



Irving Middle School

**Student & Parent
Handbook
2018-2019**



2018-2019 Student Calendar



Lincoln Public Schools
Lincoln, Nebraska



Approved 5/17

PARENT/TEACHER CONFERENCES

Monday,
September 25, 2017

Thursday,
September 28, 2017

**Need New
Conferences
Dates**

Tuesday,
February 6, 2018

Thursday,
February 8, 2018

Graduation Dates

Thursday, May 23, 2019

Bryan Community Focus Program (at East)

Sunday, May 26, 2019

East, LSE, LNE (at Devaney) | LNS, LHS, LSW (at Pinnacle)

2018 JULY						
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2019 JANUARY						
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30						



First and last days of class for students



PLC days-early dismissal (*Plan Days and PLC Days are subject to change*)



Schools not in session



Students in elementary schools NOT in attendance (Plan Days)



GENERAL INFORMATION

Intent of Handbook:

This handbook is intended to be used by students, parents and staff as a guide to the rules, regulations, and general information about Lincoln Public Schools. Each student is responsible for becoming familiar with the handbook and knowing the information contained in it. Parents are encouraged to use this handbook as a resource and to assist their child in following the rules contained in this handbook.

Although the information found in this handbook is detailed and specific on many topics, the handbook is not intended to be all encompassing so as to cover every situation and circumstance that may arise during any school day or school year. This handbook does not create a "contract." The administration reserves the right to make decisions and make rule revisions at any time to implement the educational program and to assure the well being of all students. The administration will be responsible for interpreting the rules contained in the handbook. Should a situation or circumstance arise that is not specifically covered in this handbook, the administration will make a decision based on all applicable school district policies, and state and federal statutes and regulations.

Arrival/Dismissal

Supervision of students starts at 7:30 a.m. for those students arriving for school breakfast (7:30 a.m. to 7:53 a.m.). All other students should arrive no earlier than 7:45 a.m. Sixth grade students must wait outside by exits 19 (Teams A and B) and 20 (Team C). Seventh graders wait by exit 2 (south side) and eighth graders wait outside exit 1 (main front door). If students must arrive before 7:30 for any reason, please contact an administrator to establish a plan for your student's safety. The building is not unlocked until 7:30 a.m. All students are dismissed at 3:00 p.m. each day unless it is a PLC day. Students are dismissed at 1:38 p.m. After school, students are encouraged to work with staff members or participate in the activities programs. Students who remain after school should take their materials (chromebooks, books, etc) and coats with them at the close of school and not return to their lockers. We expect students to catch their ride, walk home, or go to the Rec. Center (\$2 per day) by 3:10 p.m. each day. There is no supervision of students after this time unless they are participating in a scheduled activity with a staff member. Students are not allowed to loiter around school grounds.

Daily Schedule - 7th & 8th Grades

7:53-8:00 a.m. Opening	11:42 a.m.-1:08 p.m. ...Period 5 (Includes lunch)
8:00-8:52 a.m. Period 1	1:12-2:03 p.m.Period 6
8:56-9:47 a.m. Period 2	2:07-3:00 p.m.Period 7
9:51-10:43 a.m. Period 3	3:00-4:30 p.m.Activities and Intramural Sports (Not on Tuesdays)
10:47-11:38 a.m. Period 4	

6th Grade Schedule

Teams A & B

7:53-8:00 a.m. Opening
8:00-9:07 a.m. Period 1
9:09-10:14 a.m. Period 2
10:18-11:25 a.m. Period 4
11:25-11:55 a.m. Lunch
11:59-1:08 p.m. Period 5
1:12-2:03 p.m. Period 6
2:07-3:00 p.m. Period 7

Team C

7:53-8:00 a.m. Opening
8:00-8:52 a.m. Period 1
8:56-10:02 a.m. Period 2
10:04-11:10 a.m. Period 3
11:14-12:55 p.m. Period 5 (includes lunch)
12:57-2:03 p.m. Period 6
2:07-3:00 p.m. Period 7

Students generally may enter the building at 7:53 a.m. Students are allowed to enter the building prior to that time if they have arranged in advance to meet with a staff member. Students making those arrangements will be given a pass by the staff member involved. Also, in the event of inclement weather, students will be allowed to enter the building through the front and south entrances and sit in the cafeteria. Students with large musical instruments may bring them into the building prior to the bell.

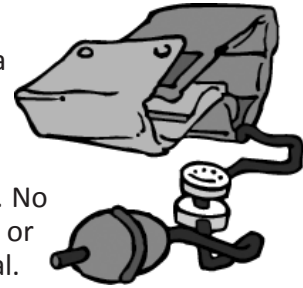
Irving Parent Teacher Student Organization

The Irving Parent Teacher Student Organization (IPTSO) is an active part of the Irving School community. It sponsors several student activities and supports other aspects of the school program. Membership information is sent home annually to all Irving families. Parents are encouraged to join. Meetings are held monthly with the principal. Check the website for dates and times.

STUDENT HEALTH POLICIES

Nurse

A student who becomes ill at school should ask their teacher for a pass to the nurse's office. Only the students with emergencies will be received in the nurse's office without a properly signed pass. In case of accident or illness the nurse or other office personnel will tend to the need. A parent will be notified immediately in serious cases. No student will be allowed to leave the school premises unless parents or other authorized personnel have been notified and have given approval.



Health and Dental Appointments

Although it is preferred that health and dental appointments not be scheduled during school hours, students may need to be excused to keep appointments which can only occur during the school day. Prior to the start of the school day the student should have the office issue a "Medical Appointment" slip. The student must take this slip to the appointment so the dentist or physician can record the length of the appointment and sign it. When the student returns to school, he or she should check in with the office and turn in the signed slip.

See Important Information Booklet for more health and medical information.

ATTENDANCE INFORMATION

Tardiness

Students shall be considered tardy to school if they are not in their assigned seats when the tardy bell rings at 8:00 a.m. for first period. Tardies are not excused for any reason. Students who are tardy to school between 8:00-8:10 a.m. should report directly to their first period class. Students tardy after 8:10 a.m. report to the office for a tardy slip. **Students will have consequences for multiple tardies.**

See Important Information Booklet for more attendance information.

ACADEMIC INFORMATION

Course of Study

Sixth grade students will take both core and Academic Connection classes each day. The core classes include the following:

Reading/Language Arts	120 minutes per day	Social Studies...	60 minutes per day—Terms 1 & 3
Math	60 minutes per day	Science	60 minutes per day—Terms 2 & 4

Sixth graders will take two Academic Connection classes each day. The first Academic Connection class includes an X/Y day rotation between Physical Education, Vocal Music, PE and Keyboarding. The second Academic Connection class includes one quarter of each of the following, Skilled Technical Sciences (Industrial Technology), Art, Spanish and Healthy Living ((FCS & Health).

Sixth grade students who need additional support in math are identified weekly by their teachers. During that week in Fluid Math, they will miss the Art/ Vocal Music/ Spanish Academic Connections classes. When they have mastered the necessary math concept, they will return to their AC classes the next week.

Sixth graders may participate in Band or Orchestra. Both of these classes will be scheduled for one day a week. A small group lesson will be offered to Band and Orchestra students during the school day. These lessons will be offered once a week.

Seventh grade students will take five core subjects and two Academic Connection classes. These classes include:

English	two semesters per year	Science	two semesters per year
Social studies	two semesters per year	Health.....	one semester per year
Mathematics.....	two semesters per year	Language Arts/Communications	
Health	one semester per year	Arts.....	one semester per year

Seventh graders will take two Academic Connection classes each day. The first Academic Connection class includes an X/Y rotation between PE/Art and PE/Computer. The second Academic Connection class includes a quarter rotation among Spanish, Skilled Technical Sciences, Vocal Music, and Family and Consumer Science.

Seventh grade students who need additional support in math are identified weekly by their teachers. During that week in fluid math they will miss the Art or Computer Academic Connection classes.

Seventh graders may participate in Band or Orchestra. Both of these instrumental classes would replace the quarter rotation Academic Connection classes.

Seventh grade students who have not met district reading criteria will be required to take reading until the criteria are met. Reading would replace the quarter rotation Academic Connection classes.

Eighth grade students will take five core classes and two elective classes per semester. The five core classes include:

English/Language Arts	Math	Physical Education/Health
Social Studies	Science	

Students may select courses from the following electives: Band, Orchestra, World Language (Spanish), Publications, Drama, Computer, Vocal Music, Computers, Art, Family Consumer Science, and Industrial Technology.

Eighth grade students who have not met district reading criteria will be required to take Reading or Math Intervention classes until the criteria are met. Both Reading and Math Intervention classes would replace one elective class.

Reporting to Parents

Parents will be able to access their student's grades on line through the Synergy Parent Vue. It is reasonable to expect teachers to update grades once a week.

Achievement is reported to parents and students in middle school using the following system and marks:

- 6th grade:** Letter grades of A (Superior) through F (Failing) in Language Arts, Math, Social Studies and Science. Academic Connections and Math Intervention classes will be graded as Commendable (COM), Satisfactory (S), and Needs Improvement (N).
- 7th grade:** Letter grades of A through F in English, Language/Communication Arts, Math Science, Social Studies, P.E. and Health. Academic Connections will be graded as Commendable (COM), Satisfactory (S), and Needs Improvement (N).
- 8th grade:** All courses including electives and Reading will receive letter grades of A through F. Math Intervention will be graded as Commendable (COM), Satisfactory (S), and Needs Improvement (N).

In some cases, parents and students prefer to use the S/U grading scale rather than the usual four point grade scale. Requests for this must be made to the student's counselor by the end of the eighth week of the semester. The counselors can discuss this option with families to acquaint them with the implications of that decision.

Each semester, parents will be invited to attend a Parent-Teacher Conference. Conferences between parents and teachers at the middle school level are considered supplementary to the written reporting system. Parents are encouraged to contact teachers throughout the year to check on their child's progress in courses that are of special concern to them.

Report Cards

Report cards are sent home with students the first three quarters and mailed home at the end of the year. Report cards indicate three areas in which teachers describe students' progress: academic performance (A-Exceeds District Standards of Proficiency; B+, B, C+, C-Satisfactory; D+, D and F-Needs Improvement); work study habits (Commendable, Satisfactory, Needs Improvement) and social/behavior skills (Commendable, Satisfactory, Needs Improvement) for each subject. The basis of the academic performance grade is either CSO-Curriculum; Standards/Objectives-the student's grade is a reflection of his/her mastery of district objectives or IND-Individual-the student's grade is based on the achievement of individual goals on the student's individual education plan. Parents are encouraged to access grades, attendance, assignments and other notifications in Synergy through ParentVUE at any time. Students also have access to all of this through StudentVUE in Synergy.



The **Parent/StudentVUE** portal is a component of the LPS Student Information System that allows parents/guardians to:

- Monitor grades and attendance
- Get detailed assignment and course information
- Select and print reports
- Automatically receive notification when a grade falls below a selected level or when unexpected absences occur

Special Programs

A variety of alternatives are available at Irving for students who demonstrate either a need for some form of additional support to be a more successful student or an academic strength or talent. Most often, these alternatives are provided respectively through the various special education programs or the program for gifted/talented students. If you have questions about the special education programs, please contact Torri Lienneman, Special Education Coordinator. Questions about the gifted program should be directed to Deanna Macek, who is our facilitator for that program. They can be reached at 402-436-1214. We encourage you to contact Torri Lienneman or Deanna Macek with issues related to these programs.

RULES AND REGULATIONS

Philosophy on Discipline

Be Safe • Be Respectful • Be Responsible

The staff at Irving strongly believe that it is important for our school to be a safe and pleasant environment in which students can grow and learn. To this end, all of us need to strive to help students develop a sense of self-discipline. That self-discipline, when exhibited by students, helps to create the positive conditions that are so important to learning. Basically, we want students to do their best, help others to learn, manage themselves and treat others with courtesy, kindness and respect. The help of parents and students in reaching these objectives is essential. Most students do a fine job.

When things do not go well and some type of disciplinary action is necessary, the staff uses information from the statement on Responsibilities of Students as a basis for action. Families receive a copy of that statement at the beginning of the year. That statement outlines Lincoln Public School policies and expectations (see inside of back cover). The following is a series of expectations and consequences for a few forms of misconduct.

Behavior in Class

It is important that all students contribute to a productive learning atmosphere in class. If students disrupt class due to poor behavior, they infringe on the right of other students to learn. When a student misbehaves in class, teachers will attempt to help him/her correct that behavior. If those efforts are not successful, then parents will be contacted and asked for help. After the teacher has reasonably tried to help him/her correct the behavior and the behavior continues, the student is referred to an administrator for further disciplinary action. These actions may include making a behavior plan, a detention, or an In School Supervision or Out of School Suspension. Ultimately, if efforts to correct behavior fail, a student may be suspended from a class for the remainder of the quarter. In this event, the schedule of the student involved will be shortened.

Aardvark Store

Students can earn positive slips for positive behavior at Irving. Students can "cash" these in for items at the Aardvark Store, located near the main office. The store is open after school on specific days for specific grade levels. Donations to our store are welcome.

Appearance and Dress

Students are expected to be well-groomed and dressed in clothing that is clean, decent and appropriate. Students should not dress in a manner that is dangerous to the health and safety of anyone or interferes with the learning environment or teaching process in our school. The following is a list of attire that **is not appropriate**, but is not all inclusive. Other forms of attire may be deemed inappropriate by the administration when necessary:



- Clothing or jewelry that is gang related such as bandannas, rolled up pant legs, chains, or spikes
- Clothing or jewelry that advertises beer, alcohol, tobacco, or illegal drugs
- Clothing or jewelry that could be used as a weapon (chains, spiked apparel, dog collars, safety pins) or that would encourage disturbance between students
- Clothing or jewelry which exhibits nudity, makes sexual references or carries double meanings
- Clothing that is commonly associated with sleep (pajamas, slippers)
- Short shorts, low cut tops (no cleavage) A guide for students would be that the length of shorts/skirts should reach below the length of their knuckles when arms are extended down at their sides.
- Clothing that shows an inappropriate amount of bare skin, breasts or underwear (open torso tank tops, midriffs, single spaghetti strap tops, halter tops or sagging pants); head wear including hoods on hoodies, hats, caps, scarves, and headbands.

Students whose appearance does not meet standards of acceptability will be asked to make adjustments. This may involve replacing the item with an Irving t-shirt, contacting a parent about bringing an appropriate item to wear instead, or being assigned in-school supervision for the remainder of the day. Continual violations of the dress code will result in disciplinary actions (detention, suspension, Student Services referral).

Leaving Campus at Noon

Middle school students are not allowed to leave the campus at any time during the school day without the permission of a building administrator and unless arrangements have been made by the student's parent or guardian to go home for lunch. This arrangement will be permitted only with the permission of the building administrator and if the parent is home during the time the student is home for lunch and only if the student is not tardy returning to afternoon classes.

Use of Inappropriate Language and Gestures

In an environment where respect is being shown to one another, the use of profane or derogatory language is unacceptable. Staff members at Irving attempt to help students use only language that is appropriate to a school setting. Parents may be notified if a student uses profanity at school. Dependent upon the circumstance, use of profane or abusive language may result in a verbal reprimand, after-school detention or suspension from school. Students who direct profanity at any staff member may be suspended until a parent conference can be held.

Nuisance Items

Any articles which disrupt the learning environment shall be considered nuisance items and will be confiscated by staff. Typically, things like toys, electronic devices, headphones, earbuds, **gum and candy, Fidget Spinners and "Slime"** are included in this list. **Students should not bring these items to school.** Articles students use on the way to school, like hats, coats and bags, are to be left in their hall locker for the day. If articles of value are taken from students, they will either be returned directly to the students' parents or, at the end of the year, to the student.

Cell Phones

We recommend that students leave their cell phones at home. If a student brings a phone to school, the phone must be turned off and placed in the locker during the day. If the phone is seen during the school day, it will be confiscated by staff or administrators. On the first offense of this procedure, the phone may be given back at the end of the day as a warning. On a second offense parents will need to come to school to pick up the phone. Further violations of cell phone use will result in a parent conference and the development of a plan.



Skateboards, Skates, Scooters and Balls

Students are not allowed to wear or bring skates to school or ride or bring skateboards or scooters to school. These items will be confiscated at the front door and parents notified to pick up the items. Students should also not bring balls to school, including footballs, basketballs, and soccer balls. These items will be provided at school for student activities. Outside basketball and four square courts at school are not open for after school student use until 6 p.m.

Sexual Harassment

Sexual harassment in any form will not be tolerated at Irving. Verbal comments and visual forms of harassment are as unacceptable as the more obvious physical acts such as pinching or touching. Pulling another student's pants down is considered harassment and students will be suspended for this type of behavior. Students who engage in sexual harassment may be suspended from school.

Public Displays of Affection

Students are not allowed excessive demonstrations of public displays of affection such as hugging and kissing others.

Hallway Expectations

The hallways and other non-classroom areas are important parts of the learning environment. To ensure everyone's safety, it is important that students use these areas in an orderly way.

Hallway Rules:

- 1) Please walk.
- 2) Keep your hands, feet, and other objects to self.
- 3) Use respectful language and volume.
- 4) Use your own locker.

Students violating these rules may be given after-school detention time or other consequences.

Fighting

Fighting among students can have a broad range of causes and effects, but is always inappropriate. Students who incite or encourage others to fight may face the same consequences as those who actually fight. Dependent upon these factors, disciplinary action, ranging from a conference with staff to a suspension from school, may be taken.

Staying After School

If a student is requested to remain after school by a teacher, the student is expected to do so unless specific arrangements are made by the student with the teacher. Staying after school when requested takes priority over participation in any school activity. It is the student's responsibility to notify his/her parents if he/she must stay after school. The office phone may be used for this purpose. There is a 2 minute limit. Excessive phone use will not be allowed.

SCHOOL SERVICES

Bicycles

Bicycle racks are provided to students on the east side of the building. It is the student's responsibility to ensure the security of his/her bicycle when using these racks. Lock your bicycles.



Bulletin/Announcements

The first day of the week a bulletin is read to students. This bulletin contains announcements of importance and interest to students. If students have an item they would like read, they need to get the signature of an administrator or activity sponsor and then turn their announcement in to the office by 3 p.m. the school day before it is to be put in the bulletin. Daily announcements are posted on our web site. These will also be posted on a stand by the main entry.

Bulletin Board

Bulletin boards in the hallways may be used to provide information and announcements for students. Materials must be approved by an administrator before they are posted.

Counselors

A counselor is assigned to in-coming students. This counselor stays with these students during their time at Irving. A student should feel free to contact his or her counselor for help with school or personal problems. The counselor is available during the school day for conferences with students or with parents. Parents who wish to see a counselor are encouraged to make an appointment to ensure that the counselor will be available.

Media Center

The media center is open for checking in and out books during and after school. The media center is open most days until 3:30 p.m. for student use. Students who check out books from the media center are expected to return them on or before the due date. Students who fail to do so will be denied media center privileges. Fines will be assessed for lost books.

Lost and Found

A lost and found service for students is located in the main hallway. Students who have lost items should inquire in the office as well as check the Lost & Found area periodically. Items that are found should be taken to the office. Unclaimed items will be given to charitable organizations at the end of each term.

Lockers

Each student will be assigned a hall locker and a lock to use for the year. Only school locks may be used on lockers. **STUDENTS ARE TO USE ONLY THEIR ASSIGNED LOCKER!** When closing their lock, students must turn the dial off the last number in the combination to ensure that it is locked. Lockers are the property of the school district and may be opened for inspection any time there is any question as to improper use of the locker. We ask students to keep their lockers clean. The student assigned to the locker is responsible for any damage to the locker. Students are not to stick or tape anything to the inside or outside of their locker. **Students may not decorate the outside of any locker for any occasion or reason.** If a locker is not working, students need to notify the office. Periodically, lockers will be checked by staff.

All students are required to keep their lockers locked. If a lock is lost, report this loss to the office immediately. Students are required to purchase a replacement lock for \$4.25 from the school office. Students should not share their locker combination with other students. A master list of lockers and lock combinations is kept in the office.

Student Pictures

A brochure describing student picture packets will be distributed to all students during the first month of school. Pictures taken will be used to complete a student picture book for all students. This picture book will be completed and sold to students during the school year.

Telephones

To use the phone at noon, students must have a pass from a lunch supervisor or administrator. Students are permitted to use the office phones **ONLY** for emergencies and **not for routine contacts**. Students may use phones in classrooms with permission of the teacher.

Food Guidelines and Policy

In our continuing effort to ensure the health and safety of all our students, we are requiring that students, staff, and parents only bring individually wrapped, commercially prepared treats for other student consumption. Students can continue to bring home prepared food for their own consumption at lunch time. Staff will encourage hand washing and use of hand sanitizer. They will not allow handling or sharing of food brought by an individual student for personal consumption at lunch. We want to be aware of students who have allergies. Please inform the school nurse of any known allergies. We do have a designated "peanut free" table in the cafeteria. Students should only eat their own lunches (bought at school or brought from home). Eating other students lunch is not permitted.

See Important Information Booklet for more information.

Outside Beverages

Open beverages or store bought beverages are not allowed at Irving Middle School. If the beverage is a part of a student's lunch, the drink must be un-opened and in a lunch box. Students may be allowed a clear water bottle to be used throughout the day with documented parent or doctor permission.



Food Service Program

Breakfast is served in the cafeteria from 7:30 a.m. until 7:50 a.m. The cost of a **breakfast is \$1.50**. Reduced student breakfast is **30 cents**.

Lunch is scheduled during the extended fifth period. Students may choose to buy a **regular lunch for \$2.55**. Reduced price lunch is 40 cents. They may also choose to select individual items on an "a la carte" basis. Students may also bring their lunch and buy milk to go with it. Additional milk with school lunch or milk with a sack lunch brought from home costs 50 cents. All food is to be eaten in the cafeteria. Since the cafeteria feeds hundreds of people daily, each student needs to fulfill his or her responsibilities to keep it clean and to behave appropriately. Staff members will monitor behavior and consequences. Assigned seating, lunch detention, or even exclusion from the cafeteria area may result from violation of cafeteria behavior rules. Menus are listed on the school website under meal links.

We use a system, which will allow families to deposit funds in their student's lunch "account." That system will be explained to all students.

Commercial food is only allowed in the cafeteria during lunch time when a parent brings it for their student only. Pop is not sold to students during, before or after school. Students are discouraged to bring pop as a part of their lunch.

Composting and Recycling

At Irving we encourage students to be good stewards of our environment. In the cafeteria during breakfast and lunch students and staff compost materials from their meals, including food waste and compostable containers and materials. Students are trained at the beginning of the year in this process. We also recycle paper, plastic bottles, cardboard, and aluminum cans during the day. Students are encouraged to put these items in the appropriate containers. We hope our families will also recycle at home.

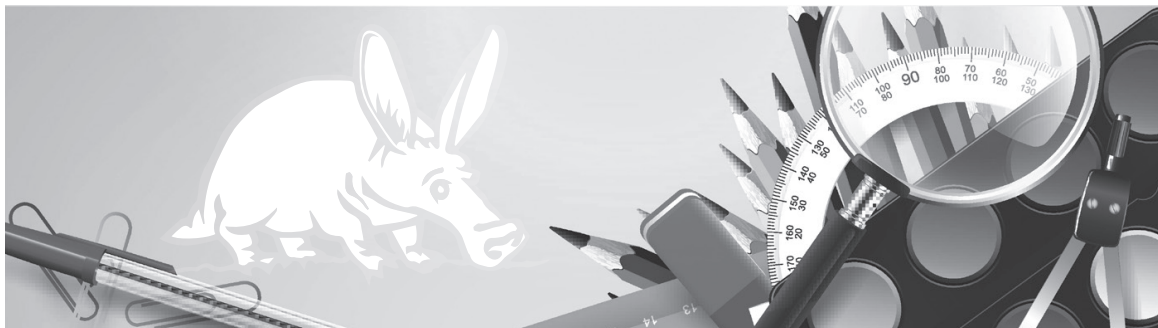
ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Withdrawals and Transfers

When a student leaves the city or moves from one school to another within the city of Lincoln, advance notice of at least one day is needed so our staff can prepare a withdrawal form which includes information about courses and progress in those courses. The withdrawal form is to be taken to the receiving school. Other school records will be sent through the mail to the receiving school. Transferring students need to return all school textbooks to the registrar.

Change of Address, Phone Number, or Email Address

Students should keep the school informed of address, telephone number, and email address changes. Since student mid-quarter reports and monthly school newsletters are sent electronically, it is critical that email addresses be up to date. Please call the registrar if your address has changed or you are not receiving school communication. An email address is also very important to keep updated with the registrar.



Building Care

Care and maintenance of a building which accommodates over 850 students is a major job. All of us at Irving share this responsibility by taking care of the property we use and by helping keep the building clean. Students who damage anything in the building will receive disciplinary action, and will be assessed a fee to repair or replace anything damaged.

Fire Drills-Evacuation

Fire drills will be held at intervals throughout the year. It is important that students regard these fire drills seriously and know the procedure to follow in case of an actual emergency. Students should know the exit route to use from each of their classrooms. Teachers will provide this information. Observance of the following rules will help to ensure safety in the event of fire or fire drills:

1. When the fire alarm sounds, leave the room quickly, quietly and in good order.
2. Walk rapidly, but do not run.
3. Remain close to the nearest wall while moving to the stairway.
4. Form as many lines as space will permit.
5. Doors will be held open by the first person to reach them.
6. After leaving the building, move a safe distance away from the building.
7. Return to class upon signal.

Student Activities

There are a wide variety of activities available after school for students. These activities are provided so that students can explore their interests and talents. These groups usually meet from 3:10 to 4:00 p.m.

The following is a partial list of activities that we plan to sponsor. Other activities can be provided if students express interest. We are open to ideas. All clubs must have a staff sponsor.

Athletic Intramurals	Red Cross Club	Science Olympiad
Circle of Friends	Student Council	Chimney Swifts Club
Chess Club	Environmental Club	3D Printing Club
Geographic Bee	Spelling Bee	Vocal Music Groups

The media center is also open almost every day for students until 3:30 p.m. The computer lab in Room 222 is open until 3:30 p.m.

Transportation in other than school district owned vehicles is not considered school district authorized transportation.



Lincoln Public Schools

★ RESPONSIBILITIES OF STUDENTS ★



LINCOLN PUBLIC SCHOOLS

5901 O Street, Lincoln, NE 68510

The term “parents” is used to refer both to natural or adoptive parents and to legal guardians.

In order to function properly, public school education must provide an equal learning opportunity for all students. In addition to the regular curriculum, good citizenship must be taught and demonstrated. This includes an appreciation for the rights of others.

I. Establishment of Policies, Rules and Regulations

The Board of Education has established written policies, rules and regulations of general application governing student conduct in all schools. In addition, principals, within their schools, may establish written rules and regulations not inconsistent with those established by the Board.

II. Areas of Prohibited Student Conduct

Students are not to engage in conduct which causes or which creates a reasonable likelihood that it will cause a substantial disruption in or material interference with any school, function, activity or purpose or interfere with the health, safety, well being or the rights of other students, staff or visitors.

The following conduct has been determined by the Board of Education to have the potential to seriously affect the health, safety or welfare of students, staff and other persons or to otherwise seriously interfere with the educational process. Such conduct constitutes grounds for long-term suspension, expulsion, or mandatory reassignment. A student who engages in the conduct may be suspended and referred to the Department of Student Services for a conference to determine whether a long-term suspension, expulsion, or mandatory reassignment is appropriate. The conduct is covered by the school rules where it occurs on school grounds, in a vehicle owned, leased, or contracted by the school and being used for a school purpose or in a vehicle being driven for a school purpose by a school employee or an employee's designee, or at a school-sponsored activity or athletic event:

- A. Willfully disobeying any reasonable written or oral request of a school staff member, or the voicing of disrespect to those in authority.
- B. Use of violence, force, coercion, threat, intimidation, harassment or other conduct done in a manner that constitutes a substantial interference with school purposes or making any communication that a reasonable recipient would interpret as a serious expression of intent to harm or cause injury to another.
- C. Willfully causing or attempting to cause substantial damage to property, including the setting of a fire of any magnitude, stealing or attempting to steal property of substantial value, or repeated damage or theft involving property.
- D. Knowingly and intentionally engaging in bullying. Bullying is defined as any ongoing pattern of unwanted, aggressive behavior which may include physical, verbal or electronic abuse on school grounds, in a vehicle owned, leased or contracted by the school being used for a school purpose by a school employee or designee, or at school-sponsored activities or school-sponsored athletic events. (Lincoln Public Schools Policy 5482)
- E. The use of language, written or oral, or conduct, including gestures, which is profane or abusive to students or staff members. Profane or abusive language or conduct includes, but is not limited to, that which is commonly understood and intended to be derogatory toward a group or individual based upon economic status, race, ethnic background, culture, gender, sexual orientation, religion, age or ability.
- F. Causing or attempting to cause personal injury to any person, including, without limitation, any school employee, school volunteer, or student.
- G. Knowingly and intentionally using force in causing or attempting to cause personal injury to a school employee, school volunteer, or a student, except if caused by accident, self-defense, or on the reasonable belief that the force used was necessary to protect some other person and the extent of force used was reasonably believed to be necessary. This conduct shall result in an expulsion for the semester in which it occurred, and the next semester.
- H. Knowingly possessing, handling, or transmitting any object or material that is ordinarily or generally considered a weapon or that has the appearance of a weapon or bringing or possessing any explosive device, including fireworks.

- I. Knowingly and intentionally possessing, using, or transmitting a dangerous weapon other than a firearm. This conduct shall result in an expulsion for the semester in which it occurred, and the next semester.
- J. Knowingly and intentionally possessing, using, or transmitting a firearm on school grounds, in a school-owned or utilized vehicle, or during an educational function or event off school grounds, or at a school-sponsored activity or athletic event. This conduct shall result in an expulsion for one calendar year. “Firearm” means a firearm as defined in 18 U.S.C. 921, as that statute existed on January 1, 1995. That statute includes the following statement: “The term ‘firearm’ means (a) any weapon (including a starter gun) which will or is designed to or may readily be converted to expel a projectile by the action of an explosive; (b) the frame or receiver of any such weapon; (c) any firearm muffler or firearm silencer; or (d) any destructive device.”
- K. Public indecency or sexual conduct.
- L. Sexually assaulting or attempting to sexually assault any person. This conduct may result in an expulsion regardless of the time or location of the offense, if a complaint alleging such conduct is filed in a court of competent jurisdiction.
- M. Dressing or grooming in a manner wherein such dress is dangerous to the student's health and safety or to the health and safety of others or repeated violations of the student dress and grooming standards; dressing, grooming, or engaging in speech that is lewd or indecent, vulgar, or plainly offensive; dressing, grooming, or engaging in speech that school officials reasonably conclude will materially and substantially disrupt the work and discipline of the school; or dressing, grooming, or engaging in speech that a reasonable observer would interpret as advocating illegal drug use.
- N. Engaging in the selling, using, possessing or dispensing of alcohol, tobacco, narcotics, drugs, controlled substance, imitation controlled substance, e-cigarette vapor products, inhalant or being under the influence of any of the above; or possession of drug paraphernalia. Use of a controlled substance in the manner prescribed for the student by the student's physician is not a violation. The term “under the influence” has a less strict meaning than it does under criminal law. For school purposes, the term means any level of impairment and includes even the odor of alcohol or illegal substances on the breath or person of a student; also, it includes being impaired by reason of the abuse of any material used as a stimulant
- O. Violation of technology guidelines.
- P. Plagiarism or copyright infringement by students is considered academic dishonesty, is prohibited and may result in disciplinary action including expulsion from school.
- Q. Recording the image or voice of another person with an electronic device, without the express permission of the person recorded or the failure to promptly delete such a recording following the request of the person recorded.
- R. Willfully violating the behavioral expectations for those students riding Lincoln Public Schools buses.
- S. Truancy or failure to attend assigned classes or assigned activities.
- T. Tardiness to school, assigned classes or assigned activities.
- U. Engaging in any unlawful activity which constitutes a danger to other students or interferes with school purposes.
- V. Repeated violation of any of the rules adopted by the School District or the school.

Students may also be suspended from school for up to five school days by the building administration for conduct constituting grounds for expulsion or other violations of rules and standards of behavior adopted by the Board of Education or the administrative or teaching staff which occur on or off school grounds if such conduct interferes with school purposes or there is a connection between such conduct and school.

In addition, administrators and teachers may also take actions regarding student behavior, other than removal of students from school, which are reasonably necessary to aid the student, further school purposes, or prevent interference with the educational process. Such actions may include counseling of students, parent conferences, rearrangement of schedules, requirements that a student remain in school after regular hours to do additional work, in-school suspensions, or restriction of extracurricular activity. Students are responsible for complying with such disciplinary measures and may be further disciplined for a failure to serve such assigned discipline as directed.



IRVING MIDDLE SCHOOL
2745 South 22nd Street
Lincoln, Nebraska 68502
Web Site: <http://Irving.lps.org>

Phone Lines

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Torri Lienemann, Special Education Coordinator
Deanna Macek, Instructional Coordinator

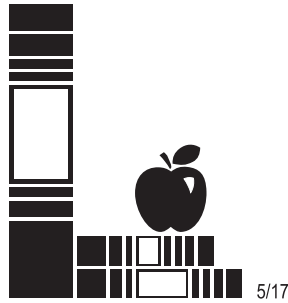
Counselors

Dani White, 7th Grade
Jan Krien, 8th Grade
Valerie Bergo, 6th Grade
Mary Lou Krull, Registrar

LINCOLN BOARD OF EDUCATION

Barbara Baier
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The Lincoln Public School District does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, sex, marital status, sexual orientation, disability, age, pregnancy, childbirth or related medical condition, genetic information, citizenship status or economic status in its programs, activities and employment.