

Harry F. Abate Elementary School

1625 Lockport Road
Niagara Falls, New York 14305
(716) 278-7960



Parent Handbook

2023-2024

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Harry F. Abate Elementary School

1625 Lockport Street
Niagara Falls, NY 14305

(716)278-7960

Fax (716)278-7979

Mrs. Lynne Tompkins, Principal
Ms. Angela Manella, Assistant Principal

September, 2023

Dear Parents and Guardians:

Welcome to Harry F. Abate Elementary School!

I am hoping this letter finds you and your child(ren) well and ready to join us for the 2023-2024 school year. On behalf of the Harry F. Abate faculty and staff members, I'd like to thank you for your patience as we navigate a new schedule this year. Some changes include the extension of the school day to a 3:20 pm dismissal every day; therefore, there will no longer be a 2:00 pm early dismissal day. The administrative team, custodial, office and teaching staff members have been working very hard this summer to prepare for the safe arrival of your child(ren).

As Principal, my primary goal is to maintain a safe and orderly environment for every student and faculty member as we offer quality instruction to your child(ren) in a secure and nurturing learning environment.

Every month, you will receive a school newsletter that will provide useful and timely information. Please read this newsletter closely to be informed of upcoming dates, events, program updates and important information needed to help your child be successful in school.

- Registration for your child is completed at the NFCSD Central Administration Building, 630 – 66th Street School in the Central Registration Office. You may reach this office at (716) 286-4273.
- Additionally, it is imperative that we have all of your current contact information on file and in PowerSchool; Please notify us immediately if you have any changes in your address or phone numbers.
- In order to better protect our students, we will continue to follow established safety procedures using the **Evolv** detection system for all individuals who enter the building; we ask that you call in advance to set an appointment with the individual you would like to meet prior to coming to the school. Additionally, we utilize the **RAPTOR** visitor identification program. Upon entering the school, please report directly to the Front Desk; all visitors will be required to show a valid, government issued ID. Thank you in advance for your cooperation.
- Visit the Harry F. Abate website which can be found on the NFCSD website under the **Schools** tab. We will post all Head-line information, the school calendar and current information in a timely fashion
- On a weekly basis, your child will come home with many different informational papers that need your attention and possibly your signature. Please read them over carefully, complete the paperwork as necessary, and return them to school with your child.
- Every student will be able to receive **free** breakfast and lunch, thanks to the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act amendment to the Healthy, Hunger Free Kids Act of 2010. Although breakfast and lunch are free, we must continue to collect **the 2023-2024 Household Income Form** from all students. The information collected from the Household Income Application helps the District to continue to apply for grants and receive Title I monies. Please complete your "Meal" application and send it back to school as soon as possible.

ABATE; where **"All of our Best efforts Aim Toward Excellence!"**

I am very excited to begin this school year with you and your child(ren) at Harry F. Abate Elementary School.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Lynne Tompkins, Principal

Like us on Facebook ...



<https://www.facebook.com/AbateElementary/>

District Mission Statement

The Niagara Falls City School District's mission is to guarantee educational excellence for every student and to prepare students for successful employment, continuing education and life-long learning in an ever-changing world.



Niagara Falls Board of Education Strategic Goals

1. To exceed and continuously improve learner outcomes against academic standards
2. To achieve the highest level of employee cooperation, trust and empowerment
3. To effectively control financial costs while maintaining quality education
4. To achieve the highest level of partnerships with our community

The Mission of Harry F. Abate Elementary School:

By the end of sixth grade, all students at Harry F. Abate will meet or exceed New York State standards in English Language Arts, Math, Science, and Social Studies, ready to enter middle school prepared to do grade-level work without need for remediation.

School Directory

Harry F. Abate Elementary School

1625 Lockport Street
Niagara Falls, NY 14305-2697

School Telephone Number		278-7960
Psychologist	Nicole Cafarella	286-1261
Health Office	Michele Gardner	278-7964
Lunch Applications	Front Desk	278-7973
Transportation Issues	Jessica Rupert	278-7973
or	Central Transportation	286-4239
Report Card problems	School Office	278-7960
Academic progress	Your child's teacher	278-7960
For a discipline problem	Mike Corsaro	286-1267
To volunteer	Front Desk	278-7973
Special Education	School office	278-7968
or	CSE	286-4280
Curriculum questions	School office	278-7960
or	Instructional Office	286-4269
District Policy questions	Human Resources	286-4225



Niagara Falls Board of Education

The 2023-2024 Board of Education

Russell Petrozzi-President

Anthony Paretto-Vice President

James Cancemi

Earl Bass

Clara Dunn

Robert Bilson

Paul Kudela

Nick Vilardo

Mike Capizzi

The Niagara Falls Board of Education meets the fourth Thursday of each month (with the exceptions as publicized) with presentations at 5:30 p.m. and voting sessions at 7:00 p.m. The public is invited and welcomed at all meetings, which are held at Central Office, 630 – 66th Street.



HARRY F. ABATE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

STAFF LIST 2023-2024

ADMINISTRATIVE TEAM

Principal – Mrs. Lynne Tompkins

Assistant Principal – Ms. Angela Manella

<u>OUR TEAM</u>	<u>ROOM</u>	<u>STAFF MEMBER</u>
DEAN OF STUDENTS	160	Mr. Michael Corsaro
DEAN OF STUDENTS	202	Ms. Goldie Burton
DEAN OF STUDENTS	232	Ms. Danielle Zona
3 RD GRADE	106	Ms. Brittany Costa
	115	Ms. Kyle-Lynn Tuttle
	206	TBD
	207	Ms. Amanda Norwich
	215	Ms. Tom Marcantonio
	214	Ms. Trish Hennegan
4 TH GRADE	104	Ms. Brianne Bellavia
	105	Ms. Shaniqua Todd
	107	Ms. Janelle Brydges
	114	Ms. Ashley Hardy
	116	Ms. Julianna Kindzia
	212	Ms. Jennifer Mettler
5 TH GRADE	147	Ms. Margaret Robideau
	149	Miss McKayla Snowden
	150	Ms. Tiffani Wesolowski
	239	Ms. Dasha Colvin
	240	Mr. Shataquwa Davis
	242	Ms. Brianna Boliver
6 TH GRADE	145	Ms. Melissa Snyder
	146	Ms. Colleen Strangio
	148	Ms. Simone Beckford
	238	Ms. Mary Jo Edwards
	249	Mr. EJ Lewis
	250	Ms. Mya Syposs
2 ND GRADE ENRICHMENT	157	Ms. Tiffaney Navaroli
3 RD GRADE ENRICHMENT	156	Ms. Jessica Sullivan
4 TH GRADE ENRICHMENT	154	Ms. Catherine Sullivan
5 TH GRADE ENRICHMENT	153	Ms. Donna Nadrowski
6 TH GRADE ENRICHMENT	155	Mr. Peter Carlo

<u>OUR TEAM CONTINUED</u>	<u>ROOM</u>	<u>STAFF MEMBER</u>
SPECIAL EDUCATION	112	Ms. Lauren Nelson
	213	Ms. McKenzie Usborne
	241	Ms. Casey Bird
	251	Ms. Taylor Cochran
	TA	TBD
SPECIAL ED. CONSULTANTS	107	Shayna Rutty CT 3/4
	148	Ms. Molly Brady CT5
	250	Ms. Valerie Klender CT6
INTEGRATED CO TEACHERS	214	Ms. Lisa Supon & Ms. Jessica Smeal ICT 3/4
	247	Ms. Karrie Smith & Ms. Kayla Carr ICT 5/6
LIBRARY ASSOCIATE	110	Ms. Paula Fruscione
INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC	124	Mr. Michael Kineke
ART	226	Ms. AnnMarie Melloni
PERFORMING ARTS	227	Ms. Meagan Millar
TECH. ASSOCIATE	233	Mr. Robert Tavano/Mr. Tommy Chandler
VOCAL MUSIC	245/FORUM	Ms. Chelsea Kij
STEM	254	Ms. Ronni McGrath & Mr. Rich Clark
PHYSICAL EDUCATION	Main Gym	TBD
	Pool	Ms. Settimia Tripi
	210	Ms. Katherine Principe
SCHOOL COUNSELORS	165	Ms. Cathy Touma-D'Angelo
	201	Ms. Kristina Zaffran
PEP TEACHING ASSISTANTS	204	Ms. Schamille Beaman
	204	Ms. Danae Robertson
	204	Ms. Gina Snyder
	204	Ms. Britini D'Angelo
SPEECH TEAM	208	Ms. Katie Popovice
	244	Ms. Kathleen DiLaura
OT/PT	217	Mr. Rich & Ms. Lennie Giannini
SCHOOL PHYSHOLOGIST	103	Ms. Nicole Cafarella
SOCIAL WORKERS	158	Ms. Kristina Meyer
	221	Ms. Stacie Whitaker
PUPIL SERVICE ASSISTANT	219	Ms. Janine Carlo
MATH AIS HELP	150	Ms. Ms. Andrea Tomala & Lisa Kladke
	205	Ms. Ms. Ashley Marra & Sydney Spira
NURSE	Clinic	Ms. Michele Gardner
CLINIC ASSOCIATE	Clinic	Ms. Brenda Caldwell
SAFETY OFFICER		Ms. Glenda Sanders and TBD
SENIOR SCHOOL MONITOR	Front Desk	Ms. Jessica Rupert
CLERICAL STAFF	Main Office	Ms. Amber Eagan
CLERICAL STAFF	Main Office	Ms. Laura Smith
PHYS. ED. ASSOCIATES	Gym/Pool	Ms. Dona Washington & Mr. Jacob McKean
HEAD COOK	Cafeteria	Ms. Tina McClinton
ASSISTANT COOK	Cafeteria	TBD
FOOD SERVICE	Cafeteria	TBD
CAFETERIA ASSOCIATES	Cafeteria	Ms. Donna Perrier
CUSTODIAN		Mr. Eddy Street
PORTER		Mr. John Eagan

ABATE SCHOOL CALENDAR 2023-2024

August 21-24	Mon – Thurs	New Staff Orientation
August 31	Thurs	Teacher Professional Development Day
August 31	Thurs	Open House- Meet the Teacher night
September 4	Mon	Labor Day Holiday/ No staff/students
September 5	Tues	Teachers Report
September 6	Wed	Superintendent Conference Day/Professional Dev
September 7	Thurs	First Day for Students/10-month associates
October 7	Fri	Picture Day
October 9	Mon	Holiday – No staff/students
November 7	Tues	Superintendent Conference Day/Professional Dev
November 10	Fri	Veteran's Day Holiday – No staff/students
November 22	Wed	No Teachers/No Students/No 10-month staff
November 23	Thurs	Thanksgiving Holiday – No staff/students
November 24	Fri	Thanksgiving Holiday – No staff/students
December 21	Thurs	Last Day of Classes before Winter Recess
December 22-29	Fri – Fri	Winter Recess – No staff/students/10-month staff
January 1, 2024	Mon	New Year Holiday – No staff/students
January 2	Tue	Return from Winter Recess
January 15	Mon	Martin L. King Holiday – No staff/students
January 26	Fri	Superintendent Conference Day/AM/PM PD
February 19	Mon	Presidents' Day Holiday – No staff/students
March 15	Fri	Superintendent Conference Day/Professional Dev
March 25-29	Mon – Fri	Spring Recess – No teachers/students/10-month staff
March 29	Fri	No 12-month staff
April 8	Mon	Return from Spring Recess
May 24	Fri	No teachers/ No 10 month staff/ No students
May 27	Mon	Memorial Day Holiday – No staff/students
June 19	Wed	Juneteenth Holiday – No staff/students
June 25	Tues	Last Day for Students/10-month associates
June 26	Wed	Rating Day – No Students – Last day for teachers



Please check the NFCSD and Abate webpages for the most current calendar

Enrolling in School

If you are new to the Niagara Falls City School District or you are registering a student for the first time, please register at Central Office located at 630 66th Street, Niagara Falls, New York 14304. Parents transferring students from another school district should bring a copy of each child's Birth Certificate. **A birth certificate is the only legal document accepted for proof of age**, a form from the hospital cannot be accepted. You must also bring medical records (including immunization records) and educational records. Verification of address **must** be presented at the time of registration. Utility bills, lease agreements, or a notarized statement of address from the landlord or social services are acceptable as verification of address.

The entrance age for Pre-Kindergarten 3 is three years old on or before December 1st. The entrance age for Pre-Kindergarten 4 is four years old on or before December 1st. The entrance age for Kindergarten is five years old on or before December 1st. There are **no exceptions** to this State-recommended beginning age.

All information is confidential and kept on file in our office. It is very important that we have all up-to-date information; therefore: **ALERT THE ABATE SCHOOL, MAIN OFFICE IMMEDIATELY, OF CHANGES IN YOUR CHILD'S ADDRESS, PHONE NUMBER OR EMERGENCY NUMBER.**

Attendance/Discipline Policy for Students Attending Abate on Special Permission:

Students attending Abate on Special Permission are expected to attend school regularly and on time and to maintain appropriate and acceptable behavior. Special Permission is **conditional**. If students violate school policies, attendance codes, or school rules, their Special Permission will be **revoked** and they will be required to return to their home school immediately.

Daily Schedule

Monday- Friday: 8:45-3:20 p.m.

Attendance Requirements

Regular attendance is important for success in school. Parents should make every effort to have their child in school, rested and ready for instruction. Only illness, emergency, medical or dental reasons should keep a child from attending school. A student must bring a note for the absence as required by State Attendance Policy.

Tardiness is also a serious problem since work and assignments are missed. Parents should stress with their children the importance of arriving to school on time, ready to work.

Attendance Policy

Absence:

It is expected that students will attend school daily and punctually, unless there is a serious reason.

Excused Absence

Sickness

Sickness or death in the family

Quarantine

Attendance at health clinic, etc.

Unexcused Absence

Visiting Relatives

Vacation

Baby-sitting

Oversleeping, etc.

Our Policy:

- * **Send in a written excuse when your child returns to school**
- * If your child has been absent more than the usual amount of times, a warning letter will be sent to you
- * If your child continues to be absent and the absences are more than twenty days (without a valid medical reason) we will consider this educational neglect and will report such to the appropriate agency.
- * An absence without a written excuse will be considered an illegal absence
- * If a medical appointment is necessary during the school day and the child will report to school when finished, please send in a written excuse/note the day before the appointment so that the child will not be charged with an absence or tardiness.
- * If a child must leave school early for an appointment, a note must be presented for signature in the school office. The child will be called down to the front desk when an adult arrives to pick him/her up.

Tardy:

- * **When your child is tardy they are to report to the front desk before going to their class.**
- * A written note must be sent to the school with an explanation for tardiness.
- * Parents will be contacted in instances of recurring tardiness.

Change of Address/Telephone:

It is extremely important that every student maintain an up-to-date address and working telephone number in the school office. Notify the school immediately if you have a change of address or telephone number. Also, please let us know if your work place and work number changes. **It is also extremely important that we have an emergency name and phone number. Please call the school if your emergency contact and telephone number have changed.**

TO EXCUSE A CHILD EARLY FROM SCHOOL

1. Write a note that CLEARLY states

- the student's full name (first and last)
- teacher's name and classroom #
- time that the student will be excused
- reason for excuse

2. Send the note to school with the student to give to his/her classroom teacher

- If you are unable to write a note ahead of time, please call (716) 278-7973 **BEFORE** 2:00 P.M. to notify the Front Desk that the child will be excused. The Front Desk will notify the teacher.

3. If you do not send a note ahead of time, you may come into the building to request that the student be excused early. However, THE FRONT DESK WILL NOT CALL STUDENTS DOWNSTAIRS AFTER 2:55 P.M.

- All classes begin dismissal at 3:00 p.m.
- You will need to write a note when you arrive at the front desk.
- The front desk staff will be pre-occupied with other dismissal duties at that time.

4. If you call to request that your child NOT ride the bus and you plan on picking the child up instead, you **MUST arrive at school before the busses leave the parking lot, which is typically 5 to 10 minutes after dismissal. If you do not arrive prior to the busses leaving, your child will be placed on the bus.**

5. When you arrive to pick the student up from school, you must come into the building to sign the student out. At that time, the Front Desk will call the classroom to send the student downstairs.

- Please note – the Front Desk **WILL NOT** call the student downstairs until you arrive. This is to avoid the situation of having several students waiting in the lobby, if their transportation is delayed.
- If someone other than the parent or guardian will pick the student up, that person must be listed as an emergency contact in the school records in order for the student to be released. They should have identification readily available, if requested.

BUILDING PROCEDURES

BREAKFAST AND LUNCH

Breakfast Program: Grades 3-6

Breakfast will be served daily from 8:30 a.m. to 9:00 a.m. Students are to use the main doors upon arrival and go directly to the assigned cafeteria room.

Please do not send your child any earlier than 8:30 a.m. **Please stress to your child that under no circumstances are they to leave school property after you have sent them to school, unless authorized by school staff.

All students at Harry F. Abate Elementary are eligible to receive a **FREE breakfast and FREE lunch**, through the *“Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act amendment to the Healthy Hunger Free Kids Act of 2010”*. **ALL families must fill out** new application forms and determination of continued eligibility will be based on new guidelines. New application forms will be sent home or may be obtained in any school office.

ENTRANCE AND EXIT PROCEDURES 2023-2024

New Visitor Policy

Visitors to School - New Policy

The Niagara Falls City School District's first priority is to keep our students and staff safe through our layered security approach at all our schools. Keeping safety and security in mind, we have updated the visitor's policy, as follows:

Anyone entering a school must be prepared to present a Driver's License or Government Identification and be checked in before entering one of our schools, utilizing the Raptor Visitor Management System. Visitors will have to pass through the schools secured entry control point, which may include weapons scanners and a bag check. Before visiting the school, please call the school's main telephone number and make an appointment for your visit. If you just need to leave something for a student, there will be a space provided for you to do that without entering the school. Once a visitor clears security, they are to go directly to their named location. Visitor entrance to a school will be denied if the school administration deems that the visit be in contrast to this policy, the good order of the school, safety and security concerns, or if the visit violates a court order or law.

We appreciate your cooperation with this policy. Please call Mrs. Tompkins with any questions regarding this policy.

Entry Procedures for Students:

3 – 6th Grade

BREAKFAST – (8:30 – 9:00 A.M.)

- **Door #1** - All walkers and students who are dropped off
- **Door #17** - All bus students

NON- BREAKFAST – (8:45 – 9:00 A.M.) – bell rings at 8:45 a.m. for entry to classrooms

- **Door #1** - All 3rd – 6th grade walkers and students who are dropped off will go into the Forum and remain until the 8:45 bell rings, at which time they will go to their class, escorted by their teachers and associates to their classrooms.
- **Door #17** –All bus students

LATE STUDENTS – (AFTER 9:00 A.M.) – late bell rings at 9:00 a.m.

- **Door #1** – All students must sign in at the front desk and receive a late pass to class

EXIT PROCEDURES:

3:15: Bus students exit at Door #17

3:20: Grades 3 and 4 and Enrichment Grades 5 and 6: Door #1

Grades 2 and 3 Enrichment: Door #24

Grade 4: Door #4

Grade 5: Door #13

Grade 6: Door #20

*Older students must go outside to the appropriate dismissal door to pick up siblings.
Parent/guardians must wait outside of the building for all pick-ups.*



Main Entrance Traffic Pattern: Please be reminded of the following Main Entrance traffic patterns:

- Ballards are in place that create distinct traffic lanes
- The speed limit is posted at 5 MPH
- There are clearly labeled lanes: Drive - Thru Only and Drop-Off Only lanes
- Please drop off in the Drop-Off lane, which is curbside-student should not be dropped off in the Through Traffic lane

DELAYED START PLAN

The purpose of a delayed start to schools is to allow temperatures to rise in the morning or to allow more time for roads, sidewalks and /or lots to be cleared. The determination of this will be made by the Superintendent of Schools.

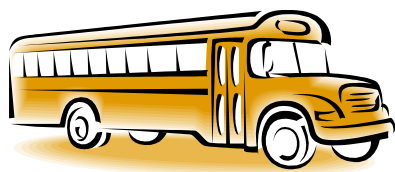
If a delayed start is called, schools will start accordingly:

- Elementary 10:45 a.m. (8:45 a.m. is the normal start)

In essence, we have created a two-hour delay.

- **All staff will follow their normal work day schedules.**
- Schools will offer a continental type breakfast.

TRANSPORTATION



State subsidized bus transportation is provided free to all children in Kindergarten through 12th grade who live more than 1.5 miles from the schools they attend. Eligibility will automatically be determined by the District Transportation Office 286-4239. All elementary special education students are transported. Parents must inform the school of any address change to ensure service.

Buses Arrive

8:45 – 8:55 am

Buses Depart

3:07 pm

*You will be notified of your child's bus stop and arrival times of the bus at that location.

SCHOOL CLOSINGS

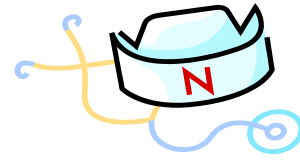
If schools must be closed because of bad weather or other emergencies, parents and students will be notified in the early morning, or if possible, the evening before by the District's All-Call system.

Announcements will also be made via radio and television. Notified stations are: **WEBR AM 970, WGR AM 55, WBEN AM 930, WJL AM, WHLD 1270 AM, 1440, WBLK FM 94, WKSE FM 98.5, WYRK FM 106.5, OSC-TV 21, WGRZ, WIVB, and WKBW-TV.**

If schools are closed in the morning, they are closed all day for all activities including evening classes or special evening programs unless otherwise announced. Please make arrangements for your child's care if such an emergency should arise. There may be a time when it will be necessary to dismiss children early. Therefore, the school will need to know where your child should go in the event there is no one home.

Health Services

School Nurse – Michele Gardner
Clinic Phone – 278-7964



A registered nurse is assigned to Abate School full-time. When registering a new student, the parent(s) will fill out a Health Information Sheet and give it to the nurse. These records show the results of physical examinations and check-ups of vision, hearing, etc. If a student has a special condition (allergies, chronic disorders such as diabetes, epilepsy, etc.), it should be recorded on the health form.

Medical Services Provided

1. First aid for accidents and illness occurring in school.
2. Physical examinations for students are conducted yearly and include vision, hearing and scoliosis screenings. (If a student receives a notification in the mail of a defect after having been examined, please ask the doctor or dentist to complete the lower portion of the form and return it to the Abate clinic.)
3. Cumulative health records are maintained for each student.
4. Dispensing medications upon the prescription and recommendation of your doctor.
5. Routine screening for lice infestation.
6. Discussion with parents regarding the treatment for lice.

Internal Medicine

If a student must take any medication during the day, the following should be observed:

1. A form must be completed by a parent/guardian and must be submitted to the school nurse, for medication to be taken in school.

AND

2. A form must be completed by the student's doctor stating the name of the medication, dosage and time to be given and submitted to the school nurse. All medication must be in the pharmacy package. It will be kept in the clinic until given by the school nurse at the proper time.

If a student becomes ill or is injured in school, a parent/guardian will be notified and requested to come for the student or make other arrangements for transportation.

Notice should be given to the clinic in the event of contagious diseases (chicken pox, hand, foot, & mouth disease, mumps, regular measles, German measles, whooping cough, scarlet fever, strep throat, etc.)

The school nurse makes the final decision on whether or not a student may return to class after lice infestation, even though a note from the doctor is provided.

Physical Education Policy

The physical education policy for Abate School is as follows:

New York State law mandates that ALL students must participate in a physical education program. Therefore, all students are required to take gym and/or swim classes.

1. Third grade through sixth grade and intermediate Special Education receive gym once a week and swim once a week

Students are expected to come to class with the proper clothing and other items needed for each activity. Students who are unable to participate in physical education classes must:

1. Bring all physical education excuses to their classroom teacher prior to the start of school on the day of their scheduled physical education class. This includes both parental and medical excuses.
2. The classroom teacher walks the students to the physical education area and gives all excuses to the physical education teacher.
3. The physical education teacher will review all excuses, enter data in class books, and at the end of the day, give all medical excuses to the school registered nurse.
4. The school registered nurse will review all excuses and make all necessary appointments with students or call parents.

CODE OF CONDUCT OF THE NIAGARA FALLS CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT

The entire Code of Conduct is available on the District website. Included in this handbook are certain excerpts which are especially pertinent to our school community.

The Niagara Falls City School District has a long-standing set of expectations for conduct on school property and at school functions. These expectations are based on principles of civility, mutual respect, citizenship, character, tolerance, cooperation, honesty and integrity and are included in the Niagara Falls City School district Code of Conduct. The intent of this Code of Conduct is to clearly define these expectations and to establish and promote standards for responsible behavior that will enable students, parents, teachers, administrators and community members to know what acceptable behavior is and ensure that deviations from these standards will be handled promptly and fairly.

V. STUDENT APPEARANCE CODE

The Niagara Falls School Community believes that students' appearance should at all times be neat, clean, and appropriate for school and school functions. The students' individual dress and appearance is primarily the responsibility of the student and his/her parents. The students' appearance should be clean and neat, and should not be a distraction to other members of the school community, nor a safety or health risk to the student or others.

The following minimal standards are enforced:

1. Headgear should not be worn in the building or classroom except for a medical or religious purpose.
2. Footwear must be worn at all times. Hazardous footwear (flip-flops, shoes with heels, backless or open-toed shoes) will not be allowed.
3. All underwear must be completely covered with outer clothing and all apparel should be fastened appropriately and worn as designed.
4. Above the waist apparel must cover all of one's person except the arms and a modest opening at the neck, and may not be of transparent materials. Blouses, shirts and sweaters are to cover shoulders, back, chest and stomach.
5. Extremely brief garments such as tube tops, net tops, halter-tops, spaghetti straps and plunging necklines are not appropriate and may not be worn.
6. Sleeveless team jerseys cannot be worn, except over a t-shirt with sleeves.
7. All fashions should be no more than three inches above the top of the knee when the student is in a standing position.
8. If a student chooses to wear layered fashions, each and all layers should comply with the student appearance code.
9. All articles which advertise, display, or represent items depicting such themes as alcoholic beverages, tobacco, items with abusive, suggestive, controversial, or gang-related themes or colors are prohibited.
10. Bandanas are not to be worn/displayed on any part of the body including head, neck, wrist, leg or worn hanging from a pocket or attached to any object.
11. All articles that carry messages that are suggestive, vulgar, obscene, libelous or denigrate others on account of race, color, religion, ancestry, national origin, sex, sexual orientation or disability are prohibited.
12. Appropriate Physical Education clothing, i.e. gym shorts, may be worn in Physical Education Classes only.
13. During the school day, all coats, hats, jackets, scarves, backpacks, gym bags, walkmans, iPods, MP3 players, radios, cellular telephones, beepers, and other electronic equipment of any kind are to be kept in lockers and deactivated. (Exception: gym bags may be carried to and from gym class.) See below disciplinary procedures for unauthorized use of cellular telephones/wireless communication devices.
14. Any other mode of dress or personal appearance not covered by the above which is dangerous, disruptive, distracting and/or disturbing to the progress of the educational program or activity is prohibited.

Students who violate the Student Appearance Code shall be required to modify their appearance by covering or removing the offending item. Students who are unable to do so shall be retained for the remainder of the day or until a parent or designee brings an acceptable change of clothing to the school.

Students who refuse to comply with the Student Appearance Code shall be subject to discipline, up to and including in-school suspension for the day. Any student who repeatedly fails to comply with the Student Appearance Code shall be subject to further discipline, up to and including out-of-school suspension.

VI. CELL PHONES AND OTHER ELECTRONIC DEVICES

The disciplinary procedures for the unauthorized use of cellular telephones, wireless communication devices, or any other electronic device include but are not limited to:

Having the phone/device on, making and/or receiving calls and sending and/or receiving text messages during the school day, during examinations or at school time events, field trips or functions will result in the following penalties:

First Infraction – **Immediate confiscation** of the cellular telephone, wireless communication device, or any other electronic device from the student. **Returned to identified owner by the main office and/or the dean's office at the conclusion of the school day.** Parent/guardian to be notified and informed regarding penalties for repeat offenses.

Second Infraction – **Immediate confiscation** of the cellular telephone, wireless communication device, or any other electronic device. At the discretion of the administrator, **student is subject to a short-term suspension** not to exceed five days. Cellular telephone, wireless communication device, or any other electronic device **returned to the parent/guardian of the student upon their request and retrieval.** Parent/guardian to again be notified and informed regarding penalty for repeat offense.

Third Infraction – **Immediate confiscation** of the cellular telephone, wireless communication device, or any other electronic device. At the discretion of the administrator, **student is subject to a short-term or long-term suspension.** Cellular telephone, wireless communication device, or any other electronic device **returned to the parent/guardian of the student upon their request and retrieval at the conclusion of the school year.**

After School Childcare Agencies

Various agencies offer childcare for students in Pre-K through Grade Six for both weekly and single day, before and after school needs. If you are a parent or guardian who needs support on Tuesdays, or any other day, please call one of the following for registration and sign-up information, fees, locations and space availability:

Rebecca Vincheski – Niagara Falls Boys & Girls Club – 282-7181
Carolyn Jacobs – Community Childcare Clearinghouse – 285-8572

Community Services Directory

Alcoholism Council	282-1228
American Red Cross	285-6938
Big Brothers/Big Sisters	285-6680
Boy Scouts of America	434-2851
Boys and Girls Club	282-7181
Child Abuse Hotline	1-800-342-3720
Community Center and Girls Club	285-2920
Community Mental Health Center	278-4541
Community Missions	285-3403
Department of Social Services	278-8400
Domestic Violence	433-6716
Drug/Suicide Hotline	285-3515
Family and Children's Services	285-6984
Girl Scouts of Niagara County	434-6212
Niagara County Health Department	439-7470
(Immunizations)	284-2134
Niagara Falls Recreation Department	286-4956
Niagara Falls Youth Bureau	286-4930
Poison Control	278-4511
Runaway Hotline	local: 285-7158 National: 1-800-621-4000
Salvation Army	283-7697
YMCA	285-8491