

Student Handbook 2026-2027



***Reignite the pride. Renew the purpose.
Restore excellence.***

Buffalo Valley Public School District 1007

Krista Curley - Superintendent

Anna Pate - Elementary Principal

Krista Curley - JH/HS Principal

Jana Hardin - Counselor

WELCOME

This student handbook is written to help answer questions about Buffalo Valley Public School. Parents and students are encouraged to study this handbook carefully and keep it for reference throughout the year.

TO THE STUDENTS OF BUFFALO VALLEY PUBLIC SCHOOL

This handbook is provided as a guide through the school days at Buffalo Valley to lessen problems and facilitate a smooth running school. This handbook should answer most questions about school policies, rules, regulations and activities.

Many of the policies are governed by state law and are directives of the State Board of Education; others are local policy, custom, or traditions that may be amended as the need arises.

VISION STATEMENT

Buffalo Valley Public School will educate all students to the highest levels of academic achievement, to enable them to reach and expand their potential, and to prepare them to become productive, responsible, ethical, creative and compassionate members of society.

SCHOOL HOURS

Students should not arrive before 7:30 a.m. The dismissal bell rings at 3:15 p.m.

PHONE NUMBERS

SUPERINTENDENT OFFICE 918-942-9225 X120
ELEMENTARY OFFICE 918-942-9225 X123
HIGH SCHOOL OFFICE 918-942-9225 X126

To; Parents, Students & Employees
From: Krista Curley, Superintendent of Schools
Subject: ADHERA Plan

Date: July 10, 2019

The facilities of Buffalo Valley Public Schools have been inspected for Asbestos Containing Building Materials. An Oklahoma Department of Labor accredited inspector did this inspection. Based upon this inspection I am pleased to announce our facilities are ASBESTOS FREE.

The AHEA Management Plan is available for viewing in the office of the Superintendent. The document may be viewed during regular working hours.

Krista Curley
Superintendent
Buffalo Valley Public Schools

NOTIFICATION OF RIGHTS UNDER FERPA

The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) afford parents and students over 18 years of age ("eligible students") certain rights with respect to the student's education records. They are:

- A. The right to inspect and review the student's education records within 45 days of the day the School District receives a request for access.

Parents or eligible students should submit to the school principal (or appropriate school official) a written request that identifies the record(s) they wish to inspect. The principal will make arrangements for access and notify the parent or eligible student of the time and place where the records may be inspected.

- B. The right to request the amendment of the student's education records that the parent or eligible student believes are inaccurate, misleading or in violation of student rights.
- i. Parents or eligible students may ask the School District to amend a record that they believe is inaccurate or misleading. They should write the school principal, clearly identify the part of the record they want changed, and specify why it is inaccurate, misleading or in violation of student rights.
 - ii. If the School District decides not to amend the record as requested by the parent or eligible student, the School District will notify the parent or eligible student of the decision and advise them of their right to a hearing regarding the request for amendment. Additional information regarding the hearing procedures will be provided to the parent or eligible student when notified of the right to a hearing.
- C. The right to consent to disclosures of personally identifiable information contained in the student's education records, except to the extent that FERPA authorizes disclosure without consent.
- i. One exception which permits disclosure without consent is disclosure to school officials with legitimate educational interests. A school official is a person employed by the School District as an administrator, supervisor, instructor, or support staff member (including health or medical staff and law enforcement unit personnel); a person serving on the School Board; a person or company with whom the School District has contracted to perform a special task (such as an attorney, auditor, medical consultant, or therapist); or a parent or student participating in a school service program or serving on an official committee, such as a disciplinary or grievance committee, or assisting another school official in performing his or her tasks.
 - ii. A school official has a legitimate educational interest if the official needs to review an education record in order to fulfill his or her professional responsibility.
 - iii. Upon request, the School District discloses education records without consent to officials of another school district in which a student seeks or intends to enroll.
- D. 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. The name and address of the Office that administers FERPA are:

Family Policy Compliance Office
U.S. Department of Education
400 Maryland Avenue, SW
Washington, D.C. 20202-4605

Copies of the School District's Student Records Policy and Procedures are available through the superintendent's office. Translation will be provided to non-English speaking parents in their native language, if needed.

All rights and protections given parents under FERPA transfer to the student when he or she reaches age 18 or enrolls in a post-secondary school. The student then becomes an eligible student.

DIRECTORY INFORMATION NOTICE

The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) require that the School District, with certain exceptions, obtain your written consent prior to the disclosure of personally identifiable information from your child's education records. However, the School District may disclose appropriately designated "directory information" without written consent, unless you have advised the District to the contrary in accordance with District procedures. The primary purpose of directory information is to allow the School District to include this type of information from your child's education records in certain school publications. Examples include:

- A playbill, showing your student's role in a drama production;
- The annual yearbook;
- Honor roll or other recognition lists;
- Graduation programs; and
- Sports activity sheets, such as for wrestling, showing weight and height of team members.

Directory information, which is information that is generally not considered harmful or an invasion of privacy if released, can also be disclosed to outside organizations without a parent's prior written consent. Outside organizations include, but are not limited to, companies that manufacture class rings or publish yearbooks. In addition, two federal laws required local educational agencies (LEAs) receiving assistance under the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 to provide military recruiters, upon request, with three directory information categories – names, addresses and telephone listings – unless parents have advised the LEA that they do not want their student's information disclosed without their prior written consent.

The School District has designated the following information as "directory information," and it will disclose that information without prior written consent:

- The student's name;
- The names of the student's parents;
- The student's address;
- The student's telephone listing;
- The student's electronic mail address;
- The student's date and place of birth;
- The student's dates of attendance;
- The student's grade level (i.e., first grade, tenth grade, etc.);
- The student's participation in officially recognized activities and sports;
- The student's degrees, honors and awards received;
- The student's weight and height, if a member of an athletic team;
- The student's photograph; and
- The most recent educational agency or institution attended.

Within the first three weeks of each school year, the School District will publish in a newspaper of general circulation in the area the above list or a revised list of the items of directory information it proposes to designate as directory information. For students enrolling after the notice is published, the list will be given to the student's parent or the eligible student at the time and place of enrollment.

After the parents or eligible students have been notified, they will have two weeks to advise the School District in writing (a letter to the superintendent of schools' office) of any or all of the items they refuse to permit the School District to designate as directory information about that student.

At the end of the two-week period, each student's records will be appropriately marked by the records custodian to indicate the items the School District will designate as directory information about that student. This designation will remain in effect until it is modified by the written direction of the student's parent or the eligible student.

SEARCH AND SEIZURE LAW

State law allows school officials to have access to school lockers, desks, and other school property in order to properly supervise the welfare of pupils. School lockers, desks and other areas of school facilities may be opened and examined by school officials at any time, and no reason shall be necessary for such search. School officials also have the authority to detain and search any student or property in the possession of the student when he/she is on school property, on the bus, or at school functions. This authority is given to school officials if they have reason to believe the student is in possession of any item that is illegal or prohibited by school rules or property believed to have been stolen from another student, an employee or the school.

PHILOSOPHY OF BUFFALO VALLEY PUBLIC SCHOOL

Each student should have an opportunity for maximum growth in self-knowledge, in personal discipline, in citizenship, and in diversified academic experiences.

To implement these basic concepts we shall endeavor to:

1. Be knowledgeable of the needs and motivation of each student.
2. Provide for a continued program of skill development begun in the elementary grades and initiate programs which will be extended in secondary grades.
3. Provide instructional experiences and materials at the level of each student and encourage each to look upon education as a continuing process.
4. Provide firsthand experiences which will create curiosity and inspire the student to seek further knowledge.
5. Provide an appropriate setting for intellectual development and exploration.
6. Help students develop a sense of responsibility for their own progress and safety and for the progress and safety of others.
7. Teach the basic American ideals.
8. Encourage each student to develop worthwhile leisure time experiences by providing aesthetic and creative opportunities for his/her personal enrichment.

EXIT OUTCOMES FOR BVPS STUDENTS

Buffalo Valley students will demonstrate that they are:

SELF DIRECTED LEARNERS who research, evaluate, and communicate information to prioritize personal goals, develop and monitor a long-range plan, and analyze community, national, and global issues.

COOPERATIVE CITIZENS who interact effectively within a diverse culture or organization to solve collective problems.

PRODUCTIVE INDIVIDUALS, who innovate, assimilate, create, and implement products that reflect originality, merit, and use of advanced technology.

RESPONSIBLE CONTRIBUTORS who analyze, compare, and evaluate components of complex problems to make decisions to solve those problems in varied settings.

CORPORAL PUNISHMENT

The Board of Education of Buffalo Valley Public Schools has authorized the use of corporal punishment as one of the disciplinary tools available to teachers. Corporal punishment will be administered by the principal or designee, in the principal's office or another private area.

GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

1. 2023-2024 seniors 23 credits.

Seventeen of these shall be earned in the 10th, 11th, and 12th grades. These units shall include:

- 4 units of English
- 3 units of Math
- 3 units of Science (with two units of Lab science)
- 1 unit US History
- ½ unit of US Government
- 1 unit of World History
- ½ unit of Oklahoma History
- 1 unit of Citizenship Skills
- 1 units of Fine Arts
- 2 units World or Non-English Language or Computer Technology
- Personal Financial Literacy Requirement
- CPR/AED Requirement
- 6 ICAP Pathway Credits

1. A total not to exceed 4 units may be submitted from P.E. or athletics to meet the 23 units required for graduation.
2. Students who need more than one unit for graduation will not be permitted to participate in graduation exercises.
3. At least 2 of the last 3 units completed for graduation shall be completed in attendance at BVHS.
4. **Beginning with the 2026-2027 9th graders – 4 Math credits will be a requirement for graduation.**

CLASSIFICATION

The appropriate classification is as follows:

- Senior – 17 credits
- Junior – 11 credits
- Sophomore – 6 credits

A student must meet these required credits to be classified as a Sophomore, Junior, or Senior.

COLLEGE ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

Students who plan to enter college must have completed the following courses in high school:

- English.....4 years
- Mathematics.....3 years
(Algebra I, Algebra II, Geometry)
- Lab Science.....2 years
(Biology, Chemistry, any two lab science)
- History.....2 years
(American History)
- Citizenship Skills.....1 year
(Economics, Geog., Government, Democracy, Non-Western Culture)

Beginning with the 2026-2027 9th graders – 4 Math credits will be a requirement for graduation.

COLLEGE ADMISSION STANDARDS

Curriculum and performance requirements for admission to colleges and universities are increasing. **YOU MUST CHECK THE COLLEGES YOU ARE CONSIDERING TO CONFIRM THEIR REQUIREMENTS.** The counseling office has college handbooks and research materials. These materials are for you to use, and the counselor will assist you in gathering this information.

PROGRESS REPORTS AND REPORT CARDS

Progress Reports will be sent at the fifth week of each nine weeks' period, and report cards mailed at the end of each nine weeks. They will not be issued to students who have not paid fees and other financial obligations. The semester grade is recorded on the permanent record.

The school is not pleased with failing work on the part of any student, and school officials will gladly cooperate with the student and the parents in an effort to determine the cause of failing work and to encourage passing work. Parents should not hesitate to phone or visit the school in case of unsatisfactory grades on the part of any student

Special reports are made at periodic intervals to notify the parents when a student is not making satisfactory progress. This report may be sent at other times when a teacher feels a parent should be notified of a child's failure to do acceptable work. Teachers will notify students in their classes each Monday who are failing or have dropped one letter grade.

GRADING SCALE

A	Excellent	90-100
B	Above Average	80-89
C	Average	70-79
D	Below Average	60-69
F	Failure	59-below

No pluses (+) or minuses (-) are used.

CLARIFICATION FOR VALEDICTORIAN AND SALUTATORIAN

To be eligible for valedictorian or salutatorian honors as a senior or eighth grade student, students must have been enrolled as a student in Buffalo Valley School for their last four semesters of work (the final semester of their senior or eighth grade year does not count toward calculation). Senior valedictorian and salutatorian will be the graduating students who have the highest and second highest seven semester grade point average in class. Eighth grade valedictorian and salutatorian will be the graduating students who have the highest five semester grade point average.

GRADE POINT AVERAGE WILL BE CARRIED TO FOUR DECIMAL PLACES IF POSSIBLE In case of a tie for valedictorian or salutatorian, all students tying will be named co-valedictorian or co-salutatorians and will be ranked the same.

TO BE ELIGIBLE FOR VALEDICTORIAN AND SALUTATORIAN A STUDENT IS NOT REQUIRED TO TAKE HONOR CLASSES.

CLASS RANKING---Use point average scale carried to four decimal places.

SUPERINTENDENT'S HONOR ROLL----Students having all A's for the last semester of the previous year and the first semester of the current year will receive an award at the end of the year.

PRINCIPAL'S HONOR ROLL--- Students having no grade below a B for the last semester of the previous year and the first semester of the current year will receive an award at the end of the year.

District & State Academic Assessments

Buffalo Valley Schools administers state-required and district-approved assessments to measure student learning and academic progress. These assessments help teachers monitor student growth, identify areas of strength and need, and guide instructional planning. The district uses a variety of assessment platforms based on grade level and individual student needs, including, but not limited to, DIBELS, Star Reading, Star Math, and IXL Diagnostics.

The State of Oklahoma requires students to participate in assessments through the Oklahoma School Testing Program (OSTP). Required OSTP assessments include:

- **Reading:** Grades 3–8
- **Mathematics:** Grades 3–8
- **Science:** Grades 5 and 8
- **Writing:** Grades 5 and 8

Students in Grade 11 are required to participate in the College and Career Readiness Assessments (CCRA), which include the ACT (English, Mathematics, Reading, Science, and Writing), as well as state-required assessments in Science, U.S. History, and the U.S. Citizenship Test.

CHANGING SCHEDULES

Schedules may be changed during the first week of each semester through the principal or counselor only if there is just cause. Schedule changes are at the discretion of the counselor and/or Principal.

STUDENT DRESS CODE

The dress code is designed for all students with emphasis on good grooming, cleanliness, and proper dress. This code is an integral part of the student's educational process, which tends to enhance one's appearance and personal image in the school. **The student's dress and grooming shall not lead school officials to reasonably believe that such dress or grooming will disrupt, interfere with, or detract from school activities, or create a health or other hazard to students' safety or to the safety of others.**

Dress code is to be followed on all school property and at any school function away from school property.

All clothing must cover the body in a modest manner appropriate for school. Compliance with the dress code is a responsibility of every student and parent. The dress code is to be monitored by every staff member of Buffalo Valley High School and Elementary.

Conditions of the Dress Code include:

Hoods for hoodie sweatshirts or t-shirts that cover the head are not to be worn inside any school building.

No earbuds allowed.

All clothing must cover the body in a modest manner appropriate for school.

All shirts, blouses, and tops must have armholes cut square with the edge of the shoulder. This prohibits the wearing of any top with straps. All shirts and blouses must cover the midriff at all times and in all situations.

Low cut necklines are prohibited even when worn with a sweater/jacket.

All students are required to wear shoes. House shoes/slippers are unacceptable. Cleat shoes are not permissible in the school building, school buses or vans.

Students may not wear any clothing article, or exposed tattoos which depicts or advertises alcohol, tobacco, vape or vaping products, drugs, drug paraphernalia, violence, or behavior perceived as lewd, offensive, vulgar, or obscene. This includes items that are suggestive in nature, or depicts blood, the occult, gangs, etc.

Caps, hats, bandanas, hair rollers, combs, blankets or covers of any type are not to be worn inside the school building or the cafeteria.

All pants and shorts must be worn at the waist level. Sagging pants and pajamas are prohibited. Jeans that have holes above mid-thigh (appropriate short length) are inappropriate and will be dealt with as a discipline problem.

All shorts, skirts and dresses will not be more than 5" from above the middle of knee. Also, biking shorts, leggings, or other tight fitting knitwear will be covered with a garment no shorter than 5 inches above the knee. The first infraction the student will be allowed to change into something appropriate they have with them or change into what the school provides. The student will not be allowed to call home. The 2nd infraction will be 1 day ISS. The 3rd infraction will be 3 days of ISS.

All shorts, skirts and dresses must be at the 5" mark not counting anything under them such as sliders, leggings or any other garment.

Burn-out shirts can be worn only if a tank top with at least 2" straps are worn underneath and no other see through garments are permitted.

Street clothes must cover sleepwear or underwear.

Sunglasses are not to be worn in the building, classroom or cafeteria.

Inappropriate bracelets will be confiscated.

No decorative or distracting contacts.

Any students who wear the "low waist" style of pants must keep their waist covered at all times.

The faculty and administrators will be working together to help monitor the dress code. Any student in violation of the dress code that cannot reach a parent to bring them appropriate clothing will spend the remainder of the day in In-School-Detention. **Students will not leave campus to change clothes for violating the dress code.**

FOOD AND BEVERAGES

Food, drinks, and gum are not to be brought into the classrooms and are not to be consumed in the halls. Water is only exception. Lunches brought from home will be eaten in the lunchroom. No soft drinks are allowed in the cafeteria.

LICENSED STUDENT CARS & CYCLES

Violations of parking regulations or driving safety rules will result in some form of disciplinary action. Repeated violations may result in suspension out of school. Students must possess a driver's license, proof of insurance to drive and park on school grounds. Students will not be allowed to congregate in or around parked cars. Students may not drive vehicles to any school classes or activities without principal permission.

LEAVING SCHOOL GROUNDS CLOSED CAMPUS

It is the policy of the Buffalo Valley Board of Education that the school will have a closed campus. Students will remain on campus from the time they arrive in the morning until the completion of the school day. When a student arrives at school in the morning (whether walking, riding a bus, or driving a vehicle), the school day starts for the student. Each student should plan to arrive at school before the 7:55 am bell, allowing time to get books, organize for the morning and be ready to meet the first class.

Upon arrival on campus, the student is to go to an approved area to wait for the first bell. Sitting in a vehicle is not permitted.

Students having arrived at school may not leave the school premises at any time during the day without first receiving permission from the principal's office. For special occasions at school, students will not be allowed to leave campus to dress or undress unless extenuating circumstances exist.

Married students and students 18 years of age or older and living on their own will be considered their own guardian.

Before permission can be granted for a student to leave at any time:

The principal's office must have received a note or a phone call from the student's parent/guardian stating the reason why the student needs to leave school (a note must be brought in soon enough to be verified).

The principal or office personnel must talk personally with the parent/guardian.

The student must then sign the sign-out sheet (and must sign back in if returning before school is out).

This is a closed campus. Students will remain on campus until school dismissal unless signed out by a parent IN PERSON.

ATTENDANCE

No single factor does more to aid a student's progress in school than regular attendance. Oklahoma school law demands that a student attend school until he/she is eighteen (18) years old or until he or she has completed high school. The taxpayers have provided excellent facilities and resources for local students. It is the responsibility of every student to make the most of the opportunities that have been provided. This can be accomplished only by regular attendance.

A student may not earn credit in any class in which the student has more than nine (9) absences in a semester. This is a total of 9 absences including excused and unexcused days missed. Absences may be excused for the following reasons:

Sickness or family emergencies or other legitimate reasons as determined by the principal.

Parents must promptly provide to the principal or designee proof of the reason for the absence for it to be designated "excused." Failure to promptly provide such proof will result in a determination that the absence is "unexcused".

Parents may request reconsideration of the decision that a student will not earn credit in a class by following the review process and timelines identified in the "Promotion/Retention and Failing Courses" section of this handbook.

Absentee reports will be sent home as necessary for any student with 5 absences or more.

The student will have one day for every day absent to make up work missed, unless additional time is granted by the teacher.

TARDIES

Three tardies will equal one absence. This will be monitored every class period. The process will start over at the beginning of each month. 3 tardies is counted as an absence.

TRUANT ABSENCES AND LEAVING SCHOOL-DOCTOR APPOINTMENTS

Students will not be permitted to check out of school without parental permission, either by telephone or in person. Once cleared by the principal, a student sign out sheet must be filled out by the student.

Doctor appointments must be verified either by parent/guardian or by a doctor's statement. Truant absences will not be tolerated.

Absentees will be checked and monitored by the principal's office daily.

MEDICATION

If a parent or guardian wishes the school to administer any kind of medication to a student, the parent or guardian must complete and sign a form authorizing its administration. Only prescription medicine in a prescription bottle for that student may be given. The school will provide first aid for minor cuts and scratches.

Teachers should be informed of any health condition a student has so that he/she might be better prepared to handle any situation that might arise.

HEADLICE

Any student with head lice will be sent home. If sent home with head lice, the student must go through the office for a head check before resuming classes. All guidelines from the Oklahoma State Department of Education and Oklahoma State Department of Health will be followed.

IMMUNIZATIONS

The State board of Health currently requires that children attending school in Oklahoma have five (5) DTP or TD shots, four (4) doses of polio vaccine (children who began their polio immunizations after their first birthday are required to have only three (3) doses of polio vaccine), one (1) dose of mumps and rubella, and two (2) doses of measles immunizations. Students must have received the measles and rubella vaccines on or after their first birthday. All students in 7th-8th grades must provide documentation of having received three (3) doses of Hepatitis B vaccine and one (1) dose of Hepatitis A vaccine. All students K-1 are required to have additional vaccinations against Hepatitis A and Chicken Pox.

All students must present acceptable documentation of the required immunizations before they may be allowed to enter or attend classes. There is no grace period for new enrollees or transfer students.

CARE OF SCHOOL PROPERTY

The building and grounds reflect pride in the school. The help of the student body to maintain the appearance of the school is encouraged. Each student should feel an individual responsibility to keep the school clean and neat. Under no condition should one mark on the walls, desks, or in any way deface school property. The destruction of school property, including buses, will merit disciplinary action.

Care of the property in a school is one of the best ways to judge a student body. Care and respect of public and private property is the responsibility of every student. It is the duty of the school to teach this respect and responsibility and the obligation of the student body to accept this respect and responsibility. Students and faculty are very fortunate to have one of the best school facilities in southeastern Oklahoma. Through everyone's efforts we can keep our school at a high level of appearance and effectiveness. **TAKE PRIDE IN YOUR SCHOOL!!!** Any student damaging school property through carelessness, neglect, or mischievousness will be expected to pay for the damaged property and may be suspended out of school.

WITHDRAWAL FROM SCHOOL

If withdrawal from school is planned, a parent should notify the principal. The student will receive a clearance slip to be presented to each of his/her teachers. If the student has any School District-owned equipment, supplies, or library books, they must be returned. After each teacher has signed the clearance slip, it will be presented to the principal's office, and the student will receive any refund that is due. All textbooks must be returned to the classroom teacher.

VISITORS

No student will be allowed to bring a visitor or children to school. Buffalo Valley Public Schools does not have liability for or authority over students from other schools. All adults visiting the buildings must report to the school office.

TELEPHONES

Teachers will not give permission for students to make phone calls during class time. Students will be called to the telephone during class time for emergency calls only. Calls will be allowed only between classes or at noon. **STUDENTS WHO DISPLAY RUDE**

TELEPHONE MANNERS WILL NOT BE PERMITTED TO USE THE PHONE!!! The only phone to be used is in the office phones.

ACTIVITY CALENDAR

To eliminate conflict, an official calendar is maintained by the principal. All school activities must be scheduled on this calendar. Sponsors and student officers are urged to schedule all activities for the year as soon as possible. The principal must approve all scheduling. This calendar will be located on the district website.

SCHOOL SPONSORED TRIPS

Students will be expected to conduct themselves according to school policy, rules and regulations in a manner that will bring credit to Buffalo Valley Public Schools. Sponsors of special trips that require students to stay overnight shall have on file in the principal's office a set of rules appropriate to the activity and itinerary approved by the administration on the day prior to departure.

All school rules apply to extracurricular trips.

All students participating in activities that require time out of school will be required to have been in attendance at least 90% of the time. In addition, they shall not be under disciplinary action, must be scholastically in good standing (no grade of "F"), and not lacking any tests or make up work.

All groups who occasionally take field trips away from school are expected to adhere to these policies, rules and regulations. Each student is expected to do his or her part in working toward these events and become involved in their group activities.

Sponsors will be appointed by the school officials and shall be required to ride on the van or bus on any extra curricular trip. Sponsors are to check the bus interior before and after each trip. They will also call roll prior to leaving school and after returning. Sponsors will turn in the list of students who fail to attend the trip to the principal's office before leaving, if possible.

Students who need to board the bus for activities in which they do not participate, must have a signed note from the teacher and principal before they can be given permission to board the bus.

Students cannot get off the bus unless an emergency arises and then parents or guardians must be promptly notified. Upon notification, sponsors of activity will wait until the notified parent or guardian picks up the student.

UNDUE FAMILIARITY

It is assumed that all students have sufficient personal pride that they observe standards of ethical behavior in school. The school halls and school grounds are public places; therefore, it is expected that students will use discretion in relationships. Undue familiarity is considered in poor taste and will not be condoned. Students who persist in such practice will be referred to the principal, and if necessary, the parents will be called in for a conference.

TOBACCO, VAPE OR VAPING PRODUCTS

State law prohibits the use or possession of tobacco, vape or vaping products by students. Therefore, use and possession of tobacco, vape or vaping products and its by-products (cigarettes, vaping devices, cigars, snuff, chewing tobacco, vape or vaping products, or any form of tobacco, vape or vaping products product) is prohibited. Violators may be suspended out of school, and/or fined by local authorities.

DANGEROUS WEAPONS

The Board of Education prohibits possession by any student of a dangerous weapon or a replica or facsimile of a dangerous weapon on school property, at school-sponsored activities and on school vehicles. This includes but is not limited to any pistol, revolver, dagger, knife, bowie knife, spring-type knife, sword cane, knife with a blade which opens automatically by hand pressure applied to a button, spring, or other device in the handle of the knife, blackjack, loaded cane, billy, hand chain, metal knuckles or glass container. Students with firearms (excluding approval for skeet shooting team) will be suspended out of school for one calendar year and

students in possession of other types of dangerous weapons, replicas or facsimiles of dangerous weapons will also be subject to out-of-school suspension.

ADVERSE WEATHER CONDITIONS

In the event of adverse weather, please monitor the remind app and the school Facebook page for notifications. A decision on school closing will be made as early as possible.

ELECTRONIC PAGERS, CELL PHONES, AUDIO (I-PODS, ETC.), GAMES AND/OR VIDEO GAMES, Smart Watches

Oklahoma State Statutes (70-24-101.1) and Oklahoma School Law (Article XXIV, Section 488) has established rules and regulations which prohibit a pupil from possessing an electronic paging device while said pupil is on school premises, or while in transit under the authority of the school, or while attending any function sponsored or authorized by the school. Deviations from this law will be viewed on an individual basis as deemed necessary by the principal. Portable, mobile, cellular phones and games are not allowed in the classroom or on the campus during the school day. Smart phones, audio and video devices must be approved through the administration before being brought on to the school campus. If the above listed devices are not approved and are confiscated, the following procedures will be used:

1st Time: The device is taken and the parent must pick it up at the end of the day.

2nd Time: The device is taken and student is given one day of ISS and parent must pick up phone at end of the day.

3rd Time: The device is taken and student is in ISS for 3 days.

If a student is using someone else's phone, and it is taken then both students may face consequences.

Students that bring any of the above devices can turn them in at the office before school and can pick them up from the office after school is dismissed for the day.

BUS RIDING RULES AND REGULATIONS

Students involved in school activities will ride in school provided or school-approved transportation. At the conclusion of the activity, students may be released to their parent/guardian only with sponsor approval.

NOTE TO PARENTS: Please review the following information with students riding Buffalo Valley Public Schools buses. If there is a change in the student's transportation, please send a note to his/her teacher.

1. Be at the bus stop on time. It is recommended that students be at the stop five (5) minutes early. Stay back from the roadway.
2. Look both ways before crossing the road. Cross only in front of the bus, not behind it.
3. Watch your step getting on or off the bus. Do not shove or push.
4. Respect and listen to the driver. He/she is in charge of the vehicle and passengers, just as teachers are in charge of the classrooms.
5. Remain seated while the bus is in motion. Horseplay is not permitted.
6. Cost of repair for damage to the bus done by students will be considered the responsibility of the student who caused the damage.
7. Food, drinks, loud talking and shouting will not be permitted on the bus.
8. Students found smoking, using drugs, fighting, or damaging the bus will be suspended from riding any bus in the school system.
9. Never run beside or hang onto the bus. Never throw anything at or from the bus.
10. The driver is not permitted to carry students not living on the route nor are they permitted to let students off at other than the regular stop unless authorized by the principal.
11. Go directly home or to school after getting off the bus.
12. Students who continue to not follow the rules on the bus or who commit serious or dangerous acts may be suspended from riding any bus in the school system. Bus transportation is a service, not a mandate. Please do not lose this privilege.
13. The above rules and regulations will also apply to any extra-curricular trip sponsored by Buffalo Valley Public Schools.

LOCKERS

Each student is assigned a locker for the storage of books and equipment. It is the student's responsibility to see that the locker is kept in order at all times. Lockers are property of school and can be legally searched at any time. Please do not place inappropriate material in lockers that are not school related.

HEALTH SERVICES

In case of serious illness or injury to students while at school, we first attempt to contact parents or relative. If we are unable to locate the parents, we take the child to the clinic, where he/she will wait until the parents have been contacted. Therefore, it is imperative we have an emergency phone number where parents or a responsible party can be reached.

In addition, Oklahoma law requires immunization verification on file prior to class attendance. Also, state law does not permit the dispensing of medication by any employees to any student without proper forms on file. Forms may be picked up at the school office.

CAFETERIA

All lunches will be eaten in the cafeteria. Students will be responsible for taking their trays and trash to the proper disposal area. If lunch is brought from home, please send a drink other than a soft drink.

A grade "A" hot lunch program will be made available to all students. Unless special arrangements are made students are required to stay on the school grounds at lunch time. No food or drinks will be taken from the cafeteria.

FUNDRAISERS

Receipts will be issued for all money received.

ELIGIBILITY-ATHLETICS AND EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

A student must have received a passing grade in all subjects counted for graduation that he/she was enrolled in during the last semester he/she attended fifteen (15) or more days. Students must be in attendance 90% to be eligible under OSSAA rules.

A student who fails to meet the minimum scholastic standard will be ineligible for the first six weeks of the next semester. A student may regain eligibility by passing all classes at the end of the six-week period.

Scholastic eligibility for students will be in line with the OSSAA eligibility rules.

If a student fails to meet the minimum scholastic standard at the end of a week he/she will be placed on probation for the next one-week period. If a student fails to meet the minimum scholastic standard at the end of the probationary one-week period, the student will be ineligible to participate during the next one-week period. The ineligibility periods will begin Monday and end on Sunday.

A student who has lost eligibility under this provision must achieve the minimum scholastic standard in order to re-gain eligibility. A student regains eligibility under OSSAA Rule 3 with the first class of the new one-week period. (Monday through Sunday)

A 12th grade student who is concurrently enrolled in high school and college must pass all subjects to maintain eligibility.

Students enrolling in a school for the first time must meet the OSSAA's scholastic requirements in Rule 3, Section 1-a. A student who is not eligible in one Oklahoma school will not be eligible at another Oklahoma school for a minimum period of three (3) weeks (fifteen (15) school days) he/she attends if he/she moves or transfers. A student may regain his/her eligibility by achieving the scholastic standard in Rule 3, Section 1-a at the end of a three-week period.

Incomplete grades will be considered to be the same as failing grades in determining scholastic eligibility. School administrators are authorized to make an exception to this provision (OSSAA Rule 3, section 3-c) if the grade was caused by an unavoidable hardship. (Examples of such hardships would be illness, injury, death in family, and natural disaster).

One summer school credit earned in an Oklahoma State Department of Education-accredited program may be used to meet the requirements of OSSAA Rule 3, section 1-a for the end of the spring semester. A credit in summer school under this provision must be for the subject failed during the spring semester.

Schools may choose to run eligibility checks on Monday of each week beginning after the 4th week of school. The period of ineligibility will always begin the day eligibility is checked for the week.

STOCK SHOWS, ETC.

Youth who have been declared ineligible to participate in extra-curricular activities by their local school administration will be declared ineligible to participate in the show.

Youth who are eligible on the first day of the show will be considered eligible through the duration of the show. Similarly, youth who are ineligible on the first day of the show will be considered ineligible through the duration of the show.

If an exhibitor is ineligible to participate in the show for any reason, including rules of the Oklahoma Secondary School Activities Association, the animals owned by the exhibitor are also ineligible for the show.

Ineligible youth who participate in the show will forfeit all show and/or sale premiums and awards and will be subject to disciplinary action as provided by school policy, rules and regulations. Guard your eligibility in order to participate in school competition activities and extra-curricular activities. You are NOT eligible if:

1. You are 19 years of age before September 1st.
2. You have not attended classes 90% of the time for the current semester.
3. You have an "F" in any class as stated by the OSSAA regulations.
4. You have been disqualified from a contest for unsportsmanlike conduct or a flagrant foul, or are under school discipline. (Principal may reinstate a student following a conference and after a written report of details and action taken has been filed with the Oklahoma Secondary School Activities Association).
5. You have participated in a contest where professionalism is being practiced, or cash or merchandise prizes were offered, given, or paid to individuals or to the team.
6. You have attended school more than eight semesters in grades 9 through 12.
7. Your parents are not bona fide residents of the high school district where you are attending.
8. You do not file in the principal's office physician and parent certificates for the present year. (This applies to athletics only.)

The grade rule eligibility will not be cumulative from school year to school year.

SCHOOL DANCES

School dances are for currently enrolled students of Buffalo Valley School. Dances will be closed to students not enrolled in the District unless pre-approved by the administration. School dances may not be attended by any student who is ineligible for (academically or attendance) or who has any debts or outstanding obligations to the school. Pre-approval must be given by administrator(s) prior to attending.

CLASS SPONSORED ACTIVITIES AND TRIPS

Any time students are involved in school activities, meetings, trips, etc., they are to be accompanied by their sponsors.

There is a limit of ten (10) days that a student will be allowed to attend school activities that will keep them from attending class. Sponsors will turn in a complete list of students attending well in advance of the day of the trip to the building principals.

Students that will require more than ten (10) days' absence for school activities must have the approval of the Ten-Day Activity Committee.

TEN-DAY ACTIVITY RULE POLICY

IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE POLICY OF THE OKLAHOMA STATE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION, THE FOLLOWING SHALL GOVERN STUDENT ATTENDANCE FOR ELEMENTARY, JR. HIGH AND SR. HIGH SCHOOL:

1. School Activity: These are extra-curricular activities, whether sponsored by the school or outside agency, which removes the student from class for more than half of a class period.
2. The total number of student activity absences allowed from any one class period, without permission from the Principal and/or Athletic/Activities Director, shall be ten.
3. Once a student has had ten activity absences from any one class period, the student must be reported to the principal's office and Athletic/Activities Director.

The criteria for continuing beyond the ten-day absence limit shall be as follows:

- A. A student must have a letter grade of "D" or better in the subject he or she is wanting to miss.
- B. Before a student is given permission to be absent beyond the ten-day limit, even though he or she has a "D" or better, the student's record must show that his or her grade was not adversely affected by the previous ten days of absence and he or she has turned in all required work missed on previous days out.

The policy of the Board of Education does not set a maximum number of activity absences to be allowed per student. However, an unreasonable request for exceptions will not be considered.

Activities excluded from the ten-day rule are:

Class meetings, assemblies and field trips involving the class period only and others such as State and National levels of school-sponsored contests.

DISCIPLINARY GUIDELINES

Detention –Lunch Period and/or After School. Possible Parent Pickup

Suspension Short Term Suspension (1 day to 9 days), Long Term Suspension (10 days to current semester plus the next semester) **ATD** - Alternative Discipline (corporal punishment)

These are guidelines only, and at the discretion of administration disciplinary action may be revised.

Students engaging in offenses that are criminal in nature or that violate local, state, or federal laws may be subject to citations, fines and or prosecution.

The following behaviors at school, while on school vehicles or going to or from or attending school events will result in disciplinary action, which may include in-school suspension: (examples: ballgames, AG events, 4-H events, etc).

In addition, conduct occurring outside of normal school day or off school property that has a direct and immediate negative effect on the discipline or educational process or effectiveness of the school, will also result in disciplinary action, which may include in-school placement options or out-of-school suspension.

Any student that receives Out of School suspension may not be allowed to attend or participate in any extra-curricular activities.

Rule Violation	1 st Violation	2 nd Violation	3 rd Violation
Inappropriate Language	1-3 days detention	3-5 days detention	3-5 days detention/1-2 days ISP
Activating an alarm	1-5 Days ISP	5 Days suspension	9 Weeks suspension
Arson	1 day-L.T. suspension	L.T. suspension	
Bullying of Student	3 days detention	3-5 days suspension	5-10 days suspension
Bus Misconduct	1-3 days detention or ATD	1-2 days ISP or ATD	L.T.-S.T. suspension
Caps, hats or any headgear may not be worn or carried in the building.	Warning	Cap will be confiscated till the end of the day	Cap will be kept for 5 days.
Cheating	1-5 days Detention	1-5 days ISP or ATD	1-5 days suspension
De-pantsing a student	1-5 Days ISP	1-5 Days suspension	5-10 Days suspension
Disrespect	1-5 days Detention	1-5 days ISP or ATD	1-5 days suspension to L.T. Suspension
Disruptive Conduct	1-3 days detention or ATD	1-2 days ISP or ATD	3-5 days ISP
Dress Code Violation	Written Warning & Correct the	1-3 days Detention	1-5 days ISP or ATD

	Violation		
Drug & Alcohol-Under the Influence or possession	L.T. suspension and may be referred to law enforcement	L.T. suspension and may be referred to law enforcement	L.T. suspension to expulsion and may be referred to law enforcement
Failure to Attend Detention	Double Detention days	ISP – day for day or ATD	Day for Day Suspension
Fighting	3 days suspension and possible referral to law enforcement	4-10 days suspension and possible referral to law enforcement	L.T. suspension and possible referral law enforcement
Firearm or destructive Device-Possession	1 Calendar Year suspension		
Gambling	3 days detention – 5 days suspension	6-10 days suspension	L.T. suspension
Hazardous Items	3 days detention – 5 days suspension	5 days suspension – L.T. suspension	L.T. suspension
Internet Misconduct (pornography, threats, etc.)	1 day detention – 3 days suspension and/or loss of privileges or ATD	1-5 days ISP and loss of privileges	5 days to L.T. suspension and loss of privileges
Not prepared for class/Failure to do homework	1-3 days detention	2-5 days detention	3-5 days detention/1-2 days ISP
Refuse to obey rules/Not Following Directions	1-3 days detention or ATD	3-5 days ISP or ATD	1-3 days suspension
Possession of another student's phone	Warning	1-3 Days detention	1-5 Days detention or ISP
Profanity, Pornography, Vulgar Gestures	1 day detention-3 days suspension or ATD	1-5 days ISP - 5 days suspension or ATD	5 days suspension-L.T. suspension
Profanity to Teacher or Staff	1-3 days detention	3-5 days suspension	5 days suspension - L.T. suspension
Stealing or Possession of Stolen Property	1 - 5 days ISP – 5 days suspension	1-5 days - L.T. suspension	L.T, suspension
Tardy	warning	warning	detention
Threats to School	5 days – L.T. suspension	L.T. suspension	
Threat to Staff-Verbal or Written	3 days suspension-L.T. suspension	6-10 days Suspension-L.T Suspension	L.T. suspension
Threat to Student-Verbal or Written	3-5 days Suspension-L.T suspension	6-10 days Suspension-L.T Suspension	L.T. Suspension
Tobacco,vape or vaping products-Possession /Use	3 days ISP or 1 Day Suspension	1-3 day suspension	3-5 days suspension
Unsafe Behavior	1-3 days detention or ATD	3-5 days ISP or ATD	1-3 days suspension
Vandalism	1 day detention-5 days suspension + cost	3 days - L.T. suspension + cost	
Vandalism-Electronic	5 days-L.T. suspension + Cost	L. T. suspension + cost	
Verbal Abuse of Staff	5 day s- L.T. suspension	L.T. suspension	
Videotaping at school	3-5 days Suspension	6-10 days Suspension	L.T. Suspension
Videotaping or photographing at school and placing it on the internet	5 days suspension	10 days suspension	L.T. suspension
Weapons Possession	Current Semester or Current Semester and next		
Electronics, Cell Phones and/or ear phones, Smart devices	Confiscation with parent pickup	Parent pickup and 1 day ISP	Device is taken and suspended for 3 days

Student Computer and Internet Use

Buffalo Valley Schools recognizes the educational and safety benefits of technology and the responsible use of electronic and digital communication devices during the school day. Students are expected to use good judgment and demonstrate appropriate digital citizenship in all electronic and digital communications, whether using district-owned or personal devices and whether on or off campus.

Any electronic or digital communication that is inappropriate, harassing, intimidating, threatening, or constitutes bullying or cyberbullying toward any student, employee, or member of the school community is strictly prohibited. This prohibition applies regardless of whether the communication occurs on or off school property, during or outside of school hours, or through personal or district-owned devices and technology when the conduct disrupts the educational environment or otherwise falls within the school's authority.

Students using district-owned devices, software, networks, or internet access should have no expectation of privacy. The district reserves the right to monitor, access, and review the use of its technology resources to ensure compliance with district policies and applicable law.

Students who violate this policy may have their technology privileges suspended or revoked and may be subject to additional disciplinary action in accordance with the Student Code of Conduct.

FIRE AND TORNADO INSTRUCTION

Principals and teachers will go over specific fire and tornado drill instructions with students.

HOME SCHOOL STUDENTS

Students who have been receiving home schooling and wish to return to public school will be required to take achievement proficiency testing for placement.

NON-DISCRIMINATION

Buffalo Valley Public Schools does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, age, national origin, disability or veteran status. The District is aware of the provisions of applicable federal and state statutes and regulations prohibiting discrimination and intends to comply with them. Inquiries concerning the application of this policy may be referred to:

Superintendent

Krista Curley
kcurley@bvpsd.org
918-942-9225 x122

High School Principal

Krista Curley
kcurley@bvpsd.org
918-942-9225 x125

Elementary Principal

Anna Pate
apate@bvpsd.org
918-942-9225 x124

Contact the persons listed above for further information about the Grievance Procedures.

PROMOTION/RETENTION AND FAILING COURSES

The School District determines promotion and retention through an evaluation of the total growth of the individual child, rather than his or her rate of academic achievement alone. The names of students who do not complete satisfactory work during the school term will be submitted to a retention committee. The retention committee will determine whether it is in the student's and the school's best interest for the student to repeat a grade. After receiving a committee decision to retain a student or upon receipt of the student's report card showing a failing grade in a course, any parent may request reconsideration of a retention decision or a decision to not pass a student in a course by requesting review of the initial decision by letter to the building principal. If no request is received within five (5) days of the parent's receipt of written notification of the committee's initial decision to retain or, in the case of failing a course, within five (5) days of the student or parent's receipt of the report card, the decision will be final and non-appealable. The principal's decision may be appealed to the superintendent and Board of Education. Consult the building principal for further information concerning the appeal process or for a copy of the School District's policy.

PROFICIENCY-BASED PROMOTION

Upon the request of a student, parent, or guardian, a student will be given the opportunity to demonstrate proficiency in one or more areas of the core curriculum

Proficiency will be demonstrated by assessment or evaluation appropriate to curriculum areas of social studies, language arts, the arts, languages, mathematics, and science.

Proficiency for advancing to the next level of study will be demonstrated by a score of 80% or comparable performance.

The opportunity for proficiency assessment will be provided on an as-needed basis.

RULES FOR STUDENTS REGARDING DRUGS AND ALCOHOL

Illegal and Illicit Drugs and Alcohol

Unlawful possession and use of illegal and illicit drugs and alcohol is wrong and harmful.

Students are prohibited from using, being under the influence of, possessing, furnishing, distributing, selling, conspiring to sell or possess or being in the chain of sale or distribution of alcoholic beverages or low-point beer (as defined by Oklahoma law, i.e., 3.2 beer), illegal or illicit drugs, or other mood-altering substance at school, while on school vehicles, or at any school-sponsored event.

“Illicit drugs” includes steroids and prescription and over-the-counter medications being used for an abusive purpose, i.e., when they are not used in compliance with the prescription or directions for use and are not being used to treat a current health condition of the student. “Mood-altering substances” includes pain, glue, aerosol sprays, and similar substances.

Violation of this rule will result in imposition of disciplinary measures, which may include suspension for the remainder of the current semester and the following semester. The student will also be ineligible for participation in all extracurricular activities for a period of one calendar year. Out-of-school suspension for a first offense may be reduced if: the student and family agree to screening of the offender for chemical dependency; where chemical dependency is indicated by the above screening, a full alcohol and drug evaluation is facilitated by the parent; and the parent and offender follow all evaluation recommendations.

Student violation of this rule which also constitutes illegal conduct will be reported to law enforcement authorities.

Necessary Medications

Students may not retain possession of and self-administer any medication at school except as permitted by the School District’s policy on the Administration of Medicine to Students.

Students who have a legitimate health need for over-the-counter or prescription medication at school shall deliver such medications to the school nurse or principal with a parental authorization, in compliance with Oklahoma law and school policy.

Violations of this rule will be reported to the student’s parents by the principal, and may result in discipline which can include out-of-school suspension.

Distribution of Information

Information for students and their parents about drug and alcohol counseling and rehabilitation and re-entry programs in this geographic area are available from the principal at each student’s school.

SEXUAL HARASSMENT

All students, employees and board members are strictly prohibited from engaging in any form of sexual harassment of any student or employee of Buffalo Valley Public Schools. In the case of a student of the School District, “sexual harassment” is defined as unwelcome sexual advances, requests for sexual favors and other unwelcome verbal or physical conduct of a sexual nature by any person towards a student. Any student engaging in sexual harassment is subject to any and all disciplinary action which may be imposed under the School District’s code of student conduct.

Reporting Sexual Harassment

Any student who is or has been subjected to sexual harassment or knows of any student who is or has been subjected to sexual harassment should report those incidents to his or her principal, counselor or teacher, or to a board member, the superintendent or one of the School District's compliance coordinators. If a report of sexual harassment needs to be made after normal school hours, then the student or his or her parent may contact the superintendent, principal or any board member at home.

It is preferred that all such reports be made in person or in writing signed by the reporting party. However, in order to encourage full and complete reporting of such prohibited activities any person may report such incidents in writing and anonymously by providing such reports to the personal attention of any of the above-designated persons.

All reports of sexual harassment should state the name of the student or employee involved, the nature, context and extent of the prohibited activity, the date of the prohibited activity and any other information necessary to a full report and investigation of the matter.

For Further Information

Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 prohibits discrimination on the basis of sex in education programs and activities. Contact the School District's Title IX coordinator Mrs. Anna Pate at apate@bvpsd.org or at 918-942-9225 x124 for further information concerning Title IX or to initiate a complaint under the School District's Grievance Procedures for Filing, Processing and Resolving Alleged Discrimination Complaints. Students and their parents can obtain a copy of the Grievance Procedures from their school principal or the superintendent.

DISABILITY HARASSMENT

Buffalo Valley Public Schools prohibits disability harassment under Section 504 and Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act. Disability harassment includes intimidation or abusive behavior toward a student based on disability that creates a hostile environment by interfering with or denying a student's participation in or receipt of benefits, services or opportunities in the school's program. Harassing conduct may include verbal acts and name-calling, nonverbal behavior such as graphic and written statement, or conduct that is physically threatening, harmful or humiliating.

The following are examples of disability harassment:

1. Several student continually remark out loud to other students during class that a student with dyslexia is retarded or deaf and dumb and does not belong in the class; as a result, the harassed student has difficulty doing work in class and her grades decline.
2. A student repeatedly places classroom furniture or other objects in the path of classmates who use wheelchairs, impeding the classmates' ability to enter the classroom.
3. A teacher subjects a student to inappropriate physical restraint because of conduct related to his disability, with the result that the student tries to avoid school through increased absences.
4. A school administrator repeatedly denies a student with a disability access to lunch, field trips, assemblies and extracurricular activities as punishment for taking time off from school for required services related to the student's disability.
5. A teacher repeatedly belittles and criticizes a student with a disability for using accommodations in class, with the result that the student is so discouraged that she has great difficulty performing in class and learning.

6. Students continually taunt or belittle a student with mental retardation by mocking and intimidating him so he does not participate in class.

For further information concerning disability harassment or to initiate a complaint under the School District's Grievance Procedures for Filing, Processing and Resolving Alleged Discrimination Complaints contact the school. Students and their parents can obtain a copy of the Grievance Procedures from their school principal or the superintendent.

THE SCHOOL BULLYING PREVENTION ACT

The Oklahoma Legislature established the School Bullying Prevention Act with the express intent of prohibiting peer student harassment, intimidation, and bullying. These terms include, but are not limited to any gesture, written or verbal expression, or physical act that a reasonable person should recognize will:

1. harm another student;
2. damage another student's property;
3. place another student in reasonable fear of harm of the student's person or damage to the student's property; or
4. insult or demean any student or group of students in such a way as to disrupt or interfere with the school district's education mission of the student or other students.
5. threatening behavior, harassment, intimidation and bullying by electronic communication, whether or not the communication originated at school.

The Board of Education has also adopted a policy prohibiting harassment, intimidation, and bullying, which defines and explains this conduct and Buffalo Valley School District's response to this legislative mandate. Students and their parents can obtain a copy of the policy from their school principal or the superintendent.

Students should report acts of intimidation, harassment or bullying toward them or other students to school personnel.

Parents should:

Encourage their children to report incidents when they occur by notifying school personnel;

Take advantage of opportunities to talk to their children about bullying;

Inform the school immediately if they think their child is being bullied or is bullying other students;

Watch for symptoms that their child may be a victim of bullying and report those symptoms; and

Cooperate fully with school personnel in identifying and resolving incidents.

**NOTIFICATION OF RIGHTS UNDER THE
PROTECTION OF PUPIL RIGHTS AMENDMENT (PPRA)**

PPRA affords parents certain rights regarding our conduct of surveys, collection and use of information for marketing purposes, and certain physical exams. These include the right to:

- *Consent* before students are required to submit to a survey that concerns one or more of the following protected areas (“protected information survey”) if the survey is funded in whole or in part by a program of the U.S. Department of Education (ED) –
 1. Political affiliations or beliefs of the student or student’s parent;
 2. Mental and 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 with 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; or
 8. Income, other than as required by law to determine eligibility.
- *Receive notice and an opportunity to opt a student out of* –
 1. Any other protected information survey, regardless of funding;
 2. Any non-emergency, invasive physical exam or screening required as a condition of attendance; administered by the school or its agent, and not necessary to protect the immediate health and safety of a student, except for hearing, vision, or scoliosis screenings, or any physical exam or screening permitted or required under State law; and
 3. Activities involving collection, disclosure, or use of personal information obtained from students for marketing or to sell or otherwise distribute the information to others.
- *Inspect*, upon request and before administration or use –
 1. Protected information surveys of students;
 2. Instruments used to collect personal information from students for any of the above marketing, sales, or other distribution purposes; and
 3. Instructional material used as part of the educational curriculum.

These rights transfer from the parents to a student who is 18 years old or an emancipated minor under State law.

The School District has developed and adopted policies, in consultation with parents, regarding these rights, as well as arrangements to protect student privacy in the administration of protected information surveys and the collection, disclosure, or use of personal information for marketing, sales, or other distribution purposes. The School District will directly notify parents of these policies at least annually at the start of each school year and after any substantive changes. The School District will also directly notify, such as through U.S. Mail or email, parents of students who are scheduled to participate in the specific activities or surveys noted below and will provide an opportunity for the parent to opt his or her child out of participation of the specific activity or survey. The School District will make this notification to parents at the beginning of the school year if the District has identified the specific or approximate dates of the activities or surveys at that time. For surveys and activities scheduled after the school year starts, parents will be provided reasonable notification of the planned activities and surveys listed below and be provided an opportunity to opt their child out of school activities and surveys. Parents will also be provided an opportunity to review any pertinent surveys. Following is a list of the specific activities and surveys covered under this requirement:

- Collection, disclosure, or use of personal information for marketing, sales or other distribution.
- Administration of any protected information survey not funded in whole or in part by ED.
- Any non-emergency, invasive physical examination or screening as described above.

Parents who believe their rights have been violated may file a complaint with:

Family Policy Compliance Office
U.S. Department of Education
400 Maryland Avenue, SW
Washington, D.C. 20202-5901

SCHOOL CLUBS & ORGANIZATIONS

Parents or guardians of students may notify the Principal in writing that they do not want their child to participate in clubs or organizations that are extra-curricular. Parents or guardians shall be responsible for preventing their child from participating in a club or organization in which permission is withheld. Parents or guardians shall also be responsible for retrieving their child from attendance at a club or organization in which permission is withheld.

CONTINUING NOTICE OF NON-DISCRIMINATION

Buffalo Valley Public Schools does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, Disability, or age in its programs and activities and provides equal access to the Boy Scouts and other designated youth groups. The following people been designated to handle inquiries regarding the non-discrimination policies: Mrs. Anna Pate, apate@bvpsd.org, 918-942-9225 x124 and Mrs. Krista Curley, kcurley@bvpsd.org, 918-942-9225 x125.