## 2023 / 2024

# AVON HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT HANDBOOK



#### **ALMA MATER**

We honor thee today
Wide is thy fame
Your noblest achievements
Have hallowed thy name.

To thee we raise our voices

Loud and strong

Avon High, we bow to thee

In defeat or victory.

Alma Mater, we love thee And loyal we will be.

## **AVON HIGH SCHOOL**

## **2023-2024 BELL SCHEDULE**

TARDY BELL - 7:35AM

PERIOD 1	7:40 – 8:29
PERIOD 2	8:33 – 9:22
PERIOD 3	9:26-10:15
PERIOD 4A	10:19-10:49
PERIOD 4B	10:53-11:23
PERIOD 4C	11:27 -11:57
PERIOD 5	12:01-12:54
Period 6	12:58-1:47
PERIOD 7	1:51-2:40

TEACHER WORK HOURS: 7:25AM - 2:55PM

## AVON HIGH SCHOOL MIDDAY ASSEMBLY SCHEDULE

TARDY	BELL -	7.2 E A M
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	171101 DELL	7.33,
PERIOD	1	7:40 - 8:20
	2	8:24 - 9:04
	3	9:08 - 9:48
	<b>ASSEMBLY</b>	9:52 - 10:32
	4 <b>A</b>	10:36 - 11:06
	4B	11:10 - 11:40
	4C	11:44 - 12:14
	5	12:18 - 1:02
	6	1:06 - 1:51
	7	1:55 - 2:40

## AVON HIGH SCHOOL PEP ASSEMBLY SCHEDULE TARDY BELL – 7:35AM

	ITANDI DELE	7.33/***
PERIOD	1	7:40 - 8:25
	2	8:29 - 9:14
	3	9:18 - 10:03
	4A	10:07 - 10:37
	4B	10:41 - 11:11
	4C	11:15 - 11:45
	5	11:49 - 12:38
	6	12:42 - 1:27
	7	1:31 - 2:16
	<b>ASSEMBLY</b>	2:20 - 2:40

TEACHER WORK HOURS: 7:25AM - 2:55PM

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### **AVON LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT**

#### MISSION STATEMENT

The MISSION of the Avon Local School District is to educate the whole student in an inclusive environment that inspires personal excellence.

#### **VISION STATEMENT**

The VISION of the Avon Local School District is to create a legacy of excellence, innovation and service fostered through collaboration within the community.

#### **BOARD OF EDUCATION**

Tara Tatman	President
John Weigman	Vice President
Alissa Gault	Member
Dennis Kramer	Member
Christine Libeg	Member

#### **DISTRICT ADMINISTRATION**

Ben Hodge	Superintendent
Sadie Fox	Treasurer
Jen Fitch	Assistant Superintendent
Jason Call	Director of Student Services
Anne Fox	Student Services Programming Coordinator
Val Kaminski	Director of Curriculum and Development
Mike Elder	Director of Human Resources
Bill Fishleigh	Director of Operations

#### **HIGH SCHOOL ADMINISTRATION**

Kristina Dobos Buller	Principal
Adam Castrilla	Assistant Principal
Vincent Hokavar	Assistant Principal
Kelsey Mellino	Assistant Principal - Intern
Erich Frombach	Athletic Director

#### AVON HIGH SCHOOL FACULTY AND STAFF

Administrative Office Holly Cachat, Attendance Office Aide

Lori Gravelle, AHS Office Aide Kari Hricovec, Athletic Secretary

Courtnay Reinart, Administrative Secretary Becky Martin, AHS Office/Athletics Office Aide

Student Services Rene Argenti-Reinker, Counselor

Rebekah Bryson, Social Worker

Kristen Grudzien, Student Services Secretary

Julie Malone, Counselor Sherry Pietch, Counselor Brianne Reinhard, Counselor

Laura Ruberto, School Psychologist

**Media Center** Rae Haemmerle, Media Center Aide

Michelle Durante, Media Center Monitor

#### **AVON HIGH SCHOOL FACULTY AND STAFF**

Frik Moellman

Mason Acheson Holly Botos Kate Brannigan Allison Bryant Collin Bryant Blaine Bryson Stefanie Buckholz Karen Busch Chelsea Cahill Jared Cecchetti Kara Coffman Brittany Coughlin Claire Cuthbertson Stephan Danckers Audra Davis Jacob Digman Allyson Donovan Paul Eldridge William Errington Kimberly Fitch Michael Fitch Michele Frederick

Melissa Gadomski

Lea Gilbertson Amber Goodwin Amy Heller Collin Henderson Susan Hutner Aaron Jacobs Todd Kacher Kate Keckan Eric Kiesel Madelyne Knapp Janice Knox Kelly Laki Adrian Lee Shuangshuang Liu Jesse Martin Kenneth Matuszak Joe Mauser Kelly McCarthy Leisa McClellan Alex McCune Catherine McDaniel Kelsev Mellino Aaron Millet

Traci Moody Michael Moyseenko James Mulgrew Rachelle Peter Maria Petrulis Mark Porter Preston Postle Lee Powell John Rosati John Rosser **Todd Savers** Patrick Scholla Paul Sharaba Sean Sindelar Natalie Sokolowski Sarah Spayd Jeffrey Stevens Michael Tokarczyk **Emily Treece** Jacob Uhas Janice Ventresco **Emily Vucovich** 

Camryn Walters Deborah Weaver Melissa Wilhelm Doug Williams Robert Zivsak

## AVON HIGH SCHOOL IMPORTANT CONTACT INFORMATION

Avon High School Attendance Line Phone: (440) 934-1770

Avon High School Athletic DepartmentPhone: (440) 934-5111Avon High School Athletics FaxFax: (440) 934-5431

Avon High School Administrative Office Phone: (440) 934-6171

Avon High School Administrative Office Fax Fax: (440) 934-5450

Avon High School Student Services OfficePhone: (440) 934-5115Avon High School Student Services FaxFax: (440) 934-5473

#### **AVON HIGH SCHOOL BELL SCHEDULE**

Period 1 7:40 - 8:29
2 8:33 - 9:22
3 9:26 - 10:15
4A 10:19 - 10:49
4B 10:53 - 11:23
4C 11:27 - 11:57
5 12:01 - 12:54
6 12:58 - 1:47
7 1:51 - 2:40

Tardy Bell: 7:35AM 1st Period Morning Bell: 7:40AM End of Day Bell: 2:40PM Final Bell: 2:55PM

AVON HIGH SCHOOL - OFFICE HOURS - SCHOOL DAYS

7:00AM UNTIL 3:30PM

#### **FERPA**

#### Student Records:

The Avon Local School District Board of Education is required to follow Ohio and Federal law as to the maintenance and release of student records. Ohio and Federal law prohibit the release of personally identifiable student information except in certain specified circumstances without the written consent of the parent / legal guardian or the student, if eighteen or older. If you choose you do not want the following information released, please notify the building principal in writing by September 30, 2023. The School District may release "directory information" without consent and such information includes:

- student's name
- 2. student's address
- 3. telephone number(s)
- 4. student's date and place of birth
- 5. participation in officially recognized activities and sports
- 6. student's achievement awards or honors
- 7. student's weight and height, if a member of an athletic team
- 8. major field of study
- 9. dates of attendance ("from and to" dates of enrollment)
- 10. date of graduation

For purposes of FERPA, members of the Board of Education, School District Administration, School Building Administration, teachers and educational aides are considered to be school officials with a legitimate educational interest in viewing student educational records.

A parent / legal guardian or eligible student has the right to inspect and review the student's educational records, as well as the right to seek the correction of inaccurate or misleading records and that personally identifiable information about the student will not be released without consent, subject to the certain exceptions listed as directory information. The Board of Education has designated the following individual(s) to contact if a parent / legal guardian or student seeks access or the amendment of educational records: Mrs. Kristina Dobos Buller, Principal, Avon High School. Procedures for challenging or amending inaccurate or misleading information in a student's educational record are found in Board Policy, Policy No. JO. Complaints involving an alleged violation of FERPA may be addressed to:

Family Policy Compliance Office U.S. Department of Education 400 Maryland Avenue, SW Washington, DC 20202-5920

#### NON-DISCRIMINATION CLAUSE

The Avon Board of Education and its staff are dedicated to providing equal opportunities and equal employment opportunities without regard to sex, race, color, national origin, religion, gender, age or disability. If one has a concern about equal opportunities and equal employment opportunities, please contact the counselor, as they have the appropriate information on whom to contact.

#### Title IX

In accordance with Title IX Federal Guidelines, the Avon Board of Education has established a policy for making formal grievances of gender discrimination practice in the school format. Those wishing to make an appeal may request a Title IX Grievance Form from the high school office. Upon completion the grievance will be submitted to the designated coordinator.

#### Media Information and Consent

School activities may be recorded and publicized via pictures, video and sound bites. This material may be used in media presentations, such as television / cable, radio programs, newspaper articles, website, etc., to (a) extend recognition to students and / or (b) to provide publicity for the school district. Student addresses and telephone numbers will not be released. If you do not want your student's image photographed, taped or recorded, please contact the administration.

#### Age of Maturity

Students who are 18 or older are expected to comply with all school regulations.

#### Felonious Act

A student who is charged and / or convicted of a felonious crime may be subject to an academic review to determine an appropriate academic setting.

#### STUDENT BEHAVIOR AND DISCIPLINE

A goal of our educational program is to encourage independence and responsibility which are characteristic of the mature person. A constant respect for persons whether they are teachers, students, staff, visitors or others is a basic requirement. While it does not appear as a subject, discipline underlies the whole educational structure. In accordance with this philosophy, the Avon Board of Education has adopted a "Zero Tolerance Policy" for inappropriate student behavior.

#### Detentions

A detention will be assigned either by teachers or by the administration. All detentions shall be served under study hall conditions. A detention usually takes precedence over other activities. A student will always be given twenty-four (24) hours from the time a detention is issued in which to schedule the student's own transportation after service of the detention. A detention is not subject to appeal.

The two forms of detention at Avon High School are:

**School Detention** - Students may be assigned a school detention by the principal or an assistant principal. The length of the school detention will be 40 minutes.

**Teacher Detention** - Students may be assigned a teacher detention by individual teachers for such things as misconduct, tardiness to class, etc. The teacher determines the room and time for this detention. If the student does not comply, he / she will be referred to the office for discipline.

#### Wednesday School

Wednesday School may be assigned to students for various nonviolent behavior problems. Students who are assigned Wednesday School are required to attend school from 2:50pm-4:50pm on Wednesday evenings. Students who do not comply with Wednesday School guidelines may face additional discipline consequences such as suspension. Wednesday School is not subject to appeal.

#### **Emergency Removal**

A student may be removed for the remainder of the school day for any violation of the handbook.

#### ISA

In School Assignment (ISA), may be assigned to a student for a variety of disciplinary reasons. In School Assignment may occur when a student must be removed from the general student population. ISA is not subject to appeal.

#### OSS / Expulsion

The Ohio Legislature has adopted ORC §§ 3313.66 et seq., which has placed into law procedural standards for Out of School Suspension (OSS) and Expulsion of students from school. Suspension may be administered by the principal, assistant principal, or superintendent. Only the Superintendent may expel a student. In cases of expulsion, students may not make up their assignments. The Avon Board of Education has adopted a policy that fulfills all requirements of the law. Specific guidelines have been established in providing courses of action to pursue should a student or parent choose to appeal a suspension or expulsion decision.

#### **Appeal Procedure**

Should a student who is 18 or older or a minor student's parent(s) or guardian(s) choose to appeal a suspension, he / she must do so in writing to the Superintendent within three (3) calendar days of the notice of suspension; to appeal an expulsion a student must do so in writing through the Superintendent's office within three (3) calendar days of the Superintendent's decision to expel.

#### School Resource Officer

The Avon Board of Education has assigned School Resource Officers to the school buildings to assist in safety and security, and to act as a resource for staff and students during the school day.

#### **CODE OF CONDUCT**

The Student Code of Conduct is made available to students and parents and is posted in the office. The rules and regulations of the Student Code of Conduct are in effect for all Avon students at all school activities both on and off school grounds. A violation of any section of the Code of Conduct will result in the following penalties. Each section includes examples which are not intended to be exhaustive.

#### Zero Tolerance Policy

Students are expected to conduct themselves in such a way that they respect and consider the rights of others. Students of the district must conform to school regulations and accept directions from authorized school personnel. The Board has "zero tolerance" of violent, disruptive or inappropriate behavior, including excessive truancy (ORC 3313.534), by its students.

A student who fails to comply with established school rules or with any reasonable request made by school personnel on school property and / or at school-related events is subject to approved student discipline regulations. The Superintendent / designee develops regulations, which establish strategies ranging from prevention to intervention to address student misbehavior.

Students and parents annually receive, at the beginning of the school year or upon entering during the year, written information on the rules and regulations to which they are subject while in school or participating in any school-related activity or event. The information includes the types of conduct which are subject to dismissal from school or other forms of disciplinary action. The Board directs the administration to make all students aware of the Student Code of Conduct and the fact that any violations of the Student Code of Conduct are punishable. The rules also apply to any form of student misconduct directed at a district official or employee or the property of a district official or employee, regardless of where the misconduct occurs.

If a student violates this policy or the Code of Conduct, school personnel, students or parents should report the student to the school administrator. The administration cooperates in any prosecution pursuant to the criminal laws of the State of Ohio and local ordinances.

The student who commits an act that inflicts serious physical harm to persons or property if it was committed at school, on other school property, or at a school activity, event or program, or is against school personnel on or off school property, may be expelled from school and recommended for permanent exclusion if the student is convicted or adjudged a delinquent child.

#### Anti-Bullying / Harassment / Intimidation / Bullying / Menacing / Hazing Policy

The Avon Board of Education is committed to providing a safe, positive, and nurturing educational environment for its students and staff. The Board encourages the promotion of positive interpersonal relations between all members of the school community. Harassment, intimidation, bullying, menacing, and / or hazing toward an individual such as a student or staff member is strictly prohibited and will not be tolerated.

This policy applies to all activities in the District, including activities on or off school property and / or while on a school vehicle. In addition, if these actions occur in the public sector, the perpetrator may be subject to disciplinary actions.

#### Definition of Harassment, Intimidation, Bullying, Menacing, Hazing

The Board views harassment as a form of discrimination. Harassment is defined as intimidation by threats of physical violence and the creation of a climate of hostility. Harassment includes the use of language, conduct, or symbols in such a manner as to be commonly understood to convey hatred, contempt, or prejudice. Harassment is also defined as the effect of insulting or stigmatizing an individual and / or group. It includes, but is not limited to, any act which subjects an individual or group to unwanted, abusive behavior. An act of harassment can be nonverbal, verbal, written, or physical in nature and based on age, gender, race, religion, color, national origin, marital status, sexual orientation, physical characteristics, cultural background, socioeconomic status, or disability. The behavior or act in question must occur more than once and have the effect of harming an individual, damaging an individual's property, placing an individual in reasonable fear of

harm to the individual's person or to the individual's property, and also be sufficiently severe, persistent, or pervasive that it creates an intimidating, threatening, or an abusive environment for an individual. Intimidation includes, but is not limited to, any threat or act intended to tamper, substantially damage, or interfere with an individual and / or his property, cause substantial inconvenience, subject another to offensive physical contact, and / or inflict serious physical injury.

Bullying includes, but is not limited to, an individual willfully and repeatedly exercising power or control over another with hostile or malicious intent. Bullying can be physical, verbal, written, electronically transmitted, and / or psychological in nature. Bullying may occur through attacks on an individual and / or his property, or any combination of these.

Menacing includes, but is not limited to, any act intended to place an individual in fear of serious physical, emotional, and / or psychological injury.

Hazing includes, but is not limited to, any act of coercing another, including the victim, to do and / or initiate an act against an individual which creates a substantial risk of causing physical, emotional, and / or psychological harm to another person. Permission, consent, ritual, or assumption of risk by any individual subjected to hazing does not lessen the prohibition contained in this policy.

Every student is encouraged, and every staff member is required, to report any situation that they believe to be of this nature to the building administration. All complaints that violate this policy shall be investigated. If the investigation finds an instance of this nature, appropriate disciplinary action will result. This may include consequences up to expulsion for students, up to discharge for employees, up to exclusion for parents, guests, students, volunteers, and contractors, and up to a removal from any officer position and / or a request for a resignation for Board members. Individuals may be referred to law enforcement.

H.B. 276 provides school district employees, students, and volunteers with qualified civil immunity for damages arising from reporting an incident of student harassment, intimidation, or bullying. Retaliation against any individual is prohibited including those who report, are thought to have reported, have filed a complaint, or have otherwise participated in an investigation or inquiry concerning allegations of this nature. Such retaliation shall be considered a serious violation of Board policy and independent of whether a complaint is substantiated. Retaliation and / or intentionally making a false report for the purpose of getting someone in trouble are prohibited and may result in disciplinary action.

A strategy will be administered to protect victims from additional harassment and individuals from retaliation.

Students and / or staff members who fail to abide by this policy will be subject to disciplinary action and may be liable for civil and criminal penalties in compliance with Ohio law.

The Avon Local School District will report to EMIS the number of incidents of harassment by students against other students that violate the district's anti-harassment policy.

#### **Dating Violence**

House Bill 19 requires the school district to include age-appropriate instruction in dating violence prevention in grades seven to twelve which includes the recognition of warning signs of dating violence and the characteristics of healthy relationships. Per the request of a parent whose student is younger than 18 years of age, the principal of the school must, within a reasonable period of time, allow the parent to examine the materials used by the school to provide instruction on dating violence.

School district employees who work in the middle and high school as a teacher, administrator, counselor, nurse, or school psychologist will be provided training on dating violence.

#### Privacy / Confidentiality

The Avon Local School District will respect the privacy of the complainants, the individual(s) against whom the complaint is filed, and the witnesses as much as possible, consistent with the administration's legal obligations to investigate, to act, and to conform to any discovery and / or disclosure obligations. All reports generated

shall be maintained as confidential to the extent permitted by law.

#### **Definition of Plagiarism**

Plagiarism is defined as and includes, but is not limited to, the following:

- 1. Copying material from the source, including the Internet, without citing the source, or citing the source but omitting quotation marks.
- **2.** Paraphrasing the source without proper citation.
- 3. Copying stories, in whole or part, which appear in books, magazines, online, television or film.
- 4. Copying directly, without making any changes, alterations or adaptations from a drawing, painting, illustration, photographic image, or graphic symbol without citing the source.
- 5. Submitting work written in whole or part by someone else, including the Internet (Al tools).
- **6.** Submitting papers on which the student has received substantial assistance from peers and/or adults that dramatically changes the character of the work so that it is no longer the student's own.
- Submitting a paper purchased from a research or term paper service, including, but not limited to the Internet.

#### **SECTION I**

The district has the authority to issue discipline up to 80 days of expulsion with police contact for any violations of the Code of Conduct in Section I, Items 1 – 40. Most discipline is progressive in nature. For example, discipline may begin with detentions, Wednesday School, In School Assignments or Out of School Suspensions.

#### 1) Disruption in School or Class

A student shall not by use of violence, force, coercion or threat cause a disruption or obstruction to the school's operation. This will include repeated misbehavior in the classroom, school environment or on school property.

#### 2) Profanity / Obscene Language / Uncontrolled Temper

A student shall not use profanity, obscene language, obscene gestures and signs, written or verbal, directed toward students and / or school personnel on school property or when representing Avon Local Schools.

#### 3) Insubordination and Disrespect

Insubordination is refusing to comply with the directions of school personnel and student teachers for appropriate behavior of a student while on school property or at school activities. Verbal abuse, disrespect, dishonor or other such actions directed (written or verbal) at any member of the school staff, student teachers, or another student, will not be tolerated.

#### 4) Forgery / False Reports

No student shall cheat, lie, prefabricate, deceive, use crib notes, receive or disseminate answers to a test, or falsify records. Neither shall any student forge, falsify, distort, or misrepresent (in verbal or written form) dates, times, addresses, grades or other data contained in any communication to or from the school. Any student who assists or participates in any of the above actions on a secondary basis shall also be subject to discipline.

#### 5) Academic Dishonesty

No student shall fraudulently, dishonestly, or deceptively obtain and use the work of another, or otherwise violate a teacher's reasonable requirements with respect to proper test taking or the completion of work assignments. Neither shall any student assist another student in the pursuit of academic dishonesty, by providing information or by any other means. For purposes of this policy, work is broadly construed and includes without limitation, ideas, writings, works in progress, completed work product, examination questions, and examination answers. Any student who misappropriates or plagiarizes someone's work, assists another in such misappropriation or otherwise engages in academic dishonesty shall not obtain credit for the work in question and shall be subject to other disciplinary action. See Plagiarism definition.

#### 6) Truancy

Truancy exists when a student is absent from class or school without school authorization. Leaving the school building / grounds without permission is also truancy.

#### 7) Tardiness

Repeated tardiness is disruptive to the smooth functioning of the school and classes.

#### 8) Physical / Verbal Harassment / Menacing

Students will not be involved with physical (pushing, shoving, etc.) or verbal (maligning, threatening, etc.) harassment directed toward another student or person on school property or when representing Avon Local Schools.

#### 9) Extortion

A student shall not engage in any action or threat that forces or attempts to force a person to pay money, give material possessions or property, or to perform services.

#### 10) Loitering / Out of Assigned Area / Trespassing

A student shall not trespass or loiter on school grounds, in the building, or adjacent properties. This includes not being in assigned, scheduled areas and / or leaving the school parking lot or building after arriving at school. Students must enter the building upon arrival at school and leave when expected or instructed.

#### 11) Inappropriate Behavior

Student conduct that demonstrates a lack of respect and / or civility toward other students / adults is prohibited. Action/behavior that would jeopardize the safety, health, or well-being of another is prohibited.

#### 12) Public Display of Affection (PDA)

Public displays of affection are not permitted.

#### 13) Gambling

A student shall not engage in games of chance or gambling.

#### 14) Unauthorized Sale or Distribution

Posting, publishing, distributing or selling unauthorized materials on school property or to distribute or sell such items is prohibited.

#### 15) Violation of School Detentions

#### 16) Transportation Violation

No student, while under the authority of a school bus driver, may interfere with the safe operation of the bus through destructive actions or words either to other students, the bus driver or passing motorists.

#### 17) Misconduct

Inappropriate student conduct is prohibited.

#### 18) Technology Violation

Unauthorized use of technology is subject to search and seizure and cause for discipline.

\*The administration reserves the right to determine authorized and unauthorized use.

#### 19) Possession and / or Use of Tobacco / Nicotine

A student shall not possess or use tobacco or nicotine in any form (cigarettes, cigars, pipes, electronic cigarettes, vapor pens, snuff, paraphernalia, etc.) on school premises, buses, or at school sponsored activities.

#### 20) Damage or Destruction of School or Private Property on School Premises or Buses

A student shall not cause or attempt to cause destruction to school or private property. Depending upon circumstances, restitution may also be required. Pursuant to O.R.C. 3109.99 and O.R.C. 3109.091, a student and / or their parent or guardian shall be held financially accountable to the Avon Local Schools for any damage, destruction or theft caused by their child.

#### 21) Alcohol / Controlled Substances / Drugs / Narcotics / Inhalants

During, arriving at and / or returning to school, travel on any school-provided transportation or at any school-sponsored activity held on or off school property, students shall not knowingly possess, buy, sell, use, supply, transfer, traffic, have reasonable suspicion of use or be under the influence of any moodaltering chemical of any kind, including alcohol. "Possession" includes, with limitation, retention on a student's person or in a student's purse, wallet, locker, desk or automobile parked on school property. "Under the influence" is defined as manifestation signals of chemical misuse including, but not limited to, staggering, red eyes, odor, nervousness, restlessness, memory loss, abusive language, falling asleep in class or any other behavior that is not considered normal for the particular student. The term "moodaltering chemical" includes, without limitation, narcotics, depressants, stimulants, hallucinogens, counterfeit drugs, pure caffeine, marijuana, alcohol, inhalants, and look-alike substances. This includes the possession of materials and / or substances that may be used to alter drug tests. These prohibitions also extend to prescription drugs, unless prescribed by a licensed physician for the student in question, and kept in the original container with the student's name and with directions for proper use. All other procedures outlined in school policy should also be followed.

**Breathalyzers** - Students may be subject to a breathalyzer test based on reasonable suspicion. Breathalyzing will occur at large student events.

**Drug Dogs** - The Avon Local School District may utilize drug dogs in the school parking lot grounds, on school transportation and / or in the school building. The school district will work in cooperation with local authorities. Inspections may be unannounced.

#### 22) Drug Paraphernalia

A student shall not possess, use, transmit or conceal any item(s), which is designed for use with any illegal substance or any substance prohibited by this code while on school property or in attendance at any Board of Education sponsored or supervised activity. Vapor pens and electronic cigarettes are considered drug paraphernalia. Related oils are also prohibited. This includes the possession of materials and / or substances that may be used to alter drug tests.

#### 23) Theft

A student shall not take, attempt, plan to take or possess public or private property, equipment of the school district or any personal property of a student or school employee or any other person on school property or when representing Avon High School. Depending upon the circumstances, restitution may also be required.

#### 24) Assault / Fighting / Hitting / Threats

A student shall not cause physical injury or behave in any way which could threaten to cause physical injury to other students, professional staff, employees or guests who are visiting the school or attending any Board of Education-sponsored and supervised activity. This includes, but is not limited to, hitting and other inappropriate touching. A student who assaults a school employee or another student, whether on or off school property, or at a non-school-sponsored or related activity, function or event, may be subjected to discipline. In accordance with Ohio Revised Code Section 3313.66, a student may be subject to suspension or expulsion from school if the Superintendent has reasonable suspicion the student's continued presence in the school will significantly disrupt or interfere with the educational process or significantly endanger the health or safety of the students or others.

#### 25) False Alarm

The act of initiating a fire alarm or any false warning / event is strictly prohibited.

#### 26) Bomb Threats

The act of initiating a reported warning of a bomb on school property, on school vehicles, or at school sponsored or supervised activities is prohibited.

#### 27) Conduct Against School Employees

A student shall not physically assault, threaten, harass (physically or verbally) an employee, or vandalize, damage, or attempt to damage the property of a school employee or his or her family.

#### 28) Possession and / or Use of Flame Producing Devices

The unauthorized use or possession of matches, lighters or other flame producing devices on school property is not permitted.

#### 29) Unauthorized Fire

Students shall not attempt to burn or maliciously burn any school property.

#### 30) Vandalism

Acts of vandalism on school property will not be tolerated. Examples include, but are not limited to, defacing property, unauthorized "decorating" or toilet papering, and the placing of unauthorized signs or other objects on school property. Pursuant to O.R.C. 3109.99 and O.R.C. 3109.091, a student and / or their parent or guardian shall be held financially accountable to the Avon Local Schools for any damage, destruction or theft caused by their child.

#### 31) Trespassing

Students are not permitted on school property except as authorized. In particular, this rule will be used to address acts of vandalism or theft.

#### 32) Hazing

No student shall harass, persecute, or participate in any act(s) or attempt to threaten, act, or participate in any act(s) that injures, degrades, disgraces, or tends to injure, degrade or disgrace any student. Hazing is banned in any form. Hazing is defined as acting or coercing another, including the victim, to participate in any act of initiation into any student or other organization that causes or creates a substantial risk of causing mental or physical harm to any person. Permission, consent, or assumption of risk by any individual subjected to hazing will not lessen the prohibition contained in this policy and will not exempt any student from discipline under this policy.

#### 33) Gross Misconduct / Illegal Misconduct

It should be noted that other possible inappropriate, lewd, and / or illegal conduct, persistent disobedience, repeated or gross misconduct, may also serve as grounds for suspension and / or expulsion as provided by law. All sexual expressions and activities are prohibited. Students shall be responsible for following all applicable laws of Ohio, as well as all local Avon ordinances.

#### 34) Threat / Action to Induce Panic

Any act (verbal / written) that will threaten to cause a disturbance or creates panic at school or related school events will not be tolerated.

#### 35) Accomplice

No student shall place himself / herself in a position to aid, abet, facilitate, encourage, allow or in any manner to actively or passively assist another student to violate any school rule. The prohibition of this section includes but is not limited to serving as a "lookout" for a student engaged in misconduct, recording a Code of Conduct violation and/or transmitting the content. In addition to the foregoing, students shall also have an affirmative duty to report another student who is known to have violated, is violating, or is planning to violate a school rule involving any dangerous weapon (as defined in Board Policy) or any illegal, prescription or counterfeit drug. In administering discipline under this section, school officials and administrators shall have discretion to consider the circumstances and nature of the offense, including any mitigating circumstances.

#### 36) Harassment and Sexual Harassment

No student shall harass any other student, school employee, community member or school visitor on the basis of color, race, national origin, religion, age, gender, disability, status as Vietnam-era veteran or special disabled veteran. For this purpose of this Code of Conduct, the term "harass" includes but is not limited to conduct which intimidates, insults, persistently annoys or otherwise physically or verbally

(verbally or in writing) abuses another. Students are specifically prohibited from sexually harassing any other student, school employee, community member or school visitor. Sexual harassment is any activity of a sexual nature which is unwanted or unwelcome, including but not limited to unwanted touching, pinching, patting, verbal comments of a sexual nature, sexual name-calling, pressure to engage in sexual activity, repeated propositions and unwanted body contact.

Any student who believes that he / she has experienced any form of harassment including sexual harassment should report this conduct immediately to his / her building principal who will conduct an investigation and, if required, take appropriate remedial action.

#### **Definition of Sexual Harassment**

Sexual harassment includes unwelcome sexual advances, requests for sexual favors, and other verbal or physical conduct of sexual nature, which may violate the security, dignity, self-worth, safety, or the ability to learn of a student.

Sexual harassment may include, but is not limited to:

- Sexual flirtations, touching, advances, or propositions,
- Verbal or physical abuse of a sexual nature,
- Graphic or suggestive comments about an individual's dress or body,
- The use of sexually degrading words to describe an individual,
- Displaying sexually aggressive objects or photographs, and / or
- Sexually explicit conversation or obscene jokes.

#### Reporting Procedures

Alleged incidents of sexual harassment may include adults and / or students in various scenarios: employee to student, student to employee, and student to student.

When an individual believes he or she has been subjected to sexual harassment, he or she should immediately report the incident to the building principal. This can be done through direct contact with the principal, by conference with counselors or through a parent / student conference with the principal. As appropriate, and / or required by federal law and the laws of the State of Ohio, the principal may involve outside agencies in the investigation, such as children or youth services and / or law enforcement agencies.

#### 37) Lewd / Pornographic / Inappropriate Images

The possession, transmittal, and / or communication of such images on school grounds or off school grounds at a school related event is subject to disciplinary action.

#### 38) Technology / Computer / Online Regulation Violations

Penalties for infractions will be applied as determined by the administration including the loss of technology privileges.

#### Computer / Online / Technology Regulations

Technology usage in the Avon Local Schools is encouraged and made available to students for education purposes. The district retains the ownership of all data, hardware, software, video, etc. The Avon Local Schools reserve the right to inspect, copy, and / or delete all material accessed with district equipment. In addition, material created for the Avon Local Schools must be monitored and / or inspected by staff members. Multimedia, including the Internet, is an important educational resource. Thus, students are automatically granted usage unless their parent / guardian notifies the appropriate building administrator.

All non-educational usage is prohibited. Specific but not absolute guidelines for student usage are stated in the Computer / Online / Technology Policy below:

- 1. Files stored on the school network and / or the avoneagles google drive are restricted to school related assignments only. Personal files may not be stored.
- 2. Passwords may not be shared.
- 3. Students shall not use, share, or alter another person's password.
- 4. Students shall not access, transmit and / or retransmit material requiring a password without legally

possessing such a password or authorization. Should a student's password be known by someone else, it is the responsibility of the student to report this to a teacher.

- Use of computers and all other forms of technology is restricted to curriculum related projects and must be supervised.
- 6. No student shall attempt to establish unauthorized contact into school district computers or any other application.
- 7. Students are not permitted to record audio or visual images of students, employees, or guests without permission. Images must be academically purposeful.
- 8. Accessing and / or sharing obscene material and use of inappropriate or threatening language is prohibited.
- Transmission of any material in violation of any state or federal regulation is prohibited. This includes copyrighted material.
- 10. The network should not be used in such a way that is disruptive and / or detrimental to the operation of hardware, software, and / or network.
- 11. Uploading and / or downloading any inappropriate material, creating / using computer viruses and / or any malicious attempt to harm or destroy equipment, materials or the data of any other user is prohibited.
- 12. Use of proxy servers and / or any other attempt to bypass Internet filtering / security is prohibited.
- 13. Vulgar, derogatory, obscene and / or offensive language is prohibited.
- 14. No student shall waste resources, i.e., paper, toner, server space and / or bandwidth.
- 15. Rules and regulations of computer etiquette are subject to change by the administration.
- 16. Student campus Internet access is exclusive through the school's Internet network
- 17. Avon's administration, faculty and staff reserve the right to scan all storage devices that are brought into our building.

#### 39) Felonious Act

A student who is charged and / or convicted of a felonious crime committed on school grounds or off school grounds at a school related event is subject to disciplinary action.

#### 40) Repeated Violation of the Code of Conduct

Repeated violations of the Code of Conduct are subject to further consequences.

#### **SECTION II**

The district has the authority to issue discipline up to one (1) calendar year of expulsion with police contact for any violations of the Code of Conduct in Section II, Items 41 - 42.

#### 41) Weapons, Dangerous Instruments, Fireworks, Firearms, and Explosives

No student shall use, possess, handle, transmit, sell or conceal any object that can be classified as a weapon or dangerous instrument while on school grounds, at school-sponsored or related activities, functions or events off school grounds, on school-owned, operated or leased vehicles, or at any other time that the student is subject to the authority of the school. Weapons and dangerous instruments shall include any object, which is used or may be used to inflict physical harm or property damage. (Note: Bringing firearms to school shall result in a one-year expulsion from school. Bringing a knife onto school property may also result in a one-year expulsion.)

No student shall possess, handle, transmit, sell, conceal or bring upon school grounds any fireworks, explosives or munitions, nor shall any student ignite or explode fireworks, explosives or munitions at school-sponsored or related functions or activities on or off school grounds or at any other time the student is subject to the authority of the school. This prohibition applies to firearms, explosives, (including fireworks, lighters, and matches), knives and other dangerous objects of no reasonable use to the student at school. It also applies to any look alike weapon or dangerous object (including normal school supplies like pencils or compasses), that a reasonable person might consider, under the circumstances, capable of harming a person or property.

#### 42) Biological and Chemical Threats

A student shall not cause a disruption or obstruction to the school's operation by threat of the release, rumor, or presence of any biological agent, hazardous substances, or poison, regardless of the circumstances of the threat. Because of the widespread angst that such threats produce it will be deemed to be of the most serious nature and will be punished accordingly. Emergency removal of the student from school premises, as well as expulsion, and permanent exclusion shall be considered as remedies for the punishment of such conduct. This will result in the loss of participation in any extracurricular school activities as well as the loss of the right to be on any school premises.

#### **ATTENDANCE**

#### Attendance Procedure

It is the responsibility of the home to have students in regular attendance. In accordance with the Missing Child Law (ORC3313.205), the following procedure will be effective. The parent / guardian must notify the school by 9:40am if the child is absent (not in school at 7:40am) with the reason for the absence. If a call is not received, the school will try to contact the parent / guardian. If the parent / guardian and school do not have telephone contact, the student will not receive permission for make-up (unexcused). Notes are not accepted. The school telephone number for absence is (440) 934-1770. It is a voicemail number, which is active 24 hours a day. Absence calls will not be taken on any other line (telephone number). A student is considered truant until the parent contact has been made. ORC3313.1205 requires a parent / guardian to provide the school with the current address (not P.O. Box), telephone number, parent employment number, and an emergency number.

#### **Excused Absence**

Beyond what is prescribed by law, the school administration is the determining agent for excused absences. Parents / Guardians may request that a student be excused for the following: personal illness, family illness which necessitates the presence of the child, quarantine of the home limited to the length of quarantine as determined by the proper health officials, death of a relative, medical or dental appointments, observance of a religious holiday consistent with the student's truly held religious beliefs, college visitation, absences due to a student's placement in foster care or change in foster care placement or any court proceedings related to their foster care status, absences due to a student being homeless, or other circumstances as prescribed by the BOE. Other requests for extenuating circumstances may also be considered by the building administrator.

House Bill 410 encourages and supports a preventative approach to excessive absences and truancy. Ohio schools are required to track attendance by **the hour and minute** a student is absent from school.

When a student is absent from school for 38 or more hours in one month or 65 or more hours in one year with or without a legitimate excuse, the State of Ohio deems this as excessive absences. When a student is deemed excessively absent, Avon Local Schools are required by law to report these absences to the Ohio Department of Education. No further absences will be excused unless a doctor's excuse, court document, or funeral verification is submitted to justify the need for absence.

A student is considered habitually truant if the student is absent without a legitimate excuse for 30 or more consecutive hours, 42 hours in a month or 72 or more hours in a school year.

Students who meet the definition of being a habitual truant will be referred to the Lorain County Juvenile Attendance Office. The student and their parents / guardians will be required to participate in a conference during which an absence intervention plan will be created to assist the family in improving school attendance. Failure to participate in this plan or should the intervention plan not improve attendance, a complaint will be filed with the Lorain County Juvenile Court. The district is also required to notify the Ohio Registrar of Motor Vehicles of the child's habitual truant status. This may result in the suspension of the child's permit / driver's license or the denial to obtain a permit / license.

#### **Doctor's Notes**

Doctor's notes and / or medical authorization for absences must be turned in to the high school office promptly in order for students to receive make-up. Medical authorizations received after **five** (5) school days will only change a student's attendance.

#### Make-Up Work

While it is the responsibility of the student and the teacher to see that make-up work is completed, make-up work is primarily the responsibility of the student. Typically, a child will be granted one (1) extended day per each day absent. Students will be unable to receive credit when an unexcused absence is deemed truant.

#### Early Dismissal

To be dismissed early, students should present a written request when they arrive in the building. This written note should be received by 7:40am at the high school office to receive an Early Dismissal Slip. The dismissal will then be listed on daily attendance. Phone call requests to dismiss students are discouraged. All written requests for early dismissal must be signed by the parent / guardian and include a reason and a telephone number to verify the appointment. The voicemail number for attendance is **not** to request an early dismissal.

#### College Visitation / Job Shadowing

College visitation and job shadowing experiences are considered excused absences as long as the student has less than 64 hours of absence. Parents must call the attendance line to report their student absent due to a college visit / job shadowing experience by 9:40am on the day of the absence. Student should bring a notice from the college upon their return to school.

#### **Family Vacation**

Students must complete a vacation / leave request for administrative approval before their departure. This form must be returned to the office **before leaving on vacation**. These forms can be found on our website or in the main office. Teacher signatures are not required. Family vacations / leave requests will be considered excused absences as long as the completed request form is turned into the main office prior to leaving and the school time missed during the absence is less than 64 hours of absence per year. Any school time missed that exceeds the allotted 64 hours per year will be considered unexcused even if a form was properly turned in.

Students are responsible for meeting with each teacher to make up all missed class work. Students who are absent on a short term basis (1-2 days) should make up missed assignments within a week after returning to school. Students, absent for an extended period of time should make up their missed assignments, as the teacher directs.

#### **Extracurricular Activity Participation**

Students absent from school all day will not be permitted to participate in extracurricular activities for that day. Students entering school after 10:15am or leaving school before the school day ends will not be permitted to participate in extracurricular activities unless permission is granted by the administration.

#### Tardy to School

Anyone who arrives at school after 7:35am and before 8:29am is considered tardy. Students will be allocated five (5) excused tardies per year. On the 6th tardy without proper notification (i.e. doctor note, court / liaison slip, alternative housing or education placement etc.) students will be assigned consequences for tardies as determined by the administration.

#### Classroom Tardy Policy (1st through 7th period)

Classroom teachers will consistently issue the following procedure in regard to tardiness to classrooms first through seventh period. (Yearlong courses **do not** start over at semester.)

1stWarning (Verbal)4thPhone Call Home2ndWarning (Verbal)5thRepeat 3rd and 4th

3rd Classroom Detention

Note: A skipped classroom detention will result in a double office detention.

#### TRANSPORTATION GUIDELINES

- There will be no bus transportation provided by the Avon Local School district for students to and from the high school. High school students and families are responsible for finding their own transportation to and from school.
- 2) All of the transportation rules apply to extracurricular trips (sports, band, field trips, etc.). Eligible passengers are (K-12) students participating in the event. Coaches, advisors, and chaperones are the only other riders permitted on buses. All behavior codes and rules that apply to Avon High School students apply to JVS students during the regular school day and extracurricular activities.
- 3) The State of Ohio restricts the use of Avon school buses to students enrolled in the Avon Schools. Therefore, children living outside of the Avon Local School District, by law, may not ride an Avon School District bus.
- 4) The Avon Local School District Code of Conduct (as stated in the bus handbook) is in effect and is applicable whether a student is in a school building, on the school grounds, or riding a bus.
- 5) Students riding Avon Local School District buses must continually remain respectful of the privilege of not only riding a school bus, but of the bus drivers as well. At all times, students must comply with requests that bus drivers must make of them.
- 6) When disciplinary action is required, the following procedure is implemented: The driver of the bus or bus aide will complete a written referral. This will then be submitted to the appropriate school administrator. When applicable, the following will occur:
  - a) At the first offense requiring a written referral, the student will not be permitted to ride an Avon Local School District bus for up to ten (10) days, depending upon the degree of the offense.
  - b) The second offense requires that the student will not be permitted to ride an Avon Local School District bus for up to twenty (20) days, depending upon the degree of the offense.
  - c) The third offense requires that the student will not be permitted to ride an Avon Local School District bus up to the remainder of the school year, depending upon the degree of the offense.

#### **Student Responsibilities**

The following rules are posted in each Avon Local School District bus (ORC, Section 3319.41 and OAC 68-161): To avoid losing bus privileges, please follow these rules.

- 1) Remain seated and keep aisles clear.
- 2) The bus driver will assign seats.
- 3) Keep head and hands inside bus.
- 4) Noise on the bus should be kept to a minimum. No screaming, shouting, or yelling.
- 5) Be courteous no profanity.
- 6) Observe classroom conduct.
- 7) Violence is prohibited.
- 8) Do not damage the bus or equipment.
- 9) Do not eat or drink on the bus.
- 10) The use of tobacco is prohibited.
- 11) For your own safety, cooperate with the driver.
- 12) You may only ride your assigned bus.

#### Additional Guidelines for Students

- 1) Carry-on items must fit on one's lap.
- Animals are prohibited on Avon Local School District buses, unless additional authorization is granted by administration.
- 3) When crossing the roadway to board the bus (or after exiting the bus), wait for a hand signal from the driver indicating that it is okay to proceed. At that time, begin crossing the roadway, staying at least 10 feet beyond the front of the bus.
- 4) Do not attempt to get on or off the bus until it has come to a complete stop.
- 5) At all times, remain seated while the bus is in motion.
- 6) Be sure to reach your assigned bus stop five (5) minutes prior to your designated pick-up time.
- 7) Talking or creating any other noise while the bus is at or approaching a railroad crossing is prohibited.

- 8) Changing clothes on the bus is prohibited.
- g) Do not board or exit the bus through the emergency door unless specifically instructed to do so by the driver. (The emergency exit must always remain free from obstructions).
- 10) After you have boarded the bus, you may not exit the bus without the permission of the driver.
- 11) No toys are permitted on the bus.
- Nothing should be hanging from backpacks, book bags, or clothing.
  Such objects become entangled and caught on bus handrails while boarding or exiting the bus.
- 13) Cell phones and music playing devices may be used as long as they are not audible or disruptive to others on the bus. These devices may not be used for audio or visual recordings.

#### **MEDIA CENTER**

Open Hours: Monday-Friday, 7:00AM – 3:00PM

The Avon High School Library & Media Center has an extensive collection of print and digital materials as well as flexible space to inspire student learning, reading for enjoyment, and collaboration. We are happy to serve and support our students and staff in their curricular needs and individual interests.

During open hours, students are welcome to visit the media center during their study hall periods or with a pass from their classroom teacher. (When the Library & Media Center space is booked by teachers for curricular use, it may close to study hall students but will remain open to students with passes from classroom teachers.) While in the Library & Media Center, students are expected to be respectful, follow media center procedures, and adhere to the student code of conduct behavior and acceptable use policy for technology use. Students with repeated or egregious misconduct will lose the privilege to visit the Library & Media Center without a specific classroom teacher pass.

Students are encouraged to check out books from the Library & Media Center. (Most digital materials may also be accessed from home at avonlocalschools.org/library.) Each student may check out two books at a time; the loan period is three weeks. There are no overdue fines. Books that are more than three weeks overdue will be considered lost. Students will be billed the replacement cost for any lost or damaged items checked out to their accounts. In most situations, any bills for lost or damaged library materials must be paid before another item may be checked out; however, please see library & media staff in situations of financial hardship or extenuating circumstances.

#### **DRESS CODE**

Recognizing that all individuals and / or families have varied background and beliefs, the school authorities, through experience, deem it desirable to provide guidelines of student dress so as to minimize possible conflicts with the overall operational procedures of the school.

While many students and parents have no apparent questions or problems in determining satisfactory school dress, the following guidelines are offered:

Under Title IX, Federal Law prohibits discrimination on the basis of sexes.

#### **Dress and Grooming Guidelines**

- Clothing that does not cover undergarments will be deemed inappropriate. Undergarments should never be exposed.
- 2) Clothing should be properly fitted, neat and clean.
- 3) Pants and shorts must be fitted around the waist.
- 4) Shorts, skirts, and dresses are permitted. However, tops cannot cover the entirety of the bottom garment.
- 5) Nylons, sheer leggings, net stockings, leotards, spandex, etc. worn in isolation are prohibited.
- 6) Hats, head covers, hoods and excessive head ornamentation are not acceptable in the building. This includes bandannas, etc.

- 7) Shoes must be worn at all times and appropriate for the season. Shoes with wheels or roller blades are not permitted.
- 8) Clothing that exposes the midriff, or any area in excess, is not acceptable. Tops must meet the top of pants/shorts/skirts, etc. Prohibited clothing would include, halters, shirts with an inappropriate neckline, and sheer tops that expose under-garments.
- 9) Torn and tattered clothing are permitted as long as undergarments are not revealed.
- 10) Clothing and insignias relating to gang membership are not acceptable.
- 11) Sunglasses may not be worn in the building unless prescribed as necessary by a doctor.
- 12) Patches, symbols, writings which "literally" or by implications are obscene or are such as to shock or affront the standards of common decency or propriety have no place in school and are not permitted. This guideline refers to "T-shirt" imprints that include "double meanings" relating to drugs, alcohol, and sexual behavior; hate groups / symbols or anything that could be considered improper by public standards.
- 13) Chains, or any ornamental items which could be used as a weapon or considered a distraction are not permitted.
- 14) Flip flops and / or shoes that expose the bare foot can be restricted during the winter months.
- 15) Common sense and judgment is requested of all students in adhering to normally accepted community standards.

The school administration reserves the right to determine dress code standards throughout the school year.

Students and parents are encouraged to work cooperatively with the school personnel in maintaining an atmosphere of adherence until such times as official changes are made by the Avon Board of Education.

#### Physical Education – Dress Requirement

All students taking physical education will be required to wear gym clothing approved by the instructor. Students who are unable to participate in regular physical education class should provide a physician's note to their counselor and physical education teacher.

#### RESTRICTED ITEMS

#### **Book Bags / Purses**

The administration reserves the right to require book bags and purses to be stowed in a locker throughout the school day.

#### Technology

Personal gaming devices, video cameras, cameras, laser pens, walkie-talkies, smart watches or distracting technology are not permitted on school grounds or in school buses, unless otherwise noted by the administration. Cellular telephones and music-producing devices may be possessed, but not visible or audible. Technology devices may be used for curricular-driven instructional purposes only.

Audio or video recording, photographing, and text-messaging are prohibited. The administration may search technology devices "with cause" or reasonable suspicion.

Should any of these items become a distraction to or are misused in the school environment, the administration reserves the right to determine authorized and unauthorized utilization throughout the school year.

#### Drinks / Open Containers / Food

Water is the only approved beverage in classrooms and hallways. Water should be contained in clear bottles. Open containers of drinks such as coffee, juice pop, etc., are not to be brought into the building upon arriving to school. Upon return from Junior and Senior Release, students are not permitted to bring food for others. Food is not permitted in classrooms.

#### Playing Cards / Dice / Games

Playing cards, games, dice and any other type of gambling items are not permitted in school.

#### **MEDICATION**

The Board of Education recognizes that many students are able to attend school only through the effective use of medication in the treatment of disabilities or illnesses that do not hinder the health or welfare of others. Parents should be aware that the school district contracts with Lorain County Public Health for provided nursing services. If possible, all medication should be given by a parent / guardian at home. If this is not possible, parents may come to school to administer medications only when no alternative is available.

#### Students may be given medications while at school if the following conditions are met:

- 1) Written authorization must be on file with the Administrative Office prior to any medication being administered. This authorization must be on the approved medication form provided by the school, including proper instructions for dosing.
- 2) The medication authorization form must be completed in its entirety by the parent / guardian of the student for both prescription and / or over-the counter medications. (All medication, prescription and / or over the counter must be signed by a physician.)
- 3) At no time shall a student be in possession of medication while on school property. Medication will be kept in the clinic / Administrative Office. The only medication a student may be permitted to be in possession of on school grounds will be emergency medications (i.e. EpiPens, asthma inhalers, and diabetic medications). For the student to possess these emergency medications, he / she must have written authorization on the approved medication authorization form along with a completed action plan form which will be provided by the school, is on file in the office, and is signed by both the student's physician and parent / guardian.
- 4) All medication must be received by the school in the original container, labeled with the student's name and must be delivered to the Administrative Office by a parent / guardian. No expired medications will be accepted. If a medication expires during the school year, the nurse will notify the parents to pick up the expired medication and bring in a non-expired replacement. All medication must be picked up by the last day of school. Any medication left at school at the end of the year will be discarded.
- 5) Any student found to be carrying unauthorized medication will be subject to disciplinary action.
- 6) Cough drops must remain in the office and may be consumed when accompanied by a note from the parent / guardian. Cough drops that contain medications are considered over the counter medication and require a medication authorization form signed by a parent / guardian and physician.

#### Illness at School:

If a student becomes ill at school, he / she will be sent to the office, and if necessary, a parent will be contacted to pick up the student. Important: students should not take it upon themselves to call their parents to pick them up from school directly. They must first notify the office or nurse in the clinic that they are ill. It is recommended that a student should stay home from school if he / she has had any of the following:

- Diarrhea / loose stools within the last 24 hours
- Vomiting within the last 24 hours
- Sore throat, difficulty swallowing, white spots on tonsils or throat
- Severe cough, congestion, drainage or relentless sneezing
- Undetermined rash / itching
- Temperature of 100 degrees Fahrenheit or higher
- Red, itching, burning or crusting of one / both eyes
- Eggs (nits), or head lice until cleared by nursing staff (See the school nurse for lice policy.)

**Note:** Student must be fever / vomit free without medication (for example: Tylenol) for 24 hours prior to returning to school. Also, students diagnosed with a condition requiring antibiotics (ex. for example: pink eye, strep throat) must be on antibiotics for 24 hours before returning to school.

#### Required Immunizations

The following immunizations are required under Ohio Revised Code 3313.67. https://www.odh.ohio.gov/~/media/ODH/ASSETS/Files/bid/immunizations/schoolsummary.pdf

DPT (Diphtheria, Tetanus, Pertussis)

Polio (Poliomyelitis)
MMR (Measles, Mumps, Rubella)
Hepatitis B
Varicella (Chickenpox)
Tdap (Tetanus, Diphtheria, Pertussis) 7th grade
MCV4 (Meningococcal) 7th & 12th grade

Proof of vaccination must be provided to the school prior to the 14th day of school.

#### Head Lice:

Ohio Revised Code (3701-3-13) states: "A person with head lice shall be excluded from school or childcare until after the first treatment with an appropriate pediculicide." The nursing staff does not do routine lice checks in the classroom; however, nursing can check students who are suspected of having lice and provide information on prevention and treatment.

#### Chronic Conditions:

If your student has a chronic medical condition (diabetes, seizures, severe allergies, etc.) that requires special supplies while at school, (for example: an insulin pump, G-tube, trach, etc.) please contact the school nurse.

#### **CAFETERIA CONDUCT**

- Conduct yourself appropriately
- Leaving the table and the surrounding area clean and orderly,
- Replacing chairs and putting trash in the proper receptacle,
- · Eating in the cafeteria only,
- Not taking beverage containers outside the cafeteria, and
- · Table limits may be set by the administration.

Students must stay on school grounds during lunch periods unless they have an approved junior / senior release. Those with release must leave campus.

#### **CARS / VEHICLES**

Students driving to school **must** register their car and purchase a permit. Each permit must be clearly displayed in the front window. Students must park in their assigned spot. **Failure to comply could result in a vehicle being towed at the owner's expense.** 

Upon arrival to school students must immediately enter the building. Loitering in cars is not permissible. Students are not to go to the parking lot during the day unless they have permission from the office.

Parking privileges may be revoked for the following reasons:

- Transporting unauthorized student(s) to or from school,
- Parking in any space not assigned,
- Reckless operation / violation of posted traffic signs,
- Entering the bus loading area before buses have departed,
- Using a vehicle to leave school without permission,
- Failure to obtain a parking permit,
- · Continued tardiness or truancy to school,
- · Loitering in cars or the parking lot, and
- Any other misconduct as determined by the administration.

The administration reserves the right in special situations to suspend parking privileges.

The administration also reserves the right to search a student's car if there exists reasonable suspicion.

#### HALL PASSES

All students must carry a hall pass at all times. No student shall be permitted in the hallway without a pass.

#### STUDENT SERVICES

#### Change of Address or Name

Parents of students should inform the Student Services Office at 934-5115 if they have a change of address, marital status, legal name or change custody, or phone number (work, mobile or home).

#### College Credit Plus (CCP)

Students must notify Student Services by April 1st of their intent to participate in CCP for the upcoming school year. The student and parents / guardians must also attend a CCP informational session to participate. Although students have the option to attend college on a full-time basis, many students take classes both at college and Avon High School. Students should plan to arrive at the high school no sooner than ten minutes before their scheduled class and must sign in at the Administrative Office upon arrival. Students who will be arriving earlier than ten minutes before class begins must notify administration to make other arrangements.

CCP students are required to submit an official copy of their college schedule to AHS counselors prior to the start of each new semester. A copy of college schedule changes must be provided to AHS counselors as soon as they occur.

CCP students are required to meet all Avon Board of Education requirements. In addition, they must carry the same class load as non-CCP AHS students. Freshmen and Sophomores are required to take six (6) courses per semester. Juniors and Seniors are required to take five (5) courses per semester. Students who fail to register for CCP classes will be enrolled in AHS classes in order to meet the minimum course requirements.

Ohio law permits the Avon Local Schools to seek reimbursement for College Credit Plus courses if a student receives a failing grade at the end of a college course or if a student is dropped from a college course fourteen (14) calendar days after the course began. Students will also be assessed textbook and materials costs associated with such courses. Students who withdraw will receive a W or a FAW on both their college and high school transcripts.

#### Family Privacy Act and Transcripts

A student's permanent record is available for review by the individual student or their parents / guardian. Please make an appointment with a counselor so that records may be shown and interpreted.

#### Flexible Credit

Senate Bill 311 raised the graduation requirements for high school students with the goal of increasing the number of students who are ready to meet the demands of our global and technological age. Senate Bill 311 included, among its provisions, a requirement that the State Board of Education adopt a new plan that enables students to earn units of high school credit. This credit will be based on a demonstration of subject area competency, instead of or in combination with completing hours of classroom instruction. Avon High School is in compliance with the provisions of this plan and is offering Flexible Credit opportunities to the student. Please see your counselor for detailed information on this flexible credit policy. Deadline for proposals for each school year is May 1st of the prior year.

#### GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

Twenty-one (21) units of credit are required for graduation in the Avon Local School District. Students graduating have to pass state required exams.

The minimum quantitative graduation requirements are:

English 4 units
Social Studies 3 units
Science 3 units
Mathematics 4 units
Health ½ unit
Physical Ed. ½ unit

Financial Literacy ½ unit (Class of 2026 and beyond)

Fine Art 1 unit
Electives 5 units\*

All graduating seniors must reconcile all financial obligations with the school prior to receiving their cap and gown and / or diploma. Only those students clearing all obligations and meeting the graduation requirements may participate in Commencement. Commencement is a privilege and not a right. For failure to pay fees, disciplinary actions and/or other reasons, the administration has the right to deny the privilege of participating in Commencement and all activities associated with it. Participation in Commencement exercise is optional. Seniors who choose not to participate should sign the necessary form in the Student Services Office at least ten (10) days prior to Commencement exercises. Those students who choose to take part in the graduation ceremony must fulfill the obligations of cooperating during the practice session, and they must attend all practice sessions. Students who fail to meet these obligations may be denied the privilege to participate in the Commencement ceremony.

Requests for missing practice must be made to the principal prior to the actual practice. Since the time and dates of the practice sessions are publicized in advance, no excuse will be honored for work and appointments.

#### SCHEDULING COURSES/ DROPPING CLASSES

Freshmen and sophomores are required by board policy to take six (6) courses per semester. Juniors and seniors are required to take five (5) courses per semester.

#### Adding a Course

Students may not add a course after the semester has been in session for two weeks for a semester course, or four weeks for a full year course.

#### **Dropping a Course**

Students receiving administrative approval to drop a course after two weeks in a semester course or four weeks in a yearlong course will receive an 'F' for that course.

Students will not be permitted to drop classes after the scheduling deadline. The only exceptions to this policy are for students who have:

- Course failure the preceding school year,
- Successful summer school completion,
- Scheduling conflicts,
- Documented medical concerns,
- Computer error, and / or
- Error in course placement.

Students are not permitted to change a course(s) to accommodate a request for release. Release will only be

<sup>\*</sup>If Economics is taken via CCP, Financial Literacy is required for the classes of 2024 and 2025.

scheduled after all academic courses are in place.

Students will not be permitted to drop an Advanced Placement (AP) course. If the administration deems a student is academically misplaced, the student may be withdrawn up to the first two (2) weeks. That dropped course will be denoted with a Withdraw (W) on the transcript. The Withdraw will not impact GPA in any way.

#### **Advanced Placement Testing**

All students taking an Advanced Placement course are required to take the AP exam at the end of the year. Taking the AP exam enables students to compare their knowledge and understanding of a college-level subject with the high academic standards established by college faculty. The fee for AP exams is approximately \$97 and is the responsibility of the student. An exception is the AP Research exam and AP Seminar exam, which is \$145.

#### Summer School

Avon High School does not offer Summer school. Summer school may be available in surrounding school districts and from several online approved providers for those students who have failed courses during the year. Information regarding registration is available in the Student Services Office and or on the website. Summer school usually begins immediately after school is out in June. Online summer school providers typically close their registration the first week of June. All summer school classes must be pre-approved by counselors.

#### Transcripts

Transcripts are sent to colleges, employers, etc., only upon written permission of the student or parent. Please obtain a "Transcript Release" form from the Student Services Office or the Avon High School Guidance website. Students under 18 years of age must obtain their parent's signature to release a transcript; however, students of 18 years of age or older may have records released only at their own request.

#### **Transfer Out of District**

If a student is moving out of the district, a withdrawal form must be obtained from the Student Services Office. All books must be returned, the locker emptied, and all bills paid before credits are transferred. If a student moves during June and August when the Student Services Office is closed, contact the District Registrar. All high school offices are closed in July. Please send notification of your new address and the name of the new school, when known. Students' records will be transferred to the new school at the parent / guardian's written request providing there are no outstanding debts.

#### **Work Permits**

Students between the ages of 14 and 17 that are asked by a prospective employer to obtain a work permit should contact Student Services.

The Application for Minor Work Permit form is a prerequisite for the minor work permit. It contains employer and job information, employer pledge, and parental consent. The Minor Work Permit Pre-Application Form and the Physician's Certificate can be obtained from the offices listed above or can be printed from the State of Ohio website (forms are PDF) by opening the work permits icon at http://www.com.state.oh.us/ODOC/.

The Student / Applicant Information section is to be filled out and signed by the parent / guardian. The Birth Certificate # and Physician's Certificate spaces are to be left blank so the issuing office can fill them in to verify age and whether or not the physical is on file. The Pledge of Employer section is to be completed by the employer. All blank fields must be filled in; otherwise, the application cannot be processed. A current physical (within the last year) is required to process a work permit. If the Avon High School athletic office has a record of a physical for the student a new physical exam will not be needed. If the physical has expired, the student will be given the OHSAA Pre-Participation Physical Evaluation form. The student should return the completed forms to the appropriate office who will then issue the minor work permit. Students not enrolled at Avon High School must provide a copy of their birth certificate for proof of age and evidence of a physical.

### **GRADES**

The final grade for each course is computed on the following scale. There will be no rounding and truncation occurs at the 100ths.

Quality Point Range	Final Unweighted Grade
3.85 - 4.00	A
3.50 - 3.84	A-
3.15 - 3.49	B+
2.85 - 3.14	В
2.50 - 2.84	B-
2.15 - 2.49	C+
1.85 – 2.14	С
1.50 - 1.84	C-
1.15 - 1.49	D+
0.85 - 1.14	D
0.50 - 0.84	D-
0.00 - 0.49	F
NOTE: AP Scale = Add	l one (1) more point for grades "A" through "C-".

#### **Grading Policy**

The following reporting code and quality point scale is used to determine grade point averages and serves as criteria for course averaging when grades are used. There will be no rounding and truncation occurs at the tooths

Letter Grade	Percentage	Point Value	Point Value AP
A	93 - 100	93 - 100 4.00	
A-	90 - 92	3.67	4.67
B+	87 - 89	3.33	4.33
В	83 - 86	3.00	4.00
B-	80 - 82	2.67	3.67
C+	77 - 79	2.33	3.33
С	73 - 76	2.00	3.00
C-	70 - 72	1.67	2.67
D+	67 - 69	1.33	1.33
D	D 63 - 66		1.00
D-	60 - 62	0.67	0.67
F	00 - 59	0.00	0.00
1	Incomplete		
W	Withdrawn		

If a student withdraws from a full-year course or a semester course after the second week, a grade of "F" will appear for the course on the student's report card and permanent record.

Students entering Avon High School with weighted grades from other school districts will have those grades recalculated to coincide with the Avon High School grading policy.

Grades for students entering Avon High School from homeschooling will be determined by the administration.

#### Criteria for Averaging Full Year Course

A full year course grade is calculated using point value for grades earned in quarters 1,2,3,4, as well as the final exam. Students must take the final exam or fail the course.

Students must earn a minimum of 3 passing grades in a full year course, 2 of which must occur in the second semester, one of which may be the final exam.

The formula for grade calculation for a full year course is below:

QTR.	QTR.	QTR.	QTR.	EXAM
1	2	3	4	FINAL
.22	.22	.22	.22	.12

#### **Full Year Course**

Example:

QTR. 1	QTR. 2	QTR. 3	QTR.4	FINAL
Α	В	Α-	B+	Α
4 (.22)	3 (.22)	3.67 (.22)	3.33 (.22)	4 (.12)
4 (.22) + 3 (.22) + 3.67 (.22) + 3.33 (.22) + 4 (.12) =3.56 FINAL GRADE = A- (BASED ON QUALITY POINT RANGE)				

#### Criteria for Averaging a Semester Course

A semester course grade is calculated using point value for grades earned in quarters 1 and 2 as well as the final exam. Students must earn a minimum of 2 passing grades in a semester course, 1 of which may be the final exam.

Students enrolled in an AP course will receive 1 credit after each semester. The semester 1 grade is based on quarter 1 and 2. The semester 2 grade is based on quarter 3 and 4.

Students must take the final exam or fail the course.

The formula for grade calculation for a semester course is below:

QTR.	QTR.	FINAL
1	2	
.44	.44	.12

#### Semester Course

Example:

А	B-	A-	FINAL GRADE
4	2.67	3.67	3.37 B+
(.44)	(.44)	(.12)	

#### PowerSchool

Parents and students are encouraged to monitor students' progress using Avon's online gradebook program, PowerSchool. Both parents and students will be provided login information at the beginning of the school year or at enrollment. PowerSchool usernames and passwords can be obtained from the Student Services Secretary throughout the year if they become lost.

#### Report Cards

Report cards for grades 9 – 12 will no longer be mailed home. Quarterly grades can be viewed via PowerSchool. Households without access to the internet may request paper copies through Student Services.

#### RECOGNITION

#### Class Rank

Beginning with the Class of 2018, Avon High School no longer ranks students; however, the Top 5% of each graduation class will be recognized. The Top 5% will be calculated at the end of the first semester of the senior year.

NOTE: All senior academic recognition and awards are based upon the first seven (7) semesters of coursework.

Report Card Honors Graduation Honors

 Merit Roll:
 3.0 – 3.49 GPA
 Cum Laude:
 3.5 – 3.79 GPA

 Honor Roll:
 3.5 – 3.99 GPA
 Magna Cum Laude:
 3.8 – 3.99 GPA

 High Honor Roll:
 4.0 – 5.00 GPA
 Summa Cum Laude:
 4.0+ GPA

Students are listed based on GPA only for the 1st and 2nd grading periods. An audit of all grades earned will be conducted after the 3rd grading period. "High Honors" for Academic Awards cannot be awarded if a "B" letter grade is earned during at least 2 of the 3 grading periods.

#### President's Award for Educational Excellence

The President's Education Award Program, established by the U.S. Department of Education, recognizes and honors outstanding educational achievement. As the nation strives to achieve the eight National Education goals and to provide a world class education for every child, schools need to encourage all students to aspire to the highest educational standards. The President's Education Award Program rewards seniors for their academic effort and success.

The following are the criteria:

- 1. A student must achieve a 3.5 GPA.
- 2. High achievement in reading or math in state tests or nationally normed tests or SAT / ACT.

#### Junior / Senior Release Program

Avon High School's Junior / Senior Release Program is given to students to help them develop responsibility for some unassigned period(s). Juniors and seniors are allowed to leave for two (2) designated periods. This must be earned and may be lost if the student fails to follow the school rules and release guidelines. Courses will not be dropped to accommodate a release period.

#### SAFETY INFORMATION

#### Crisis Procedures

In accordance with Ohio Revised Code, Avon High School has adopted a Crisis Manual, which specifies both guidelines and procedures for crisis situations. Fire and tornado drills along with lockdowns will be practiced on a regular basis. In the interest of safety for all parties involved with crisis situations, practice or real, students are required to behave appropriately and according to staff directives. Inappropriate behavior or a lack of seriousness towards the event will result in disciplinary measures.

#### Fire Drills

When the fire alarm rings, leave the room but walk quickly and quietly to the designated exit. Check the emergency signs by the door in each room. When outside, students must be at least 100 feet from the building and remain with their class. Intentional ringing or a false fire alarm is punishable under the law. Violators will be prosecuted. Fire drills will be conducted monthly, weather permitting.

#### Run Hide Fight

Safety drills are put into place to secure the building when necessary. They will be practiced periodically throughout the school year in accordance with the Crisis Manual procedures. Induced unnecessary panic is

punishable under the law. Violators will be prosecuted.

#### Shelter-In-Place Drill

Drills are conducted in the event of an external environmental threat. If this drill is announced during a class change (or before / after school), students are to report to the nearest classroom.

#### Tornado Drills

Tornado drills are held to help prevent injuries and deaths during an emergency. Students must listen closely to the announcements and to their teachers as to how to proceed quickly and orderly to their assigned shelter area. Tornado drills will be conducted periodically.

#### **BYOD**

#### (BRING YOUR OWN DEVICE)

With parental permission, each AHS student now has the option to bring his / her own wireless communication device to school and to access a secure, filtered network. Each student's use of his / her own wireless communication device on school grounds shall be subject to applicable rules and regulations including, but not limited to, the restrictions described herein. Students may be asked to sign a BYOD document before the student may participate in this program, bring his / her own device to school and/or access to the school's internet gateway for the school year.

#### Definition of "device"

For purposes of the Bring Your Own Device program, "device" means a privately owned wireless and / or portable electronic hand-held equipment that includes, but is not limited to, laptop and mobile computers, existing and emerging mobile communication systems and smart technologies (iPhone, etc.), portable Internet devices (iPod touch, iPad, tablet PC, etc.), Personal Digital Assistants (PDAs), hand-held entertainment systems or portable information technology systems that can be used for: word processing, wireless Internet access, image capture / recording, sound recording and information transmitting / receiving / storing, etc.

#### Internet Access

An Internet gateway is provided by the school via wireless connectivity. Only this connection may be accessed while on campus. Personal Internet connective devices such as but not limited to: cell phones / cell network adapters (tethering) are not permitted to be used to access outside Internet sources at any time.

#### Security and Damages Responsibility

- Keeping the device safe, secure and free from damage rests with its individual owner.
- Avon Local Schools is not liable for any device stolen or damaged while on campus or elsewhere.
- If a device is stolen or damaged, the matter will be handled through the administrative office in the same manner as any other stolen or damaged personal belonging.
- It is strongly recommended that skins (decals), engravings, or other custom markings be used to physically identify your device from others.
- Protective cases for Devices are strongly encouraged.

#### **BYOD Student Agreement**

Participation in the BYOD program is not a right but a privilege. All students participating in the BYOD program must adhere to applicable rules and regulations including but not limited to those described herein as well as in the Avon High School's Student Handbook, Student Code of Conduct, and Student Network and Internet Acceptable Use Policy for subsequent school years.

#### The Devices Must Be Used:

- In silent mode on campus, school buses, and school vehicles.
- Only for classroom curriculum purposes.
- Only with teacher permission in the classroom.

#### The Devices Must Not Be Used:

- In any way that violates, or attempts to violate, the Student Code of Conduct.
- To capture and / or transmit test information or any other information in a manner constituting fraud, theft, cheating or academic dishonesty.
- To receive test information or any other information in a manner constituting fraud, theft, cheating or academic dishonesty.
- To capture, record or transmit the words and/or images of any staff member or student for non-academic purposes without prior notice and express consent to do so.
- To access any Internet source other than the Internet gateway provided by Avon High School.

#### Student Network and Internet Acceptable Use Policy

For any violation of the Student Network and Internet Acceptable Use policy, one or more of the following penalties will be assessed at the discretion of the school administration:

- Suspension or revocation of participation in the BYOD program, computing and / or other similar privileges.
- Disciplinary action assigned by school administration.
- Restitution to Avon Local Schools for resources consumed.
- Legal action including but not limited to an action to recover damages.
- Referral to law enforcement agencies for investigation.

#### Acknowledgement

#### Students shall not:

- Bypass, or attempt to bypass, the network filters that are applied to the Internet gateway connection.
- Bring on school grounds, any Virus, Trojan, or program designed to damage, alter, destroy, or
  provide access to unauthorized data or information or engage in any other activity to infect, or
  attempting to infect, the District's network.
- Process or access information on school grounds related to hacking, altering or bypassing network security policies. School representatives may collect and examine any device that is suspected of causing problems or was the source of an attack or virus infection.
- Be able to print from Devices at school. Please be sure to print any necessary information at home.
- Have access to power sources at school. Please be sure to charge Devices at home.
- Share login information with anyone. Any breach of login information shall be reported to school administration immediately.

#### **GENERAL INFORMATION**

#### **Building Hours**

The building is open at 6:30am during days when school is in session. Students must remain in the commons until the 7:30am bell. Any student or group of students remaining in the building after 2:40pm must be supervised by an adult.

#### **Class Projects**

**Sophomores** – Class rings are ordered during the fall months for delivery later in the school year. Fundraisers may be added.

**Juniors** – A variety of fundraising and community service projects are done. They are also the sponsors of the annual Junior / Senior Prom in May. Parents of the juniors organize a post-prom activity, which is not school sponsored. Note: Senior pictures are scheduled during the summer months prior to the senior year at an estimated cost of \$35.00 - \$500.00. It is necessary to have a picture taken at the designated photographer to be in the yearbook and composite picture.

**Seniors** – A presentation and orders for caps and gowns are done in the fall. A senior fee, which includes the diploma, diploma cover and transcript requests, is due at the beginning of school. Orders for graduation cards and announcements can be placed and prepaid in December. The

estimated cost is between \$5.00 and \$30.00. Senior pictures are scheduled during the summer months prior to the senior year at an estimated cost of \$35.00 - \$500.00. It is necessary to have a picture taken at the designated photographer to be in the yearbook and composite picture.

#### **Deliveries to Students**

Flowers / gifts sent to school are discouraged. Students will be notified at the end of the last period that they may pick them up in the office after school. Food orders for students are not permitted.

#### Elevator

The elevator is used for transporting approved people and materials to the second floor. Students who have a disability or temporary injury and need to use the elevator must get a key from the office and return the key each day. A lost key constitutes a replacement cost of \$50.00. Students who ride the elevator without permission are subject to disciplinary action.

#### Field Trips

As part of the educational services of the school, pupils are sometimes taken on field trips by bus. A written permission slip from the parent is filed in the high school office or with the classroom teacher before the pupil is permitted to accompany his / her class on these trips. All trips are supervised by classroom teachers.

#### **Financial Responsibility**

All fees must be paid by the end of the first grading period, or as assessed in the event they are assigned later in the school year.

All fines, lost textbooks, lost library books, assessments for damage to any school property, or any other event resulting in student financial liability must be paid prior to the end of the grading period in which the debt was incurred.

Upon a student's graduation date, all financial obligations for all of a student's previous years in the Avon Schools must be paid in full or the student will not be permitted to participate in Commencement and a diploma will not be issued.

In addition, academic school records will not be released for any reason until all financial obligations are met.

#### ID Cards

Students will be issued ID cards at the beginning of the year. These cards will be used for any circumstance that calls for student identification (i.e. dances, sports events, media center, etc.). If a student loses his / her card, a replacement card can be purchased for \$5.00 in the Administrative Office.

#### Lockers

A locker is assigned to each student at the beginning of the year. Locker assignments cannot be changed without the permission of an assistant principal. Lockers are the property of the high school and are subject to inspection by authorized school personnel. Periodic inspections of lockers for cleanliness will occur.

THE SCHOOL IS NOT RESPONSIBLE FOR MISSING OR STOLEN ITEMS INCLUDING TEXTBOOKS. Lockers are assigned to specific students and should not be shared with other students. Lockers have locks built in them.

Physical education lockers may need locks.

#### Lost & Found

Students should report loss of personal property to the office. Lost and found items are maintained in the Main Office, and unclaimed items are donated to charity periodically. The search of unattended personal belongings such as lunches, purses, bags, etc. will occur as a safety precaution.

#### Office Hours

The high school office is open in August through June. Check the website for August and June hours. The office is closed the **entire month of July** and all student holidays as scheduled for students. Please plan accordingly

for work permits and transcript requests.

#### **Parent Visitation**

We want every parent to feel welcome in the school. We particularly want parents to come to the school when problems arise which concern their child and his / her school situation. Parents need to register in the office when coming into the school. Parents may observe an educator with a 24-hour notification granted by the teacher / administration.

Frequently, teachers ask parents to come to the school for a conference. These meetings are important. **They may be scheduled during the teacher's prep period or immediately before / after school.** 

#### **Protective Goggles**

The General Assembly of the State of Ohio makes it necessary for the school to require that in certain classes all students, teachers, and visitors wear protective goggles. Classes include Education Technology classes and science laboratories.

#### School Fees

School fees can be paid through our online system at <a href="www.payschoolscentral.com">www.payschoolscentral.com</a>. This system can be accessed directly or through the main page of the Avon Local Schools website. The fees for high school classes can also be paid with a check or money order and turned in to the high school office. All checks or money orders should be made payable to the Avon Board of Education. There is a \$10 charge for checks returned for non-sufficient funds plus an additional check collection processing fee. Families unable to pay fees should contact the principal.

#### School Insurance

The school insurance program may change from year to year. The insurance plan that is used at Avon High School is chosen by the Avon Local Board of Education and is an "excess" insurance coverage. An excess insurance is designed to cover costs not covered by regular hospitalization. This insurance must be purchased in September of each school year. This insurance is not required, but parents who do not have insurance should carry the school insurance for their children. Students who participate in extracurricular activities must carry the school insurance or have a claim waiver by their parents.

#### Severe Weather / School Closings

In cases of severe weather, the official announcement of school closings is posted via the Superintendent's twitter, @ben\_hodge. An automated text notice can also be sent to subscribers; text 56360 and join. Lastly, the district will post a notice via the district website and will use the phone messaging system.

#### Telephone Usage

Students will not be called to the phone. Only messages of an **urgent** nature **from a parent / guardian** will be delivered to a pupil.

#### **Textbooks**

All basic hardbound textbooks are loaned to students for their use during the school year. Lost textbooks must be paid for so they may be replaced. Books or other materials, which are assigned to students, are the responsibilities of the student. Excessive damage or the loss of articles may mean that the student will be assessed the value of the article. Should a student fail to meet his / her financial obligation, grades and credits may be withheld.

#### **Extracurricular Activities**

Extracurricular activities are specifically designed for grades 9-12. High school dances, for example, may only be attended by students in grades 9-12 and their dates. This includes Homecoming and Prom. Dates may be graduates and under the age of 21, but may not be younger than those in the 9<sup>th</sup> grade. No student shall have a guest whose age is greater than three (3) years older than his or her age. The administration has the final authority to approve dates who are not Avon students.

Note: The Prom, in particular, is a formal affair and formal attire is required. Homecoming is a semiformal and jeans and other dress down clothing are not permitted.

#### Media / Public Relations / Photographs

While it is a goal of Avon High School to communicate with the press and other forms of media, parental consent is required prior to direct student contact with all forms of media. Should a parent or guardian wish to <u>exclude</u> his or her child from being pictured in such publications, notification must be made to the high school administration.

#### Student Publications

Official student publications such as the school newspaper, yearbook, class newsletters, etc., are a part of the school curriculum and, as such, editorial control remains with school authorities.

#### **Unauthorized Publication**

Any unauthorized publications, signs, etc., may not be posted or distributed on school grounds.

# CHEMICAL USE / INTERVENTION POLICY FOR STUDENTS PARTICIPATING IN EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

The Avon Local School District's Co-Extracurricular Activity Programs have a great concern for the welfare of our students and recognizes the negative effects of using unprescribed chemicals and / or tobacco products. Because of our concern for the welfare of our students and because successful programs rely heavily upon well-disciplined participants, Avon High School expects all students to refrain from the use and possession of tobacco, alcohol, or unprescribed drugs.

A student shall not possess or use tobacco or nicotine in any form (cigarettes, cigars, pipes, electronic cigarettes, vapor pens, snuff, paraphernalia, etc.) on school premises, buses, or at school sponsored activities during the season or activity period.

The provisions outlined in this policy shall be in effect twenty-four (24) hours a day, seven (7) days a week, for the duration of the start of the fall season to the end of the school year. The beginning of the fall season is defined as the first day of practice in the fall that is established by the OHSAA Handbook. The end of the school year is defined as the final day of school or the final formal contest or activity scheduled after the school year ends. (This includes tournaments and award banquets). Violations are cumulative throughout the student's four years of high school participation and disciplinary actions may carry over from one season to another. For any other activity, the activity period will be considered from the start of the school year as defined by the first day of school through the end of the school year as defined above.

Any confirmed violation of this policy will result in immediate disciplinary action by the head coach and / or activity director, athletic director, and assistant principal.

#### **Denial of Participation and Due Process**

- 1) The student must have been given previous notice of the expectations of the Athletic / Activity Code of Conduct and rules and regulations specific to the sport / activity.
- 2) When a student is in suspected violation of the Athletic / Activity Code of Conduct, a hearing will be held to investigate the alleged misconduct.
- 3) Please note: results of related investigations by school administration may be used to determine if there has also been a violation of the Student Code of Conduct.
- 4) The hearing and investigation will be coordinated by the Athletic Director and Principals. At the hearing, the student will have the opportunity to discuss the circumstances concerning the incident. Due Process will be followed according to the Avon Local School Policy and Ohio Law.

- 5) The Athletic Director will determine if there has been a violation of the Code of Conduct and will give the student and their parent / guardian written and / or verbal notification of the decision and penalty assessment (if applicable).
- 6) The student or parent has the right to appeal the decision of the Athletic Director to the building Principal. Any appeal must be requested in writing within five (5) calendar days of the decision notification. The appeal should state the exact reason the decision is being appealed. The Principal may direct this appeal to the Avon Local Schools Athletic Policy Board for a review of this decision. The recommended penalty assessment will begin immediately upon written or verbal notification to the student and parent / guardian and will continue throughout the appeal process, unless specified by the building principal.

A student represents not only himself / herself but also the Avon Local Schools and Avon Community. Since participation is a privilege, it is important that students and parents / guardians be aware of the rules and expectations. A violation of the Athletic / Activity Code of Conduct may result in the denial of the privilege to participate in a sport / activity. The following expectations are designed to improve the quality of interscholastic athletic competition for each student and his/her team. Because of the adverse effects of tobacco, drugs and alcohol, if a student is found in violation of the regulation concerning such, the Athletic Director's recommendations for penalty assessment should follow the guidelines as listed. A student always has the right to due process.

During the denial of participation period, the student may be required to practice and sit/stand behind the team bench dressed in appropriate street clothes during contests unless otherwise specified by the coach and/or Athletic Director. All training rules and requirements of the sport (team rules) will continue to be followed.

#### **Expectations and Consequences**

The minimum discipline / correction against the offender, in addition to those in the Rules and Regulations within the adopted Student Code of Conduct, will be the following:

# USE OR POSSESSION OF DRUGS, ALCOHOL, TOBACCO, AND CRIMINAL POLICY

The Avon Local Schools' Student Alcohol and Drug Use Policy and this Extracurricular, Co-curricular, and Athletics Policy coincides by stating that no student possess, use, exchange, conceal, or consumption of alcoholic beverages, tobacco, use of "vape" pens, electronic cigarettes, nicotine paraphernalia, narcotics, illegal or look-alike drugs or look-alike substances or drug paraphernalia. This includes the possession of materials and / or substances that may be used to alter drug tests. Included in this prohibition are any substances represented as controlled. Any evidence of use or consumption of any of the above substances is in violation of the Athletic / Activity Code of Conduct.

Avon Local Schools are committed to assisting students who exhibit behaviors and attitudes commonly associated with alcohol and other drug use. Faculty, staff, advisors, coaches, and administrators will actively investigate reported alcohol and other drug use by students involved in extracurricular, co-curricular activities, and athletics.

No student shall be involved in any illegal act or involvement in activities that are in direct violation of the Ohio Revised Code (i.e. disorderly conduct, domestic violence, theft, trespassing, disturbing the peace, etc.). Should these reports be confirmed, the extracurricular, co-curricular, and athletic code of conduct will be upheld.

Any criminal misconduct that is a violation and / or pending violation of the Ohio Revised Code and is NOT a drug, alcohol, and / or tobacco violation are subject to suspension and / or dismissal from the team activity. These actions are subject to a school investigation and Due Process.

#### First Offense

The student will not participate in an extracurricular, co-curricular, or athletic activity for the remainder of that activity or season and forfeiture of all awards and recognition for the activity season.

- Students who receive professional assistance (at their own financial expense) will have their penalty reduced 20% of the scheduled regular season games or 36 days of extracurricular activities and parking. The suspension will begin with the next contest or game(s). If the infraction occurs in the last week of the sport season or if the student is not yet in his or her sport season, the time will carry over into the student 's next scheduled game season.
  - The student agrees to see the SAP / Coordinator / counselor and follow his or her recommendation satisfactorily or
  - b) The student and family agree to a drug and alcohol assessment provided at a State approved alcohol / drug agency in the community conducted by a Certified Alcoholism / Drug Abuse counselor, and follow the recommendation satisfactorily.

#### Second Offense

The student will not participate in an extracurricular, co-curricular, or athletic activity for the remainder of the school calendar year, and forfeiture of all awards and recognition for the activity season. Students who receive professional assistance (at their own financial expense) will have their penalty reduced 50% of non-participation in athletic activities or 72 days of extracurricular activities and parking. Again, if the infraction occurs in the last week of the sport season or if the student is not yet in his or her sport / activity season, the time will carry over into the student's next scheduled game season.

#### Note: Professional assistance refers to the following:

The student and parent(s) or guardian(s) agree to a drug and alcohol assessment provided at a State approved alcohol / drug agency in the community and conducted by a Certified Alcoholism / Drug Abuse counselor and follow his or her recommendation satisfactorily. The entire cost of such an assessment will be the responsibility of the student and his / her parent(s) or quardian(s).

#### Third Offense

The student will not be permitted to attend or participate in the particular activity or sport for the remainder of his or her scholastic eligibility at Avon High. (The three offenses need not occur during the same year and the three offenses accumulate from year to year.) Reduction in penalties, generally, will not be granted. However, every effort will be made to assist the student. A student denied participation for the remainder of his or her eligibility, who has received treatment and has proven he or she has abstained from use for at least six months may ask for reinstatement from the building principal.

In addition to the above consequences, the student's role on the team/organization can change. For example: reduced playing time, leadership roles or titles will be taken away, disqualification from post season awards or letters

# DRUG OR ALCOHOL SALE OR DISTRIBUTION

#### First Offense

A student found in violation may be denied participation for one calendar year from the date of the violation.

#### Second Offense

A student found in violation a second time may be denied participation permanently.

Note: The Athletic Director will maintain records of violations, penalty assessments and other pertinent information for the student's four (4) years of high school participation.

#### PARTIES (WITH ILLEGAL SUBSTANCES PRESENT — TOBACCO, ALCOHOL, DRUGS)

Attendance at events/parties where drugs and/or alcohol are possessed and / or consumed illegally is unacceptable. Students should exit the premises immediately. Failure to exit the premises may result in disciplinary action. Each coach / advisor will address this with his / her team / activity. Disciplinary action for this infraction may include (but is not limited to) loss of playing time and may result in denial of participation for the student.

# **EXTRACURRICULAR SOCIAL MEDIA POLICY**

The use of e-mail messages, text messages, blogs, websites or other electronic communications to make inflammatory or derogatory comments, and / or inappropriate descriptions or pictures regarding another team / activity member, another student, a coach, another school or team, or other staff member is strictly prohibited. For the purposes of this policy, inappropriate comments may include, but are not limited to, inappropriate comments / pictures / descriptions regarding another person's race, ethnic background, culture, religion, gender or sexual orientation. Any violation of the social media policy may result in, but is not limited to, loss of playing time, denial of participation, and / or removal from the team / activity.

# AVON LOCAL SCHOOLS DRUG TESTING POLICY

Avon Local Schools has implemented a policy which will attempt to provide the district with a safe and healthful student program. This policy reflects the schools' and the community's strong commitment to establish a truly drug, alcohol, and nicotine free school environment. This policy applies to all athletes, student parking pass holders, extracurricular activities from grades 7-12, and via written request from parent(s) /guardian(s). The program does not affect the current policies, practices, or rights of the District regarding student drug and / or alcohol possession or use, where reasonable suspicion is established by means other than drug testing through this policy.

Avon students need to be exemplary in the eyes of the community. The drug testing and education policy is designed to create a safe, drug free environment for students and assist them in getting help when needed. Although students risk the loss of continued participation in extracurricular activities, and/or parking pass holders, no student shall be suspended or expelled from school as a result of any verified "positive" test conducted by his / her school under this program.

No student will be penalized academically for testing positive for banned substances. Note: The use or possession of materials and / or substances to alter drug testing results or tampering with the process of drug testing is a violation of the student and the athletic handbooks. These actions carry the same consequences of a violation of the drug testing. The results of drug tests will not be documented in any student's academic record.

#### If A Positive Test Occurs:

The 1st Violation - For the first positive result, the student will be given the option of:

A) The student will have to make an appointment with a certified chemical dependency counselor (or at an agency certified by the Ohio Department of Health or the Ohio Department of Alcohol and Drug Addiction Services) for chemical dependency assessment and then follow the recommendations of the counselor. The parent / guardian / custodian is responsible for all expenses and for providing the Administration with documentation that the student completed all recommendations of the counselor. Should the student not fulfill their appointment, the student will be denied participation for a minimum of 20% of the season. The parent / guardian / custodian and student will meet with the Athletic Director, the coach / advisor, and / or a

building administrator to determine reinstatement. The student, at parent / guardian / custodian expense, will be automatically enrolled to testing for the remainder of the students' education. The student shall forfeit all leadership roles.

**The 2nd Violation** - The student is denied participation for **30%** of the season. The parent/guardian/custodian and student will meet with the Athletic Director, the coach / advisor, and / or a building administrator to determine reinstatement. The student **will** be required, at parent/guardian/custodian expense, to submit to weekly or random testing for the remainder of the students' education. This will be at the parent/guardian/custodian's expense.

The student will have to make an appointment with a certified chemical dependency counselor (or at an agency certified by the Ohio Department of Health or the Ohio Department of Alcohol and Drug Addiction Services) for chemical dependency assessment and then follow the recommendations of the counselor. The parent / guardian / custodian is responsible for all expenses and for providing the Administration with documentation that the student completed all recommendations of the counselor.

Failure to complete these requirements may result in permanent denial of participation and / or driving permit status during the student's career at Avon High School.

**The 3rd Violation** - The student may be permanently denied participation in athletics, extracurricular activities and driving / parking privileges immediately.

Violations are cumulative throughout the student¹s secondary school career. (Grades 9-12)
See the Avon Local School District website, www.avonlocalschools.org, for additional pertinent information.

# **AVON HIGH SCHOOL**

# Athletics

Avon High School athletic programs include a pay to participate fee.

Billed each season.

\$200 max per student, per academic year \$350 max per family, per academic year

Boys' Interscholastic	Girls' Interscholastic
Golf	Golf
Track	Track
Varsity Baseball	Varsity Softball
JV Baseball	JV Softball
Freshman Baseball	-
Cross Country	Cross Country
Varsity Football	Varsity Volleyball
JV Football	JV Volleyball
Freshman Football	Freshman Volleyball
Varsity Basketball	Varsity Basketball
JV Basketball	JV Basketball
Freshman Basketball	Freshman Basketball
Varsity Bowling	Varsity Bowling
Varsity Soccer	Varsity Soccer
JV Soccer	JV Soccer
Varsity Tennis	Varsity Tennis
JV Tennis	JV Tennis
Swimming and Diving	Swimming and Diving
Lacrosse	Lacrosse
-	Gymnastics
Wrestling	-
Hockey	-

# **AVON HIGH SCHOOL**

### **Clubs and Activities**

A Cappella

Academic Challenge

Art Club

Avon Future Scholars of Medical (A.F.S.M.)

Book Club

Chess Club

Class Officers

Color Guard

Culture Club

Dance Team

Debate Club

Drama Club

**Dungeons and Dragons** 

Friendship Group

Gay-Straight Alliance (G.S.A.)

Junior State of America (J.S.A.)

Key Club

Leo Club

Making OURstory

Model UN

National Art Honor Society

**National Honor Society** 

Student Council

Students Against Destructive Decisions (S.A.D.D.)

Students of Avon who Value the Environment (S.A.V.E.)

Sign Language Club

Tech Club / ESports

Winterguard

Winter Sports Club

Women in STEM

# **AVON HIGH SCHOOL CLUBS & ORGANIZATIONS**

#### A Cappella Groups

Our A Cappella groups house some of the best singers at Avon High School. Auditions take place in the spring of each school year. A Cappella members learn to use microphones and develop a stage presence. Both groups, Unaccompanied and Hear Comes Treble, have one rehearsal each week. A Cappella has a number of extracurricular performances and competitions throughout the year, in addition to Fusion Concerts. Vocalists are expected to spend time practicing outside of rehearsal.

#### Academic Challenge

The Academic Challenge team is a group of high-achieving students in grades 9-12. Practice occurs once a week after school during the season, which begins in November and ends in March. The team competes in knowledge competitions against other schools in the area. Competitions include SWC meets, the Lorain County Scholastic Games on AM 930 WEOL, and events hosted by News Channel 5.

#### Art Club

The Art Club is an opportunity for 9-12 grade students at AHS to further their interests in the visual arts. We will expose members to art related topics above and beyond the classroom through specific art workshops. We will instill within members an active knowledge of professionalism in the field of visual art. We will provide a setting for the fellowship and visual growth of students of the visual arts. We will develop and promote an appreciation for visual arts in the community.

#### Avon Dungeons & Dragons Club (AD&D)

Looking to add a little adventure to your life? AD&D Club provides an opportunity for tabletop gamers to meet, find players or game masters, and perform heroic deeds! Although the focus is on Dungeons & Dragons, the club is open to tabletop RPGs of all kinds. AD&D Club meets twice monthly for gaming sessions. No experience is necessary; gamers of all experience levels are welcome.

#### Avon's Future Scholars of Medicine (A.F.S.M.)

Avon's <u>Future Scholars of Medicine</u> is an Avon High School club that educates, empowers and helps students explore the field of medicine. Club activities include guest speakers, clinical practice, field trips, and discussion and research with peers that have a common interest.

#### **Book Club**

The Avon High School Book Club welcomes all students who like to read and talk about books. Our group's diversity allows for dynamic discussion. The club meets twice a month and discusses a variety of popular fiction and non-fiction texts. Book selections are based on member feedback. Discussions are casual and take place in small and large-group settings.

#### Chess Club

Chess Club is open to students of all skill levels from beginner to advanced. Chess Club meets twice a month immediately after school. Students enjoy competing in game rounds with members of the club, and socialize over a shared interest. Tournament play is possible, but not mandatory. Additionally, we will work together on one community service project throughout the year.

#### Class Officers

Class Officer positions are filled by election in the spring for the upcoming school year. Class Officers are expected to meet with Class Advisers on a regular basis, plan and participate in class fundraising and community service projects, and encourage classmates to participate in these events as well.

#### Culture Club

Food, speakers, field trips and more! The Culture Club is open to all high school students interested in discovering other cultures. Each year, students will be able to learn and experience cultures in ways that are not conducive in the classroom. Culture Club meets every other month beginning in October. A spectacular dinner at a local restaurant is a certainty as well as field trips to Cleveland area attractions. Fees, which cover

foods, activities and supplies for Culture Club, will be needed as we experience the globe locally.

#### Dance Team

The Avon High School Eaglette Dance Team performs at half-time of all home Varsity Boys' Basketball games. Individuals desiring to try-out are recommended to have a background in dance. The season runs from the end of October through the end of February. Students will be required to try out and purchase uniforms. The Eaglette Dance Team may also participate in competitions, showcases, and other community events. All team members are required to participate in fundraising for uniforms, supplies, banquets, competitions, etc. In addition, there will be a pay to participate fee.

#### Debate Club

The Avon Debate Club creates a space where individuals can feel safe to discuss opinions and ideas. Students have the opportunity to engage and research real world situations and form educated opinions on these subjects. Members discuss material and content that is relevant to their lives as students and members of society. Debate Club allows students to learn how to treat others with respect and value opinions that differ from their own. Students will learn the differences between public forum, policy, and other forms of debate, experiencing the different tactics and strategies utilized in each. Debate Club is a great way for students to interact with classmates and improve public speaking skills.

#### Drama Club

Avon High School's Drama Club affords students the opportunity to learn about and perform in theatrical productions supervised by staff members with professional experience in the field. Students can choose to audition for one or several plays produced each year. If cast, they will attend regularly scheduled rehearsals after school in preparation for a minimum of three performances. Students who are interested in the technical aspects of theatre will also have many chances to become involved. Set and lighting design, light board operation, set painting, program design, house management, makeup, costuming, and pit band provide students with many behind-the-scenes opportunities. This type of production work often requires weekend participation for students in all grades, 9-12. The flexibility of the club is one of its most appealing aspects. Students who complete exemplary work and log at least 100 hours of participation in two productions are eligible for induction in the International Thespian Society, an organization that recognizes the accomplishments of students in educational theatre. The Drama Club and Thespian Troupe may attend regional and state conferences. There will be a pay to participate fee for the Fall Play and the Spring Musical.

#### Friendship Group

Students in Friendship Group are kind and include others. Students who exhibit these characteristics are invited to join the group. During the group we do various games, activities, and make snacks. It's a great way to meet new people and help all students feel included in the Avon High School community.

#### Gay Straight Alliance (G.S.A)

Avon High School's <u>Gay-Straight Alliance</u> follows the national charter premise of supporting and fostering awareness of GSA topics and a safe education environment for students regardless of sexuality or gender. The alliance works to promote positive and welcoming school-wide experiences for the AHS community as a whole.

#### Junior State of America (J.S.A.)

Leadership, Accountability, Diversity, Empowerment. JSA is a national organization which allows for a safe and respected exchange of ideas through student debates, thought talks, problem solving, and a variety of simulations. The mission of JSA is to strengthen American democracy by educating and preparing high school students for lifelong involvement and responsible leadership in a democratic society. By participating in JSA activities, each member gains a more intelligent and informed understanding of the democratic process. JSA is a great organization for all students interested in the political process and social change. It is the goal of Avon High School JSA to travel to Spring State each year to hear and participate in the convention.

#### Key Club

Key Club is an international, student-led organization that provides its members with opportunities to provide service, build character and develop leadership. Key Club is a service organization affiliated with Kiwanis International. Key Club provides opportunities for students to plan and engage in a variety of service activities

and charitable organizations.

#### Leo Club

Leo Club emphasizes Leadership, Experience, and Opportunity. The mission of the Leo Club is to develop and promote leadership and community service. This youth service organization is affiliated with Lions Clubs International. Its purpose is to encourage youth to develop leadership qualities by participating in social service opportunities to better the school and the community.

#### **Making OURstory**

Making OURstory is a gender-inclusive empowerment group that helps to bring great awareness to many societal issues we all struggle with, not just in high school, but also in our everyday lives. Each member of Making OURstory will get the opportunity to be heard, to feel empowered, and to be aware of what we could all go through and how to approach these issues and connect with one another.

#### Model UN

Model UN is a group/club that consists of students in grades 9-12, which focuses on preparing for, rehearsing for, and attending Model UN conferences in the area. The conferences are set up like actual UN committees, and each two-person group represents a country. Students strive to learn the priorities of that country, and advocate on behalf of that country within some specific committee. For example, "Susie" and "Bob" may be the Israeli representatives in the World Health committee. It is the intent of Avon High School's Model UN to participate in two conferences per year, one fall and one spring.

#### National Art Honor Society

National Art Honor Society recognizes students who have demonstrated passion and dedication through their art and community service. Participation in NAHS provides students with peer recognition, leadership growth opportunities, college and career preparation, recognition and visibility of student artwork in the community. It offers young artists advanced art workshops, experiences and opportunities. Students can become members if they meet criteria established by the national organization and the local chapter bylaws. Members must have completed or be enrolled in 4 semesters of visual art courses at AHS, maintain a 3.0 cumulative GPA and a 3.5 GPA average in art courses. They must not have outstanding handbook violations and maintain good character as an AHS student. Art focused community service hours are required.

#### National Honor Society

The members of the National Honor Society are selected from the junior and senior classes using criteria established by the national organization and the local chapter. NHS candidates must exhibit high standards of scholarship, character, leadership, and service. A cumulative GPA of at least a 3.50 at the beginning of the junior year is required in order to be eligible. Eligible students are invited to fill out an application. The application process consists of the application completed by students, a character questionnaire completed by staff members and a comprehensive review of the application done by a faculty council. Character, service, leadership and scholarship are all taken into account during the faculty council meeting. The NHS inductees are announced and honored at an induction ceremony. Once selected and inducted into NHS, members are required by the national organization to maintain the same standards by which they were inducted and are required to take an active part in the activities of the local chapter. Dedicated to these high standards, the members strive to continue to serve the school and their community through a number of community and school service projects.

#### Sign Language Club

Sign Language club is for all students who have an interest in learning sign language, learning about deaf culture, and working to create a more inclusive environment in the Avon High School community. We do a variety of fun activities including playing games, sign language activities, and having guests join us! We meet twice a month and welcome any student with an interest in learning more about sign language!

#### Spring Musical

Our Spring Musical is a great opportunity for those students who have interest in being on stage or working backstage to come together to produce an incredible product. Auditions take place typically in early December and scripts are given out before winter break. The performance takes place late March. Students who are

interested in the technical aspects of theater will also have many chances to become involved. Set and lighting design, light board operation, set painting, program design, house management, makeup, costuming, and pit band provide students with many behind-the-scenes opportunities. This type of production work often requires weekend participation for students in all grades, 9-12. Come one—come all!

#### Student Council

The Student Council is the student governing body of the school providing a forum for student expression and serving as a link between the students, administration, and community. Major goals are to develop leadership qualities within the students and to help reinforce a sense of pride and respect in themselves, their peers, and their school. Student Council directs over ten (10) activities throughout the year including Homecoming, Class Clash week, and the annual Talent Show. Elections for the Executive Board are held in the spring for the following year. Students campaign for election and are expected to be conscientious, diligent, and have a good work ethic.

#### Students Against Destructive Decisions (S.A.D.D.)

SADD is a student organization dedicated to preventing destructive decisions, particularly underage drinking, other drug use, risky and impaired driving, teen violence, and teen suicide. The members of SADD encourage and support good and healthy lifestyle choices through positive role modeling and campaigns that raise awareness about the consequences of destructive decisions. Students in SADD are positive role models by making the pledge to abstain from tobacco, alcohol, and drug use. Members will have opportunities to attend organization meetings, participate in school-wide activities, attend training for various projects, and go on field trips. In organizing campaigns throughout the year, students in SADD will also develop leadership skills and make positive connections within the school and the community.

#### Students of Avon who Value the Environment (S.A.V.E.)

The SAVE organization stands for  $\underline{S}$ tudents of  $\underline{A}$ von who  $\underline{V}$ alue the  $\underline{E}$ nvironment. It is an environmental student organization open to all Avon students in grades 9 through 12. SAVE focuses on matters of the environment through service and education. SAVE members are expected to help with the school recycling program and to be involved in service-oriented activities scheduled throughout the year. Members are also encouraged to come up with ideas on ways that SAVE can make Avon schools a greener place. SAVE meets approximately once a month.

#### Tech Club/Esports

The Avon Tech Club is for members to learn new technologies (examples include piloting drones and streaming). We will have meetings once every other week (unless otherwise stated) to learn how to use these technologies and apply them. The Esports portion of the club is for individuals who want to play in organized, competitive gaming. Students play in the EsportsOhio League, where students can play a variety of games (see EsportsOhio for official list of games). Students can compete in both the Fall and Spring season, where matches are played on a weekly basis.

#### Winter Sports Club

The Avon High School Winter Sports Club is for any student in grades 9-12. Meetings are held before ski season for information, organization and registration. Members of the Winter Sports Club will ski or snowboard at Brandywine Resort in January and February. There will be a cost for this activity. An additional transportation fee is assessed based upon the number of participants. These fees include rental equipment, if applicable, lessons, and transportation. All ability levels are welcome, from first timer to expert.

#### Winterguard

Winterguard, also known as "The Sport of the Arts" is a team activity where members learn and perform an original production using dance, theatrics and special equipment such as flags, and other props. The group travels to competitions around the state to compete against other high school and independent groups in the Ohio Indoor Performance Association circuit. Competitions are held in gymnasiums during the winter months. Winterguard is a nationally recognized activity with independent, college, high school, middle school and elementary school teams. The activity is governed by Winterguard International with State, regional and national level competitions. Avon currently has two teams. The JV team includes middle school and high school students in grades 7-10. The Varsity team is made up of students in grades 9-12. Winterguard is open to all

genders and the teams are determined by an audition process.

#### Women in STEM

Avon High School's Women in STEM Club welcomes all students who are interested in entering a STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Math) field in the future. Each month we welcome a guest speaker who is a woman in a STEM field and we offer an activity that explores science, technology, engineering, or math. This club is an excellent way to learn more about STEM career opportunities and connect with peers as well as professionals who share your interests.

# PARENT & STUDENT ATHLETIC HANDBOOK

This handbook is presented to you because your son or daughter has indicated a desire to participate in interscholastic athletics, and you have expressed your willingness to permit him/her to compete. The Avon Schools are pleased with your interest in the Athletic Program. We believe that a comprehensive program of student activities is vital to the educational development of our students. As students elect to participate, there are many questions which both you and your son/daughter may have regarding the Athletic Program. The purpose of this handbook is to answer as many questions about the policies and philosophy of the program as possible. Our intent is to keep students and parents as informed as possible in order to assist in making the athletic experience a positive one for our student athletes. We are hopeful that this handbook will be of assistance to you as your child participates in the Athletic Program at Avon High School.

With Eagle Pride,

Erich Frombach Athletic Director

#### Philosophy

Participation in the Avon School's extracurricular activities is both an honor and a privilege. The Avon Schools believe that interscholastic athletics are an integral part of the total educational program. High standards of behavior, scholarship, and citizenship are important to a sound athletic program. Students volunteering to participate must assume the responsibilities of this privilege and are required to meet expectations beyond those set for non-participants.

Avon Schools believe that:

- The physical and emotional growth of student participants is the most important goal of participation.
- Academic achievement is a prerequisite to participation.
- Additional time and energy committed to participation requires that the participants attain and maintain peak
- Physical and mental condition.
- Substance abuse can cause significant health problem for adolescents and may also affect the development of
- Skills which are necessary for participation.
- interscholastic athletics can make the educational experience richer and more rewarding and therefore all
- Students are encouraged to participate.
- Adherence to certain behavior and academic standards enhances a student athlete's quality of life.
- All teams will "win with honor and lose with class."
- Good Sportsmanship is expected at all times.

In order to gain the right to participate in any extracurricular activity, a student must understand and abide by the "Code of Conduct." The student athlete's intent to abide by this code shall be evidenced in an agreement, which shall be signed by the student athlete and their parent(s) or guardian. This policy operates in conjunction with the Student Code of Conduct, so that these provisions are part of that code, and all student athletes participating in extracurricular activities are subject to all provisions.

#### Athletic Goals and Objectives

- The student athlete shall become a more effective citizen in a democratic society.
- The student shall learn teamwork To work with others in a democratic society a person must develop self-discipline, respect for authority, and the spirit of hard work and sacrifice. To place the team and its objectives higher than personal desires.
- To help the student athlete attain a drug-free lifestyle.
- To continue to promote and display good Sportsmanship on and off the field.

#### Objectives

#### To Be Successful

Our society is very competitive. We do not always win, but we succeed when we continually strive to do so. You can learn to accept defeat only by striving to win with earnest dedication. Develop a desire to excel.

#### Sportsmanship

To accept success and defeat like a true sportsman, knowing we have done our best. We must learn to treat others as we would have others treat us. We need to develop desirable social traits, including emotional control, honesty, cooperation, and dependability.

#### To Improve

Continual improvement is essential to good citizenship. As a student athlete, you must establish a goal and you must constantly try to reach that goal. Try to better yourself in the skill involved and in those characteristics set forth as being desirable.

#### **Enjoy Athletics**

It is necessary for us to acknowledge all of the personal rewards we derive from athletics and to give sufficiently of ourselves in order to preserve and improve the program.

#### To Develop Desirable Personal Health Habits

To be an active, contributing citizen, it is important to obtain a high degree of physical fitness through exercise and good health habits.

#### Scope of the Athletic Code of Conduct

The provisions outlined in this policy shall be in effect twenty-four (24) hours a day, seven (7) days a week, for the duration of the start of the fall season to the end of the school year. The beginning of the fall season is defined as the first day of practice in the fall that is established by the OHSAA Handbook. The end of the school year is defined as the final day of school or the final formal contest or activity scheduled after the school year ends (this includes tournaments and award banquets). Violations are cumulative throughout the athlete's four years of high school participation and disciplinary actions may carry over from one season to another.

#### **Denial of Participation and Due Process**

- The athlete must have been given previous notice of the expectations of the Athletic Code of Conduct and rules and regulations specific to the sport/activity.
- 2. When an athlete is in suspected violation of the Athletic Code of Conduct, a hearing will be held to investigate the alleged misconduct.
- 3. PLEASE NOTE: results of related investigations by school administration may be used to determine if there has also been a violation of the Student Code of Conduct.
- 4. The hearing and investigation will be coordinated by the Athletic Director and Principals. At the hearing, the athlete will have the opportunity to discuss the circumstances concerning the incident. Due Process will be followed according to the Avon Local School Policy and Ohio Law.
- The Athletic Director will determine if there has been a violation of the Code of Conduct and will
  give the student-athlete and parent / guardian written and/or verbal notification of the decision and
  penalty assessment (if applicable).
- 6. The athlete or parent has the right to appeal the decision of the Athletic Director to the building Principal. Any appeal must be requested in writing within five (5) calendar days of the decision notification. The appeal should state the exact reason the decision is being appealed. The Principal may direct this appeal to the Avon Local Schools Athletic Policy Board for a review of this decision. The recommended penalty assessment will begin immediately upon written or verbal notification to the athlete and parent/guardian and will continue throughout the appeal process, unless specified by the building principal.

An athlete represents not only himself / herself but also the Avon Local Schools and Avon Community. Since participation is a privilege, it is important that students and parents / guardians be aware of the rules and expectations. A violation of the Athletic Code of Conduct may result in the denial of the privilege to participate in a sport / activity.

The following expectations are designed to improve the quality of interscholastic athletic competition for each athlete and his/her team. Because of the adverse effects of tobacco, drugs and alcohol, if an athlete is found in violation of the regulation concerning such, the Athletic Director's recommendations for penalty assessment should follow the guidelines as listed. An athlete always has the right to due process.

During the denial of participation period, the athlete may be required to practice and sit/stand behind the team bench dressed in appropriate street clothes during contests unless otherwise specified by the coach and / or Athletic Director. All training rules and requirements of the sport (team rules) will continue to be followed.

#### **Expectations and Consequences**

The minimum discipline / correction against the offender, in addition to those in the Rules and Regulations within the adopted Student Code of Conduct, will be the following:

# CHEMICAL USE / INTERVENTION POLICY FOR STUDENTS PARTICIPATING IN EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

The Avon Local School District's Co-Extracurricular Activity Programs have a great concern for the welfare of our students and recognizes the negative effects of using unprescribed chemicals and / or tobacco products. Because of our concern for the welfare of our students and because successful programs rely heavily upon well-disciplined participants, Avon High School expects all students to refrain from the use and possession of tobacco, alcohol, or unprescribed drugs.

A student shall not possess or use tobacco or nicotine in any form (cigarettes, cigars, pipes, electronic cigarettes, vapor pens, snuff, paraphernalia, etc.) on school premises, buses, or at school sponsored activities during the season or activity period.

The provisions outlined in this policy shall be in effect twenty-four (24) hours a day, seven (7) days a week, for the duration of the start of the fall season to the end of the school year. The beginning of the fall season is defined as the first day of practice in the fall that is established by the OHSAA Handbook. The end of the school year is defined as the final day of school or the final formal contest or activity scheduled after the school year ends. (This includes tournaments and award banquets). Violations are cumulative throughout the student's four years of high school participation and disciplinary actions may carry over from one season to another. For any other activity, the activity period will be considered from the start of the school year as defined by the first day of school through the end of the school year as defined above. Any confirmed violation of this policy will result in immediate disciplinary action by the head coach and / or activity director, athletic director, and assistant principal.

#### **Denial of Participation and Due Process**

- 1. The student must have been given previous notice of the expectations of the Athletic / Activity Code of Conduct and rules and regulations specific to the sport / activity.
- 2. When a student is in suspected violation of the Athletic / Activity Code of Conduct, a hearing will be held to investigate the alleged misconduct.
- 3. PLEASE NOTE: results of related investigations by school administration may be used to determine if there has also been a violation of the Student Code of Conduct.
- 4. The hearing and investigation will be coordinated by the Athletic Director and Principals. At the hearing, the student will have the opportunity to discuss the circumstances concerning the incident. Due Process will be followed according to the Avon Local School Policy and Ohio Law.
- 5. The Athletic Director will determine if there has been a violation of the Code of Conduct and will give the student and their parent / guardian written and / or verbal notification of the decision and penalty assessment (if applicable).
- 6. The student or parent has the right to appeal the decision of the Athletic Director to the building Principal. Any appeal must be requested in writing within five (5) calendar days of the decision notification. The appeal should state the exact reason the decision is being appealed. The Principal may direct this appeal to the Avon Local Schools Athletic Policy Board for a review of this decision. The recommended penalty assessment will begin immediately upon written or verbal notification to the student and parent / guardian and will continue throughout the appeal process, unless specified by the building principal.

A student represents not only himself / herself but also the Avon Local Schools and Avon Community. Since participation is a privilege, it is important that students and parents / guardians be aware of the rules and expectations. A violation of the Athletic / Activity Code of Conduct may result in the denial of the privilege to participate in a sport / activity. The following expectations are designed to improve the quality of interscholastic

athletic competition for each student and his/her team. Because of the adverse effects of tobacco, drugs and alcohol, if a student is found in violation of the regulation concerning such, the Athletic Director's recommendations for penalty assessment should follow the guidelines as listed. A student always has the right to due process.

During the denial of participation period, the student may be required to practice and sit/stand behind the team bench dressed in appropriate street clothes during contests unless otherwise specified by the coach and/or Athletic Director. All training rules and requirements of the sport (team rules) will continue to be followed.

#### **Expectations and Consequences**

The minimum discipline / correction against the offender, in addition to those in the Rules and Regulations within the adopted Student Code of Conduct, will be the following:

# USE OR POSSESSION OF DRUGS, ALCOHOL, TOBACCO, AND CRIMINAL POLICY

The Avon Local Schools' Student Alcohol and Drug Use Policy and this Extracurricular, Co-curricular, and Athletics Policy coincides by stating that no student possess, use, exchange, conceal, or consumption of alcoholic beverages, tobacco, use of "vape" pens, electronic cigarettes, nicotine paraphernalia, narcotics, illegal or look-alike drugs or look-alike substances or drug paraphernalia. This includes the possession of materials and / or substances that may be used to alter drug tests. Included in this prohibition are any substances represented as controlled. Any evidence of use or consumption of any of the above substances is in violation of the Athletic / Activity Code of Conduct.

Avon Local Schools are committed to assisting students who exhibit behaviors and attitudes commonly associated with alcohol and other drug use. Faculty, staff, advisors, coaches, and administrators will actively investigate reported alcohol and other drug use by students involved in extracurricular, co-curricular activities, and athletics.

No student shall be involved in any illegal act or involvement in activities that are in direct violation of the Ohio Revised Code (i.e. disorderly conduct, domestic violence, theft, trespassing, disturbing the peace, etc.). Should these reports be confirmed, the extracurricular, co-curricular, and athletic code of conduct will be upheld.

Any criminal misconduct that is a violation and / or pending violation of the Ohio Revised Code and is NOT a drug, alcohol, and / or tobacco violation are subject to suspension and / or dismissal from the team activity. These actions are subject to a school investigation and Due Process.

#### First Offense

The student will not participate in an extracurricular, co-curricular, or athletic activity for the remainder of that activity or season and forfeiture of all awards and recognition for the activity season.

- 1) Students who receive professional assistance (at their own financial expense) will have their penalty reduced 20% of the scheduled regular season games or 36 days of extracurricular activities and parking. The suspension will begin with the next contest or game(s). If the infraction occurs in the last week of the sport season or if the student is not yet in his or her sport season, the time will carry over into the student 's next scheduled game season.
  - a) The student agrees to see the SAP / Coordinator / counselor and follow his or her recommendation satisfactorily or
  - b) The student and family agree to a drug and alcohol assessment provided at a State approved alcohol / drug agency in the community conducted by a Certified Alcoholism / Drug Abuse counselor, and follow the recommendation satisfactorily.

#### Second Offense

The student will not participate in an extracurricular, co-curricular, or athletic activity for the remainder of the school calendar year, and forfeiture of all awards and recognition for the activity season. Students who receive professional assistance (at their own financial expense) will have their penalty reduced 50% of non-participation in athletic activities or 72 days of extracurricular activities and parking. Again, if the infraction occurs in the last week of the sport season or if the student is not yet in his or her sport / activity season, the time will carry over into the student's next scheduled game season.

#### Note: Professional assistance refers to the following:

The student and parent(s) or guardian(s) agree to a drug and alcohol assessment provided at a State approved alcohol / drug agency in the community and conducted by a Certified Alcoholism / Drug Abuse counselor and follow his or her recommendation satisfactorily. The entire cost of such an assessment will be the responsibility of the student and his / her parent(s) or guardian(s).

#### Third Offense

The student will not be permitted to attend or participate in the particular activity or sport for the remainder of his or her scholastic eligibility at Avon High. (The three offenses need not occur during the same year and the three offenses accumulate from year to year.) Reduction in penalties, generally, will not be granted. However, every effort will be made to assist the student. A student denied participation for the remainder of his or her eligibility, who has received treatment and has proven he or she has abstained from use for at least six months may ask for reinstatement from the building principal. In addition to the above consequences, the student's role on the team/organization can change. For example: reduced playing time, leadership roles or titles will be taken away, disqualification from post season awards or letters.

# DRUG OR ALCOHOL SALE OR DISTRIBUTION

#### First Offense

A student found in violation may be denied participation for one calendar year from the date of the violation.

#### Second Offense

A student found in violation a second time may be denied participation permanently.

Note: The Athletic Director will maintain records of violations, penalty assessments and other pertinent information for the student's four (4) years of high school participation.

# PARTIES (WITH ILLEGAL SUBSTANCES PRESENT — TOBACCO, ALCOHOL, DRUGS)

Attendance at events/parties where drugs and/or alcohol are possessed and / or consumed illegally is unacceptable. Students should exit the premises immediately. Failure to exit the premises may result in disciplinary action. Each coach / advisor will address this with his / her team / activity. Disciplinary action for this infraction may include (but is not limited to) loss of playing time and may result in denial of participation for the student.

# **EXTRACURRICULAR SOCIAL MEDIA POLICY**

The use of e-mail messages, text messages, blogs, websites or other electronic communications to make inflammatory or derogatory comments, and / or inappropriate descriptions or pictures regarding another team / activity member, another student, a coach, another school or team, or other staff member is strictly prohibited. For the purposes of this policy, inappropriate comments may include, but are not limited to, inappropriate comments / pictures / descriptions regarding another person's race, ethnic background, culture,

religion, gender or sexual orientation. Any violation of the social media policy may result in, but is not limited to, loss of playing time, denial of participation, and / or removal from the team / activity.

## **SPORTSMANSHIP**

Sportsmanship is everyone's responsibility! Athletic events are learning experiences for students. A ticket to a contest is a privilege to observe athletic tests of skills, not to verbally assault others or be obnoxious. Audiences may forget that high school athletes have not reached mature physical performance, so errors can be expected. Moreover, audiences who learn the rules of the sport are less likely to criticize officials, players or coaches. Remember that young people play sports for their enjoyment, not to entertain you.

- Sportsmanship guidelines are listed below for both students and adults and need to be followed while attending interscholastic contents. Failure to follow these guidelines may result in being ejected from the event and in being asked to leave the premises immediately.
- Remember that you are at a contest to support and cheer for your team and to enjoy the skill and competition, not to intimidate or ridicule the other team and its fans.
- Do not have unrealistic expectations and understand that doing one's best is as important as winning. Understand that ridiculing an athlete for making a mistake is not acceptable behavior.
- Remember that interscholastic athletics are learning experiences for students and mistakes are sometimes made. Praise student athletes in their attempt to improve themselves as students, as athletes and as people as you would praise a student working in the classroom.
- Remember that a ticket to an interscholastic athletic event is a privilege to observe the contest, not a license to verbally assault others and be generally obnoxious.
- Encourage athletes and coaches to play by the rules and to resolve conflicts without resorting to hostility or violence.
- Learn the rules of the game so that you may understand and appreciate why certain situations take place.
- Respect and show appreciation for the coaches and understand that they have given their time to provide sport activities for our young people.
- Show respect for the opposing players, coaches, fans and support groups. Treat them as you would treat a guest in your own home.
- Refrain from taunting or making any kind of derogatory remarks to your opponents during the game.
- Respect the integrity and judgment of game officials. Understand that they are doing their best to
  help promote the student-athlete and admire their willingness to participate in full view of the
  public. Respect the officials' decisions and encourage all participants to do the same.
- Recognize and show appreciation for an outstanding play by either team.
- Adults are to refrain from the use of any controlled substances (alcohol, drugs, etc.) before and during games and afterwards on or near the site of the event.
- Use only those cheers that support and uplift the teams involved.
- Recognize and complement the efforts of school and league administrators for their efforts in emphasizing the benefits of educational athletics and the role of good sportsmanship.
- Be a positive behavior role model through your own actions and by censuring those around you at events where behavior is unbecoming.

#### Student Sports Fan Conduct

At all school athletic contests, Avon students are a reflection of the school and community. As such, students are expected to conduct themselves with the ethics of good sportsmanship as a top priority. Students are expected to cheer for Avon athletes, not against the opposing team or referees. Students who wish to attend a home event and are not directly participating in the event as players or designated, supervised helpers are to arrive back on campus no earlier than 15 minutes before the first athletic event of the day (e.g., arrive at 4:15pm for a 4:3ppm event). Otherwise, students will be considered to be loitering and subject to disciplinary action, according to the Code of Conduct. At all home contests, students are required to sit in the bleachers designated

as the home side. At all away contests, students are required to sit in the bleachers that are designated for the visiting school. Only the official designated Avon cheerleading squads will be permitted on the floor, field, or track area to conduct cheers. All others must remain in stands.

#### Student Conduct Policy

As a prospective student-athlete, you are expected to seriously accept the responsibility and privilege of representing Avon High School and the community of Avon while participating in athletics. School and Athletic Personnel expect you to treat opponents with respect, respect the judgment of contest officials, abide by contest rules, display no behavior that could incite fans or other participants in the contest or which is intended to embarrass, ridicule or demean others under any circumstances, including on the basis of race, religion, gender or national origin; cooperate with officials, your coaches and other participants to ensure a fair contest, and live up to the Avon High School Athletic Code of Conduct.

#### Reasonable Conduct

The Avon High School Athletic Department recognizes that the safety and welfare of individual athletes and teams are a priority. Therefore, athletes will not engage in any acts of criminal activity such as, but not limited to vandalism, assault and battery, hazing, theft or other disruptive behavior. Athletes are also expected to behave appropriately during school and extracurricular activities. Detrimental actions include, but are not limited to insubordination, repeated absenteeism, fighting, sexual misconduct, negative/apathetic attitude, unsportsmanlike conduct, lying, and inappropriate language or gestures. Any student referred to the office for a school rules violation may be denied the privilege of participation in athletics for a period determined by an administrator.

Recognizing the varying degrees of severity, the type of misconduct, and an athlete's previous record of conduct, each situation will be considered individually. The coach and / or Athletic Director, will determine appropriate consequences, which may include denial of participation or dismissal from the team. In all cases, the athlete will have the right to due process and a written record of the incident will be filed with the Athletic Director.

## **ELIGIBILITY**

#### Athletic Eligibility

- The Ohio High School Athletic Association has approved changes in the eligibility requirements for the school year. A student will be able to participate in athletic practices and contests if he / she meets the following criteria:
  - a. High School students are eligible to participate during a grading period if they pass the minimum of five (5) credits the previous grading period. (This includes the final nine weeks to be eligible the following fall season.)
  - b. All incoming 9th graders will be eligible to participate in the first grading period if they receive a passing grade in a minimum of five (5) subjects in the preceding grading period. All courses in which a student receives a grade count toward this eligibility requirement.
  - c. An 8th grader must have received passing grades in a minimum of five (5) subjects to become eligible to participate in 9<sup>th</sup> grade.
  - d. In addition to these guidelines, students must adhere to all athletic / extracurricular discipline policies as adopted.
  - e. High school students must submit their pay to participate fees by the established date.
  - f. See the Athletic Director for all guidelines.

#### Participation on Independent Teams

If during the school year, and while a member of a school team or squad, the student participates on an organized team engaged in the same sport, he / she may be ineligible for any further participation in that sport for the remainder of the season. In addition, athletes who are members of a school team or squad are strongly encouraged NOT to compete on independent teams (different sports) while their season is in progress. It is up

to the individual coaches to determine if they will allow players to participate in a different sport during their season.

#### Removal from a Team or Quitting

A student athlete who quits or is removed from a team after 5 days from the official start of practice, may not be permitted to tryout for another sport during the same season or prepare of another sport, until the sport the athlete quit or was removed from has concluded unless extenuating circumstances exist as determine by the athletic director. A student athlete cut from one sport may join another sport during the same season.

#### Hazing

Hazing by any student athlete or team member involved in athletics at Avon is strictly forbidden. Permission, consent, or assumption of risk by an individual subjected to hazing does not lesson the prohibition contained in the statement. Any incidents of hazing will be covered by punishment under the Athletic Code of Conduct.

#### Practice/Contest Attendance

The athlete is expected to attend all team activities as designated by the coach and/or advisor unless excused prior to the absence. Unexcused absences may result in disciplinary action including (but not limited to) loss of playing time or suspension from the team. The coach/advisor will keep records of attendance and inform the parent and Athletic Director when the athlete's absences result in denial of participation. Practice shall only be "Mandatory" beginning with the Ohio High School Athletic Association's 1st Day of Practice. These dates are published in the O.H.S.A.A. Handbook. If during the school year, and while a member of a school team or squad, the student participates on an organized team engaged in the same sport, he/she may be ineligible for any further participation in that sport for the remainder of the season.

#### School Attendance

The athlete must be present for at least 1/2 of the school day (10:15 a.m.) of a practice or contest in order to be eligible to participate in any team activity. Medical appointments, funerals or other emergencies may be excused, if approved by the Athletic Director. If an athlete is absent from school on Friday or the day before a school vacation, he/she may participate in a weekend or vacation contest with parental permission.

#### Participation on Independent Teams

If during the school year, and while a member of a school team or squad, the student participates on an organized team engaged in the same sport, he/she shall be ineligible for any further participation in that sport for the remainder of the season. In addition, athletes who are members of a school team or squad are strongly encouraged NOT to compete on independent teams (different sports) while their season is in progress. It is up to the individual coaches to determine if they will allow players to participate in a different sport during their season

#### Squad Selection

In accordance with our philosophy of athletics and our desire to see as many students as possible participate in the athletic programs at Avon High School, we encourage coaches to keep as many students as they can without unbalancing the integrity of the sport. Obviously, time, space facilities, equipment, personal preference, and other factors will place limitations on the most effective squad size of any sport. However, when developing policy in this regard we strive to maximize the opportunities for our students without diluting the quality of the program.

#### **Cutting Policies**

Choosing members of athletic squads is the sole responsibility of the coaches of these squads.

Lower level coaches should take into consideration the policies of the established Head Coach in the particular program when selecting the squad. Prior to trying out the coach should provide the following information: extent of tryout (minimum of 3 Days) and criteria used in selecting the team. A written evaluation may be provided (at the request of the student) for any student that does not make the team.

At the request of the athlete, a conference may be held with the coach to explain the reasons why he or she did not make the team.

#### Communicating with the Coach

Appropriate issues to discuss with coaches:

- 1. The treatment of your child, mentally and physically.
- 2. Ways to help your child improve
- 3. Concerns about your child's behavior

Appropriate Procedure for discussing issues and concerns with coaches:

- 1. Call and set up an appointment with the coach. The athlete should be present at the meeting.
- 2. Do Not confront a coach before or after a contest or practice.
- 3. If the meeting with the coach does not provide a satisfactory resolution, then call to set up an appointment with the Athletic Director. Again, the athlete must be present.

#### Inappropriate issues

- 1. Playing time
- Team strategy
- 3. Other student athletes

NOTE: The student athlete should first try to resolve the situation with the coach before the parent becomes involved.

#### **Equipment Policy**

The participant must return school equipment in the condition it was received, within 3 school days of the last contest. Participants must reimburse the Avon Schools the replacement cost of lost or damaged equipment prior to receiving any athletic awards, report cards, or diplomas. A participant must fulfill obligations from the previous season before he/she will be permitted to begin participation in any other athletic activities.

#### Transportation

All student athletes must travel to and from athletic contests and practices in transportation provided by the Athletic Department. Athletes will remain with their squad and under the supervision of a coach when attending away contests. All regular school bus rules will be followed: including food, noise, remaining in seats, care and respect for equipment. Dress appropriately and in good taste.

#### Parental Permission and Physical Participation

Athletic participation forms for all participants shall be signed by a physician, the participant, and by a parent or guardian and must be on file in the Athletic Director's office before any candidate for a team may participate in a practice or try out. These forms necessitate the physician's certification of the individual's physical fitness no less than once each school year. Students are encouraged to get their physicals during the summer months.

#### **Risk of Participation**

All athletes and parents must realize the risk of serious injury which may be a result of athletic participation. Avon Local School District will use the following safeguards to make every effort to eliminate injury.

- 1. Maintain a continuing education program for coaches to learn the most up-to-date techniques and skills to be taught in their sport.
- 2. Instruct all athletes about the dangers of participation in the particular sport.

#### Parent/Guardian Acknowledgment of Athletic Policies

Upon entering Avon High or at the time a student is part of an athletic team, he/she will be able to read and download the athletic code of conduct. It will contain all the necessary forms and information for participating in Athletics. Each parent or guardian shall read all the enclosed material and certify that they understand the Athletic Eligibility Rules and Policies of the Avon Local School District.

#### Insurance

The Avon Exempted Local School District does not provide any accident or health insurance coverages for student athletes participating in interscholastic athletics. It will be the responsibility of the parents to maintain

an active family accident and health policy while their student is participating in sports. The Athletic Department can provide information on insurance providers if needed.

The O.H.S.A.A. has purchased a lifetime catastrophic insurance plan that will cover any athlete who is injured to the extent of, or more than \$25,000 in medical expenses. This is above what accident and health insurance carried by the family pays above \$25,000.

#### Student-Athlete Conduct Policy

Any student ejected for unsportsmanlike conduct or flagrant foul shall be ineligible for all contests for the remainder of that day. In addition, the athlete shall be ineligible for all contests at all levels in that sport until two (2) regular season/tournament contests are played at the same level as the ejection (one contest in football). If the ejection occurs in the last contest of the season, the student shall be ineligible for the same period of time as stated above in the next sport in which the student participates. A student under suspension may not sit on the team bench, enter the locker room or be affiliated with the team in any way traveling to, during or traveling after the contest(s). A student who is ejected a second time shall be suspended for the remainder of the season in that sport. A student who has been ejected for unsportsmanlike conduct for the second time in a season during the last contest shall be ineligible for a period of time/number of contests subject to the discretion of the Commissioner. The period of ineligibility shall commence during the next sport in which the student participates. It is the responsibility of the local school authorities to ensure this regulation is enforced. When an ineligible student is allowed to participate, forfeiture of the contest is mandatory. This regulation shall apply to all regular season and tournament contests and shall in no way limit the discretionary authority of the Commissioner as specified in the O.H.S.A.A. Tournament Regulations. In accordance with Bylaw 8-3-1, the decision of contest officials is final. These expectations carry their own set of consequences and when not specifically listed, the coach will set and enforce consequences appropriate to the sport and conduct.

#### Conflicts in Extra-Curricular Activities

An individual student who attempts to participate in too many extracurricular activities will, undoubtedly, be in a position of a conflict of obligation. The Athletic Department recognizes that each student should have the opportunity for a broad range of experiences in the area of extra-curricular activities; and to this end, will attempt to schedule events in a manner so as to minimize conflicts. Students and parents have a responsibility to do everything they can to avoid a continuous conflict. This would include being cautious about belonging to too many activities where conflicts are bound to happen. It also means notifying the coach and /or faculty sponsors involved immediately when a conflict does arise.

When conflicts do arise, the coaches and /or sponsors involved will get together and work out a solution so the student does not feel in the middle. If a solution cannot be found, then the Principal and Athletic Director will have to make the decision based on the following:

- 1. The relative importance of each event.
- 2. The relative contribution the student can make.
- 3. How long each event has been scheduled.
- 4. Talk with parents.

In-season athletes (O.H.S.A.A. sponsored sports) shall not be permitted to attend an open gym (field, court, etc.) by coaches of an out-of-season sport.

## **VACATIONS POLICY**

Vacations by athletic team members during a sports season are extremely discouraged. Parents/Athletes wishing to do so may wish to reassess their commitment to being an athlete. In the event an absence due to a vacation is unavoidable, an athlete must:

- 1. Be accompanied by his/her parents or quardians while on vacation.
- 2. Prior to the vacation, contact the head coach for his/her approval.

3. Be willing to assume the consequences of suspension from game(s) and/or status on the squad as a starter, 2nd string, 3rd string, etc.

#### RESIDENCE

You may attend any public or nonpublic high school in which you are accepted when you enter a high school from a 7th-8th grade school.

Eligibility at that school is then established by:

- Participating in a contest (scrimmage, preview or regular season game) prior to the first day of school, or
- 2. Attending the first day of school at any member school
- If there is a change of custody, you must live in the same school district as your legal guardian.
- If your parent or legal guardian live outside of Ohio, you are ineligible unless one of the exceptions to the regulation is met. There are four (4) exceptions to this regulation. You and your parents should arrange a meeting with your principal or athletic administrator to review these exceptions.
- If additional questions remain on the regulations on residence, school principals or athletic administrators should contact the OHSAA. for the athlete and/or his/her team.

#### TRANSFER STUDENTS

Once eligibility has been established at a member school, those who transfer to a different school will be ineligible for athletics for 50% of the 2nd half season for every sport played at the previous school. The student will only be allowed to play in the first 50% of the season. They will not be able to play during the second half of the season. This includes the tournament.

There are exceptions to this regulation. To see if you qualify for an exception, you and your parents should arrange a meeting with your principal or athletic administrator and review The OHSAA Transfer Bylaw brochure prior to transferring schools.

If additional questions remain on the regulations on transfers, school principals or athletic administrators should contact the OHSAA.

#### SEMESTERS OF ENROLLMENT

After establishing ninth-grade eligibility, you are permitted eight (8) semesters of athletic eligibility. The semesters are taken in order of attendance once ninth-grade eligibility has been established. Semesters are counted toward eligibility whether you participate in interscholastic athletics or not. Those with a disability may qualify for an exception to this regulation and should arrange a meeting with the principal or athletic administrator to review the exception.

#### **AGE LIMITATIONS**

When a high school student (grades 9-12) turns 20 years of age, he / she becomes ineligible for interscholastic athletics. There is an exception to this bylaw, so please arrange a meeting with your principal or athletic administrator to review this exception within Bylaw 4-2-1 in the OHSAA Handbook.

#### **AWARDS**

You may receive awards as a result of athletic participation in interscholastic athletics from any source. However, the value cannot be more than \$400 per award.

#### AMATEUR STATUS

You will lose your amateur status and forfeit your eligibility if you:

- Compete for money or other monetary compensation.
- Receive any award, equipment or prize of monetary value greater than \$400 per item.
- Capitalize on your athletic fame by receiving money or gifts of monetary value.
- Sign a professional playing contract in the sport in which you had participated. Sign with a professional agent (Ohio law).

• Fail to return equipment or uniforms issued by a school or non-school team or organization when the season for that sport is over.

#### **FALSE INFORMATION**

If you compete under a name other than your own or provide a false address, you immediately become ineligible.

#### **OPEN GYMS / FACILITIES**

School officials may designate open gyms or facilities and the sports to be played. You may participate in open gyms or facilities provided:

- No one is limited from participating.
- No one is required to attend.
- No timing or written scoring is kept.
- No coaching or instruction is provided.

Violating these rules may result in you being declared ineligible for a maximum of one (1) year.

\* Individual instruction is defined as no more than four individuals present at any one time in all combined facilities where instruction is taking place. Team sports include soccer, volleyball, field hockey, football, ice hockey, basketball, softball and baseball. Note that 'no-contact periods' and the summer coaching period (10 days of team coaching permitted from June 1-July 31) will continue to exist and that out-of-season instruction is already permitted in individual sports (golf, tennis, cross country, wrestling, swimming & diving, gymnastics, bowling and track & field).

#### RECRUITING

You will be declared ineligible if you are recruited by a person or group of persons to change schools. This may also affect the eligibility of the school team.

#### STUDENT CONDUCT AND EJECTION POLICIES

You are expected to seriously accept the responsibility and privilege of representing your school and community while participating in interscholastic athletics. As a student-athlete, you are expected to:

- Treat opponents, coaches and officials with respect.
- Display no behavior that could incite fans or other participants in the contest or which is intended to embarrass, ridicule or demean others under any circumstances including on the basis of race, religion, gender or national origin.
- Remember that winning isn't everything. Having fun, improving your skills, making friends and doing your best are also important.

The OHSAA has established a policy for students ejected for unsporting behavior. If you are ejected, you:

- 1. Will be ineligible for all contests for the remainder of that day.
- 2. Will be ineligible for all contests at all levels in that sport until two regular season/tournament contests are played at the same level as the ejection (one contest in football).

If you are ejected a second time in a season, you are subject to additional, stiffer penalties, including suspension from play for the remainder of the season in that sport.

The complete OHSAA ejection policy for unsporting behavior can be found in the OHSAA Handbook.

#### Avon Athletic Booster Club

The Booster Club is organized to assist the Board of Education in providing funds and equipment for all athletic programs. Without the thousands of dollars generated by the Booster Club, uniforms, equipment, and facilities would not be what they are today. The Booster Club needs the help of the parents

You are invited to attend Booster Club Meetings which are held on the second Monday of every month during the school year. The meetings are held at Avon Middle School Commons at 7:00 p.m.

The Athletic Department and School Administration are thankful for your help and the help of the Booster Club in their excellent dedication to the young people in our school district.

#### Fundraisers

In addition to the Booster Club, some sports may participate in additional fundraisers. Participation in these fundraisers is not mandatory, but all athletes are encouraged to participate. All fundraisers must be approved by the Athletic Director before they take place.

# **PAY TO PARTICIPATE**

A Pay to Participate fee structure has been adopted by the Board of Education, effective June 22, 2010. The fee is \$200 per student at the high school and \$100 per student at the middle school to participate in all sports and activities listed in Tier 1. It is a one-time fee for the entire school year and must be paid in full prior to the deadlines. If the student participates in a second or third Tier sport and/or activity, there will be an additional fee. Also, there is a \$350 cap per family for Tier 1. All Athletic Sports fall under Tier 1. Check the district website for Tier Information.

The payment of the fee for athletes does NOT guarantee any athlete a certain amount of competition contest time ("playing time").

The fees are non-refundable with the following exceptions: Sport/activity is canceled due to insufficient numbers of athletes/students; the student does not make the team/activity ("cut"); and in particular for sports - the student becomes disabled or moves out of the district prior to the first contest; and / or the student becomes academically ineligible prior to the first contest.

#### **Ticket Prices**

General Admission	
Varsity Football*	\$8.00
Basketball	\$6.00
Soccer	\$6.00
Swimming	\$6.00
Volleyball	\$6.00
Wrestling	\$6.00
Hockey	\$6.00
Lacrosse	\$6.00
Avon Reynolds Track and Field Invite	\$7.00

<sup>\*</sup> All tickets will be sold online. No cash will be taken at the gate. Look on the website prior to the season for Season Ticket Packages.

#### Varsity Letter Requirements

Each coach reserves the right to set the standards for lettering in his/her particular sport. In all sports, the athlete must complete the season as a squad member in good standing, and must attend the banquet in order to receive an award (unless granted permission by their coach prior to the event). At the beginning of each season, the coach shall provide the criteria for lettering in their respective sport/activity.

#### **Summary of Athletic Awards**

1st Year Junior Varsity Award Certificate
2nd Year Junior Varsity Award Certificate of Participation
3rd Year Junior Varsity Award Certificate of Participation
1st Year Varsity Award Varsity Letter and Metal Insert
2nd Year Varsity Award Medal
3rd Year Varsity Award Medal
4th Year Varsity Award Plaque

NOTE: Only 1 varsity letter is received by an athlete. If an athlete letters in multiple sports, he or she will only receive a Metal Insert.

#### Southwestern Conference Scholar Athlete Award

This award is given to the highest cumulative average by a player who earned a varsity letter in that sport. The average must be at least a 3.0 and seniors are considered first.

#### All League, All County, and All State Awards

These awards are voted on by coaches from other conference, county schools, and the media are involved in these selections.

#### **Schedules and Cancellations**

To find the schedules for all Avon Athletic Teams go to: http://avonlocalschools.org/athletics/ Check the above web site after 2:00 p.m. to see if any events have been canceled.



#### **Important Dates**

Aug. 17th - 1st Day of School 1-12 Aug 21st - 1st day of School PK/K Sept. 4th - No School (Labor Day) Oct. 13th - No School (NEOEA Day) Oct. 16th - No School (In-service) Oct. 20th - End First Quarter Nov. 10th - End 1st Trimester Nov. 22-24 - Thanksgiving Break Dec. 20-Jan 2 - Winter Break Jan. 11th - End 2nd Quarter Jan. 12th - No School (In-Service) Jan. 15th - No School (MLK Day) Feb. 19th - No School (President's Day) Feb 23rd - End 2nd Trimester March 15th - End 3rd Quarter March 29-April 5 - Spring Break

Day) May 29th - Last Day of School

May 25 - Last Day Of School
KEY:
No School In Service
End Quarter End Trimester
First/Last Day

April 8<sup>th</sup> - No School (solar eclipse) May 27<sup>th</sup> - No School (Memorial

### **Avon Local Schools 2023-2024**

August 2023								
S	M	Т	W	Т	F	S		
		1	2	3	4	5		
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27	28	29	30	31				

November 2023								
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26	27	28	29	30				

February 2024								
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May 2024								
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September 2023									
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December 2023								
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31								

March 2024								
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31								

June 2024						
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	October 2023								
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22	23	24	25	26	27	28			
29	30	31							

Board Approved 9/22

January 2024						
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April 2024						
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July 2024								
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