

# ***Bryan Community Focus Program***

## ***Lincoln Public Schools***



***“Rise Above It”***

## ***2022-2023 Student Handbook***

***Bryan Community  
300 South 48<sup>th</sup> Street  
Lincoln, NE 68510***

***(402) 436-1308***

***(402) 458-3208 (Fax)***

***<https://bryan.lps.org/>***

***<https://www.facebook.com/BryanCommunityFP>***

***<https://twitter.com/BryanCommunity>***

***<https://www.instagram.com/bryancommfp/>***



# Bryan Community Student Handbook (2022-2023)

## **Bryan Community Administration**

Denise Craig - Principal (dcraig2@lps.org)

Greg Sederberg - Instructional Coordinator (gsederb@lps.org)

## **Bryan Community Staff**

Johnny Bell - Special Education

Dwight Brown - Therapist

Claudia Campbell - Academic Interventionist

Porter Chollet - Art

Brady Christianson - Social Studies

April Christman - e-Learning/Science/Math

Alli Craven - Social Studies

Dave Degenhardt - Custodian

Becky Ditmer - Student Child Learning Center

Lovena Glantz - Office staff

Eric Green - Math

Bill Hershberger - Campus Supervisor

Lily Hershey - Family and Consumer Sciences, Yearbook

Susie Howard - e-Learning

Kirby Killion - Math

Allen Ladd - Social Worker

Meredith Lovell - Math

Nick Madsen - Technology/Business/Future Ready Coach

Vikki Murray - Health Tech

Jennifer Northouse - Science

Theresa Paschke - Custodian

Kim Peters - Office staff

Hope Power - English

Jillian Roethler - Student Child Learning Center

Jeff Schmale - Custodian

Emily Schmidt - English

Jacob Schneider - English

Shelby Smith-Brasch - Student Support Para

Leisa Thies - Special Education

Cheryl Wilkins - Media Center



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### ***Bryan Community Focus Program Mission Statement***

Ensuring all students will achieve the necessary learning to be successful up to and beyond graduation.

### ***Bryan Community Focus Program Vision Statement***

The Bryan Community School will provide an environment which allows students to create opportunities to develop trusting connections with one another, develop a sense of purpose, promote self-determination, and strive for excellence in academic achievement.

### ***Bryan Community Focus Program Focus Statements***

At Bryan, we RISE TOGETHER!

1. *At Bryan, we learn through **active engagement**.*
2. *At Bryan, we work towards a culture of **wellness**.*
3. *At Bryan, we are **reflective thinkers**.*
4. *At Bryan, we build a **peaceful community**.*
5. *At Bryan, we seek our **purpose**.*

## Bryan Community Focus Program School Wide Expectations

# R.I.S.E.

**Respect:** We will establish a respectful learning community that embraces individuality by trusting, listening, and showing compassion to one another.

**Intention:** We will develop responsibility by holding ourselves and each other accountable for our learning, decisions and actions.

**Self-Control:** We will develop a peaceful environment by accepting ourselves and others and resolving differences through communication, seeking and giving support and ensuring fairness.

**Effort:** We will strive to increase academic achievement by giving feedback, recognizing effort, providing recognition and by encouraging belief in our abilities to be successful.



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## *What is Bryan?*

Bryan Community Focus Program is an alternative high school program that combines high behavioral and academic expectations with innovative teaching designed to help students meet the requirements for a Lincoln Public Schools high school diploma. The smaller learning environment at Bryan allows for more individualized instruction. We have around 160 students and 15 teachers. Class sizes are usually no larger than 18 students, and some classes are much smaller. Our staff strive to build strong connections to each student to understand them and support their growth. At Bryan, we try to make every day a new day (learning from mistakes and moving on) and focus on daily progress toward meeting goals. We are always learning about equity and we try to make Bryan a welcoming place for all students. Our mascot is the Phoenix, symbolizing new opportunities, and rising up above challenges.

At Bryan, we focus on the whole student in addition to academics. We have five focus statements to help us work toward success in all facets of life. We expect students to do their best to grow in these areas:

At Bryan, we RISE TOGETHER!

1. At Bryan, we are reflective thinkers.
2. At Bryan, we work towards a culture of wellness.
3. At Bryan, we seek our purpose.
4. At Bryan, we build a peaceful community.
5. At Bryan, we learn through active engagement.

In 2021, our staff are working on new ways to engage students in learning and career planning. We will help students understand how their own experience and expertise can contribute to a classroom, job, or community. We will also push students to learn new skills and information and build new connections to careers and community through project-based learning.

Students can apply to be a student at Bryan through our website, and often times students are encouraged to apply by an administrator or counselor at their home high school. Students and parents or guardians must participate in an interview process and agree to Bryan expectations if selected to attend Bryan Community. While at Bryan, students may continue to participate in athletics or other student activities at their home high school.

For more information please contact Bryan Community directly at (402) 436-1308.



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## *Bryan Attendance Process*

Developing and maintaining regular attendance is one of the most important steps to becoming a successful student, and is an expectation for students attending Bryan Community. When a student is not in school, the possibility of learning the classroom objectives and earning credit is significantly reduced. Bryan students will follow a three-tiered attendance system within our Multi-tiered Systems of Support (MTSS) program. The interventions listed below will be implemented to help students maintain good attendance. Incentives will also be awarded for students who make improvements to their current attendance patterns.

Nebraska Law LB464 places school absences into two categories: School Excused (SE) and Not School Excused (NSE). School Excused absences include those excused by a doctor or the school health office and any absence approved by school administration such as student activities, suspensions, or students currently in alternate placements. Absences that are Not School Excused and are subject to attendance interventions include Parent Acknowledged, Illness, and Truancy. The law also states that students who accumulate 20 days of Not School Excused absences in one school year may be referred to the County Attorney.

### **Tier One Interventions**

- Electronic phone calls/texts will be sent home to parents/guardians each day for all truanancies documented in the Synergy gradebook.
- Learning Lab teachers will contact parents/guardians when students are truant from multiple days of Learning Lab.
- Parents will be contacted by the Bryan Registrar to discuss absences.

### **Tier Two Interventions**

- **5 days of Not School Excused (NSE) absences**
  - Parent/Guardian will receive a Stage One Attendance Letter.
- **10 days of Not School Excused (NSE) absences**
  - Parent/Guardian will receive a Stage Two Attendance Letter.
  - Students and Parents will meet with a member of the Bryan student support team to discuss absences and develop a *Collaborative Plan with new interventions to reduce barriers and to improve regular attendance.*

### **Tier Three Interventions**

- **15 days of Not School Excused (NSE) absences**
  - Parent/Guardian will receive a Stage Three Attendance Letter.
  - A member of the Bryan student support team will meet with the student to continue to support their attendance.
  - Academic Probation may be considered at this time.



## Attendance Interventions (continued)

- **20 days of Not School Excused(NSE) absences**
  - Parent/Guardian will receive a Stage Four Attendance Letter.
  - Student may be referred to the County Attorney as directed in Nebraska State Law LB464.
  - Academic Probation may be considered at this time.

## On Campus Truancy:

Students are expected to be in class during class time. Leaving the building is not permitted during instructional time or passing periods. The below policy is a guideline - administrator response may vary depending on the situation.

- 1st Offense - Verbal Warning
- 2nd Offense - Verbal Warning/ Parent Phone Call
- 3rd Offense - Lunch Detention / Parent Phone Call
- 4th Offense - Day of ISS / Parent Phone Call
- 5th Offense - Day of OSS / Parent Meeting
- Continued Issue - OSS and Possible Referral to LPS Student Services

## Tardies:

Being on time to class shows respect to your teacher and classmates, and helps you succeed in class.

Tardy sweeps will occur throughout the school year. A student who is tardy during a tardy sweep:

- Receives a “Resolve It” ticket and makes a plan with their teacher to complete work or make up class time
- If that is not completed, the student will be assigned a 15 minute tardy detention



## Bryan Community Academic Expectations

*Bryan Community is an alternative high school program that students choose to attend based on a commitment to graduating high school, and making the changes needed in their lives to improve their academics, attendance, and behavior.*

### Academic Probation:

- A student may be considered for Academic Probation if they are not having academic success and/or are not in regular attendance.
- Students at Bryan have made the choice to attend Bryan Community, and students are accepted based on potential to find success in a new environment. Bryan has a limited number of spaces, so students must make use of their space at Bryan by attending regularly and earning credits.
- Students with poor attendance and multiple failing grades may be placed on academic probation. A parent/guardian meeting will be held to outline the specific expectations a student must meet to continue attending Bryan.
- Students will be provided multiple supports and interventions to help students become successful.
- If a student does not meet the expectations of their probation, the student will lose their place at Bryan.
- Re-admittance into the Bryan Community will occur only if the student indicates a commitment to demonstrating responsible academic behaviors. A personal interview with an administrator is required before the student can be considered for readmission.

## ***Bryan Community is a Drug / Alcohol / Tobacco / Vape Free Campus***

### Smoking, Tobacco, and Vaping

Smoking and vaping (by students or adults) is prohibited at Bryan Community, in the building or on school grounds. Students are not to have any smoking or vaping related products visible in the building or on campus.

### **The use and/or possession of any device or material related to smoking/vaping will result in consequences:**

- Confiscation (parent/guardian will need to pick up)
- In School Suspension
- Out of School Suspension
- Possible referral to Student Services



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## Drug/Alcohol Related Offenses

When a student is suspected of being under the influence of drugs or alcohol and/or in possession of illegal substances, the student may be searched as well as any of their property on this campus (including vehicle searches).

The student may be referred to the Lincoln Police Department and possibly cited.

### Possible Consequences

- Suspension from school
- Possible referral to Student Services
- Mandatory parent/guardian conference prior to returning
- Other interventions as determined by administration

## *Learning Lab at Bryan*

Learning and creating quality work is a top priority at Bryan Community. Students at Bryan learn how to refine and improve their skills and knowledge to become successful learners, producing high quality work. To ensure academic success, all students are assigned to a learning lab class while at Bryan. Participation in the learning lab program is mandatory. Students will work with teachers to complete assignments/projects or relearn/retest over essential objectives, thus improving overall performance in school. Our goal is for each Bryan student to earn credit in every course they are enrolled in throughout the school year. Learning lab classes meet for 30 minutes every day and students earn elective credit toward graduation for participating in this academic support opportunity.

### Purpose of the Bryan Community Learning Lab Program

- To provide each student with consistent academic support
- To prepare students for postsecondary education by meeting all high school course objectives
- To encourage supportive relationships and build self-efficacy
- To provide students with the knowledge and skills to be successful in all academic environments

## *Student IDs*

Students will use their ID to scan into the building and to purchase lunch. New IDs can be reprinted for a fee of \$2.00.





## ***Personal Electronic Devices and Communication***

Bryan Community respects instructional time and wants all students to learn, earn credits, and graduate. Students who are focused on learning are much more successful than students who are missing learning due to a device.

### **Device use during Instructional Time**

Devices are to be put away during instructional time, unless a teacher gives permission for devices to be used during certain times in the lesson. These include:

1. Phones
2. iPods, iTouches, MP3 players or any other handheld devices or music players
3. Headphones or ear buds
4. Tablets, e-readers and other wireless computing devices
5. Other electronic items including game systems such as PSPs, and any other items as determined by the school administration.

### **Procedure for the use of personal electronic devices during Instructional Time:**

**1st Warning** - The teacher will ask the student to put their device away, including ear phones (silenced, face-down on desk or out of sight in a bag/pocket)

**2nd Incident** - The classroom teacher will ask the student to turn their device in to the teacher for the remainder of the class period

**3rd Incident** - If a student refuses to give their device to their classroom teacher, the student will be sent to the office and will turn their phone in to administration for the remainder of the day or the next day, depending on the time of day.

**If a student is sent to the office for multiple phone incidents, they may be required to turn their phone in to the office for the multiple days.\***

\*Failure to comply with any of the above requests will be considered a violation of LPS Responsibilities of Students, II. A: Willfully disobeying any reasonable written or oral request of a staff member, or the voicing of disrespect to those in authority. **Students may be suspended for refusal to comply or turn in phone.**



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## **Pictures/Recording during School**

- It is a violation of the LPS Right and Responsibilities of Students to record the image or voice of another person with an electronic device, without the express permission of the person recorded, while on school grounds, at a school activity or in a school vehicle.
- It will be a further violation of LPS Right and Responsibilities of Students to fail to promptly delete such a recording following the request of the person recorded and/or LPS staff. Students who engage in such recording or who fail to delete the recording on request may be subject to disciplinary action including, but not limited to, suspension or expulsion from school.

## **Communicating with your student during school hours**

Please contact the Bryan office with messages that need to get to students during the school day. Texting your student during class time directly disrupts instruction and the learning of everyone within the classroom setting. The Bryan Support Staff is happy to help you and will quickly pass along messages. Thank you for your help with this matter and for protecting our instructional time.

## ***Appropriate School Clothing***

If a student's dress interrupts or distracts from classroom activities or is seen as inappropriate for the school setting, the student will not be permitted to continue wearing the clothing in school. This includes, but is not limited to, the following examples: offensive/obscene/vulgar; hate speech; reference to or advertises drugs, alcohol, or tobacco; threatens safety; gang symbols; guns/weapons/violence. Shirts must have straps, while pants need to be free from significant sagging. Clothing must cover all private parts and undergarments. The administration will be the judge of appropriate apparel. Students wearing inappropriate clothing will be asked to turn the items inside out or change clothing.

## ***Fines, Fees and Expenses***

Fines are assessed against students for losing or damaging books, equipment, and other school or LPS property. This includes expenses acquired for students choosing to attend school sponsored trips. Fines are to be paid to the office.



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## *Search and Seizure*

To maintain order and discipline in the school and to protect the safety and welfare of students and personnel, school authorities may search a student or a student automobile under the circumstances outlined below, and may seize illegal, unauthorized or contraband materials discovered in the search. A student's failure to permit the search and seizure will be considered grounds for disciplinary action.

*Personal searches* – A student's person and/or belongings may be searched whenever a school authority has reasonable suspicion to believe the student is in possession of illegal or unauthorized materials.

*Automobile searches* – Students are permitted to park on school premises as a matter of privilege. The school retains authority to conduct routine patrols of student parking lots and inspections of the exteriors of student vehicles on school property. The interiors of student vehicles may be inspected whenever a school authority has reasonable suspicion to believe that illegal or unauthorized materials are contained inside. Such patrols and inspections may be conducted without notice, without student consent, and without a search warrant.

## *Arrival and Dismissal Procedures*

### **Arrival**

- The building opens at 7:30am
- Class begins at 8:10 a.m. for 9th/10th graders and 9:00 a.m. for 11th/12th graders.
- Students will be allowed to enter the building upon arrival and will wait in the media center.
- Student parents will be asked to enter the Student Child Learning Center through the SCLC entrance.
- Students can enter the building through Door 1 (Main entrance through the Main Office).
- Students must scan their student ID each morning at the Student Check-In Center in the office.

### **Dismissal**

- Students are dismissed from the building at 3:00 p.m. On PLC Tuesdays students will be dismissed at 2:00 p.m.
- Students should go home without delay, unless participating in an activity.
- The building closes at 4:00 p.m., so all students should be off school grounds by then.

**Note:** Students waiting for rides after 3:30 p.m. are expected to wait in the Media Center. There are three reasons for this expectation:

- 1) Supervision is only provided outside until 3:30.
- 2) Parents will know where their students are located.
- 3) During cold or inclement weather, this is a warm and dry location.

### **Dismissal from school during the school day**

Students are required to sign out in the main office when leaving the campus for any reason before the end of their scheduled day. Sign in/out sheets are located in the office. Parental notification is required for all students under 19. If a student is dismissed due to illness, he/she must be seen in the health office prior to exiting and a parent will be contacted.



***2022-2023 Bell Schedule***

<b>PERIOD</b>	<b>M/W/Th/F</b>	<b>Tuesday(PLC)</b>
<b>0</b>	8:10-8:57	8:10-8:57
<b>1</b>	9:00-9:30	9:00-9:30
<b>2</b>	9:33-10:20	9:33-10:10
<b>3</b>	10:23-11:10	10:13-10:50
<b>4</b>	11:13-12:00	10:53-11:30
<b>LUNCH</b>	12:00-12:30	11:30-12:00
<b>5</b>	12:33-1:20	12:03-12:40
<b>6</b>	1:23-2:10	12:43-1:20
<b>7</b>	2:13-3:00	1:23-2:00
<b>8</b>	3:03-3:50	-----



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### ***Breakfast/Lunch***

Students will need their Student ID to purchase breakfast and/or lunch each day. Breakfast will be served from 7:50-8:05 and 8:40-8:55 with lunch being available from 12:00-12:25. Students will be allowed to eat breakfast and lunch in the cafeteria or outside. When finished, they will be allowed to spend the remainder of their lunch period in the gym, media center, cafeteria, or outside.

Students eating breakfast must arrive early enough to eat in the cafeteria.  
*Food is not allowed in classrooms.*

Students in 9th and 10th grade are required to stay on campus for lunch.

### **Consequences for students in 9th/10th grade leaving campus during lunch, or for all students returning late from lunch.**

- 1st Offense- Verbal Warning
- 2nd Offense- Verbal Warning/ Parent Phone Call
- 3rd Offense- Lunch Detention / Parent Phone Call
- 4th Offense- Lunch Detention / Parent Phone Call
- 5th Offense- Day of ISS / Parent Phone Call
- 6th Offense - Day of OSS / Parent Meeting
- Continued Issue- OSS and Possible Referral to LPS Student Services

### ***Intent of Student Handbook***

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

Although information found in this handbook contains detailed and specific information on a variety of 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 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 the situation or circumstance arise that is not specifically covered in this handbook, the administration will make a decision based upon all applicable school district policies, and state and federal statutes and regulations.