or by a member of a school staff including, but not limited to, an educator, administrator, school nurse, cafeteria worker, custodian, bus driver, athletic coach, advisor to an extracurricular activity or paraprofessional of a written, verbal, or electronic expression or a physical act or gesture or any combinations thereof, directed at a target that

- a) Causes physical or emotional harm to the target or damages the target's property
- b) Places the target in reasonable fear of harm or damage to his property
- c) Creates a hostile environment at school for the target
- d) Infringes on the rights of the target at school
- e) Materially and substantially disrupts the education process or orderly operation of a school

Cyber-bullying is bullying through the use of technology or any electronic communication, which shall include, but shall not be limited to, any transfer of signs, signals, writing, images, sounds, data or intelligence of any nature transmitted in whole or in part by a wire, radio, electromagnetic, photo electronic or photo optical system, including, but not limited to, electronic mail, internet communications, instant messages or facsimile communications. Cyber-bullying shall also include

- a. The creation of a web page or blog in which the creator assumes the identity of another person or the knowing impersonation of another person or the knowing impersonation of another person as the author of posted content or messages, if the creation or impersonation creates any of the conditions enumerated in clauses (a) to I, inclusive, of the definition of bullying.
- b. The distribution by electronic means of a communication to more than one person or the posting of material on an electronic medium that may be accessed by one or more persons, if the distribution or posting

creates any of the conditions enumerated in clauses (a) to I inclusive, of the definition of bullying.

Furthermore, Haverhill Public Schools will act against all forms of retaliation, which is any form of intimidation, reprisal, or harassment directed against a student who reports bullying, provides information during an investigation of bullying, or witnesses or has reliable information about bullying.

Every student, parent, and employee of the school district must recognize the acts of bullying, cyber-bullying, and retaliation. Any student who believes that he has been a target of such should report it immediately to a teacher, principal, or member of the school community whom he/she trusts. Likewise, students and members of the school staff who witness or become knowledgeable about bullying, cyber-bullying, or retaliation should immediately report it as well. Please review [HPS Bullying and Prevention Plan](#) for complete information.

(18) McKinney-Vento Homeless Students: Enrollment Rights and Services

Contact Person: Maria Maldonado Cruz
45 Fountain Street, Haverhill, MA 01830
Office: 978-420-1967 | (F) 978-469-873
Email: maria.maldonadocruz@haverhill-ps.org

The McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act requires school districts, through their homeless student liaisons, to provide public notice of the education rights of the homeless students enrolled in their districts. As required by law, Haverhill Public Schools will work with homeless children and youth and unaccompanied youth (collectively, “homeless students”) as well as their families or legal guardians to provide stability in school attendance and other services. Special attention will be given to ensuring the enrollment and attendance of homeless students not currently attending school. Homeless students will be provided district services for which they are eligible, including Head Start and comparable preschool programs, Title I, similar state programs, special education, bilingual education, vocational and technical education programs, gifted and talented programs and school nutrition programs, summer programming and extracurricular activities.

Homeless students are defined as lacking a fixed, regular and adequate nighttime residence, including:

1. Sharing the housing of other persons due to loss of housing, economic hardship, or similar reason;
2. Living in motels, hotels, trailer parks or camping grounds due to the lack of alternative adequate accommodations;
3. Living in emergency or transitional shelters;
4. Being abandoned in hospitals;
5. Living in public or private places not designed for or ordinarily used as regular sleeping accommodations for human beings;
6. Living in cars, parks, public spaces, abandoned buildings, substandard housing, transportation stations or similar settings; and
7. Migratory children living in conditions described in the previous examples.

The Superintendent shall designate an appropriate staff person to be the district’s liaison for homeless students and their families. The Homeless Liaison is Maria Maldonado Cruz at maria.maldonadocruz@haverhill-ps.org

To the extent feasible, homeless students will continue to be enrolled in their school of origin while they remain homeless or until the end of the academic year in which they obtain permanent housing. Instead of remaining in the school of origin, parents or guardians of homeless students may request enrollment in the school in the attendance area in which the student is actually living, or other schools. Attendance rights by living in attendance areas, other student assignment policies, or intra and inter-district choice options are available to homeless families on the same terms as families resident in the district. If there is an enrollment dispute, the student shall be immediately enrolled in the school in which enrollment is sought, pending resolution of the dispute. The parent or guardian shall be informed of the district’s decision and their appeal rights in writing. The district’s liaison will carry out dispute resolution as provided by state rule. Unaccompanied youth will also be enrolled pending resolution of the dispute.

Once the enrollment decision is made, the school shall immediately enroll the student, pursuant to district policies. If the student does not have immediate access to immunization records, the student shall be admitted under a personal exception. Students and families should be encouraged to obtain current immunization records or immunizations as soon as possible, and the district liaison is directed to assist. Records from the student’s previous school shall be requested from the previous school pursuant to district policies. Emergency contact information is required at the time of enrollment consistent with district policies, including compliance with the state’s address confidentiality program when necessary. Homeless students are entitled to transportation to their school of origin or the school where they are to be enrolled. If the

school of origin is in a different district, or a homeless student is living in another district but will attend his or her school of origin in this district, the districts will coordinate the transportation services necessary for the student, or will divide the costs equally. The district's liaison for homeless students and their families shall coordinate with local social service agencies that provide services to homeless children and youths and their families; other school districts on issues of transportation and records transfers; and state and local housing agencies responsible for comprehensive housing affordability strategies. This coordination includes providing public notice of the educational rights of homeless students in schools, family shelters and soup kitchens. The district's liaison will also review and recommend amendments to district policies that may act as barriers to the enrollment of homeless students.

(19) Educational Stability for Students in Foster Care

Federal law, *Every Student Succeeds Act* (ESSA), ensures the educational stability of students in foster care and their equal access to the same free and appropriate public education through high school graduation as provided to other children and youth. Educational stability has a lasting impact on students' academic achievement and wellbeing, and the District is committed to supporting efforts to ensure that students in foster care have access to high-quality, stable educational experiences.

Students in Foster Care are defined as students placed by the Department of Children and Families (DCF) into 24-hour out-of-home care, away from his/her parents or guardians. These placements include, among others:

- foster family homes;
- foster homes of relatives;
- emergency shelters (including STARR programs and Transitional Care units);
- residential facilities;
- child care institutions;
- group homes; and
- pre-adoptive homes.

Foster care students may continue to attend their school of origin, unless after a collaborative decision-making process it is determined to be in the student's best interest to enroll in and attend school in the district in which a foster care provider or facility is located (if different). ESSA also requires that when it is not in the student's best interest to remain in the school of origin, the student is immediately enrolled and attending in a new school district, even if records normally required for enrollment cannot be quickly produced.

The Superintendent shall designate an appropriate staff person to be the District's Point of Contact to help ensure the educational stability of students in foster care.

The POC is responsible for the following:

- Participating in the process for making best interest determinations in collaboration with DCF representatives, and documenting those determinations;
- Ensuring school enrollment and attendance of students in foster care and timely transfer of records, as needed;
- Developing and implementing procedures for providing and coordinating cost-effective transportation, as needed; and
- Facilitating professional development for district staff as needed to promote educational stability for students in foster care.

Additionally, the POC will help ensure that students in foster care:

- Are identified and supported through coordination between districts and DCF;
- Are enrolled in and regularly attending school; and
- Have full and equal opportunity to succeed in school and to meet the same challenging state academic standards as other students, and to receive educational services for which they are eligible.

Decisions about whether a student in foster care should continue to attend the school of origin are made collaboratively by DCF, the student (as appropriate), the student's family and/or foster family (and if different, the person authorized to make educational decisions on behalf of the student), the school and district of origin, and (when different) the local district where the student is placed, and these parties should have the opportunity to participate meaningfully in the decision-making process. Best interest determinations should focus on the needs of each individual student and take into

account a variety of factors. Every effort should be made to reach agreement regarding the appropriate school placement of a student in foster care. However, if there is disagreement regarding school placement for a student in foster care, DCF will finalize the best interest determination. When DCF and the involved district(s) cannot agree about whether it is in the student's best interest to remain in the school of origin or to enroll and attend locally, and DCF makes a final decision that the district cannot accept, the district can seek review of DCF's decision by utilizing a Foster Care School Selection Dispute Resolution Process established by ESE and DCF. Decisions made through this process are not subject to review. Under ESSA, to promote educational stability, students should continue to attend their schools of origin while best interest determinations are being made. LEGAL REF.: Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA).

