



855 Jefferson, Ypsilanti MI 48197

Phone (734)794-0218

2016-17

**PARENT/STUDENT
HANDBOOK**

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MISSION STATEMENT

Our mission is to provide quality education that inspires every student to achieve the knowledge and skills necessary to succeed and achieve academic and personal excellence.

PROGRAM COMPONENTS

- Holistic Learning Environment
- Individualized Student Learning Plans
- Personal Curriculum (per state guidelines)
- PLATO Online Learning
- Project Based Learning
- Blended Learning
- Small group direct instruction
- State and Federally Aligned Curriculum
- Student Achievement Measured through Adaptive Assessments
- Job Skill Development
- Career & College Counseling (Virtual Job Shadow Curriculum)
- Tutoring and Mentoring

STAFF

Portia Davis-Mann	School Leader
Eileen Pihoda	Principal/ Special Education Director
Melissa Archibald	Guidance Counselor
Lynn Baker	Office Supervisor/Pupil Accounting
Abbey Lilly-Lacca	English Teacher
Chad Mack	Math Teacher
Rachel Parent	Social Studies Teacher
Layla Daniels	Science
Lea Pihoda	Math Para-professional

WSC ACADEMY BOARD MEMBERS

Deborah Mozurkewich	President
Dwight Fontenot, Ph.D.	Vice President
Kim Hambright	Secretary
Karyn Goven	Treasurer
Katherine Lawrence	Member
Kim Welsh-Coates	Member
Denise Couling	Member

DAILY SCHEDULE

8:30 AM to 3:10 PM **Blended Learning Instruction plus a lunch period**

WSC Academy

School Year Calendar

WSC Ypsilanti Calendar 2016-2017

Monday, August 29 - Sept 1	Teacher Training
Tuesday, September 6	First day of classes
Wednesday, October 5	Count Day
Wednesday-Friday, November 23-25	Thanksgiving Break – No School
Monday, November 28	School Resumes
Thursday, December 22	End of Day – Winter Vacation Begins
Monday, January 9	School Resumes
Monday, January 1	Martin Luther King Day – No School
Wednesday, February 8	Count Day
Monday, April 3 - 7	Spring Break
Monday, April 10	School Resumes
Monday, May 29	Memorial Day – No School
Wednesday, June 21	Last Day of School

ADMISSION OF STUDENTS

The Board of Directors will allow students who reside in Michigan to enroll in the Academy in accordance with limits established by the Board of Directors. Because space is limited, each student must enroll each year. Preferences will be in writing and given to:

- A. Pupils who are enrolled in the Academy in the immediately preceding school year;
- B. Siblings of enrolled students;

When maximum enrollment has been reached, applicants shall be placed on a waiting list and admitted on the basis of a lottery system.

WSC Academy does not discriminate in its enrollment process based on race, ethnicity, economic status, sexual orientation, religion, gender identity, or disability.

ABSENCES, EXCUSES, AND MAKE-UP WORK

A phone call is required for each student who is/has been absent. Phone calls must be made to the school at 734-794-0218 by 10:00 AM on the day of the absence in order for the absence to be considered excused. Please include student's name and reason for absence. Excused absences include: funerals, medical or counseling appointments, court meetings, college visits, and illness. If absence is due to illness, please report the nature of the illness.

- 1st unexcused absence will result in a call, e-mail, or text home.
- 2nd unexcused absence will result in a call home.
- 3rd unexcused absence will result in a meeting with staff and principal to discuss the reasons for the multiple absences.
- 10 or more unexcused absences per semester (5 per quarter) may result in your student no longer being eligible to earn credits in their classes and/or a disenrollment from WSC Academy. (Letters will be mailed home following 3, 5, and 10 unexcused absences)

Students are considered truant when a pattern of documented unexcused absenteeism is observed by administration. The parent/guardian will be notified.

A referral will be made to the Washtenaw ISD Office of Truancy & School Attendance, according to Michigan Law for all students under 16 years of age.

Extended Absences

If an extended absence is anticipated, the teacher and principal must be notified in writing in advance. If an absence extends beyond three days, a note from a doctor, probation officer, etc. is required.

Ten or more unexcused absences per semester (5 per quarter) may result in your student no longer being eligible to earn credits in their classes. The school administration will contact the parent/guardian if a student has a pattern of multiple absences (10 or more) within a semester.

An attempt to make an intervention plan will be made. Should the home not respond to the school's attempts to make a plan and/or the plan not be followed by the student and/or parent/guardian, and should no action be taken to rectify the problem within a reasonable time frame, the school may send notice of the decision to un-enroll the student.

Assignment Expectations during Absences

Students miss valuable instruction time when they are absent from school. In order to help students continue to progress academically, we expect that students will make up any assignments they miss when absent. Students have access to their on-line learning courses and are expected to follow up with teachers upon their return for missing assignments. If you do not have Internet access, or your child needs materials, please see the Principal and/or Guidance Counselor for assistance.

Tardy Policy

Students are expected to be at school on time each day. If a student will be tardy due to an excusable reason (appointment, not feeling well, etc.), parent/guardian must call the school. Timeliness is a good work habit to develop as well as a good school habit, so the following policy will be enforced for each marking period:

- 1st unexcused tardy: Staff discussion with student
- 2nd unexcused tardy: Call, text, e-mail home
- 3rd unexcused tardy: Student and parent/guardian may need to meet with staff to discuss possible next steps, handled on a case by case basis.

For security purposes doors will be locked at all times. Students who arrive after 9:00 AM may not be allowed to enter unless they have contacted the school office.

ILLNESSES DURING SCHOOL

If a student becomes ill during the school day, the parent/guardian will be notified. The school will not release a student unless there has been authorized consent.

Whenever possible, students will not be sent home from school for any reason without parent/guardian consent. We will have an emergency authorization form on file with contact information.

CONTROL OF CASUAL CONTACT COMMUNICABLE DISEASES AND PESTS

Because a school has a high concentration of people, it is necessary to take specific measures when the health or safety of the group is at risk. The school's professional staff has the authority to remove or isolate a student who has been ill or has been exposed to a communicable disease or highly transient pest such as lice.

Specific communicable diseases include the following: diphtheria, scarlet fever, strep infections, whooping cough, mumps, pink eye, measles, rubella, and other conditions indicated by the Local and State Health Departments.

Any removal will be for only the contagious period as specified in the school's administrative guidelines and with the guidance of the Health Department.

Parents/guardians are asked to notify the office if their child has contracted a communicable disease. The school is obligated to communicate to other families and students the possibility that they may have been exposed to a communicable disease.

STUDENT WELL-BEING AND EMERGENCY INFORMATION

Student safety is a responsibility of the staff. All WSC Academy staff members are familiar with emergency procedures such as fire and tornado drills, lockdown procedures, and accident reporting procedures. Should a student be aware of any dangerous situation or accident, s/he must notify any staff person immediately.

All students must have emergency contact information completed and filed in the school office. A student may be excluded from school until this requirement has been fulfilled. If your daytime phone number changes anytime during the school year, please promptly notify the office. We need to reach you as quickly as possible if an emergency occurs.

SCHOOL CLOSING & DELAYS

At times, WSC Academy may close or delay school due to inclement weather or on other rare occasions. The decision to delay or cancel school will be posted on the major TV and radio stations in the Washtenaw County area under "WSC Academy." If the school district in which the student resides has delayed or canceled school due to inclement weather, the parent/guardian may call the school office to indicate their student is staying home from school that day, and this absence will be considered excused.

COMMUNICATION WITH SCHOOL

Staff will work in partnership with the student's parent/guardian to ensure a successful educational placement. Staff will contact parent/guardian on a regular basis to provide reports on the student's progress. Involvement of the parent/guardian (in the form of visits, problem-solving meetings, or other supportive activities) is encouraged and may be necessary at times.

Parents/guardians who have concerns are encouraged to speak with staff in person or call the school phone to discuss them. Communication is encouraged and welcome. Please call the school office to schedule an appointment.

The school values parental involvement in the student's education. Upon staff request for a phone call and/or face-to-face conference, parents/guardians are expected to respond to the request for a meeting as soon as possible. School newsletters are sent out and school family gatherings occur periodically to build a sense of community amongst the school staff, students, and their families.

SPECIAL EDUCATION

If a special education student is recommended for WSC Academy, an Individualized Education Program (IEP) team meeting must be held. It is important that the school has the most recent IEP in order to transfer services properly. The IEP team will determine whether goals/objectives, accommodations, and/or related service support are needed for the student to progress in the general education curriculum.

SECTION 504/ADA PROHIBITION AGAINST DISCRIMINATION BASED ON DISABILITY

The Board of Directors does not discriminate in admission or access to, or participation in, or treatment, in its programs or activities. As such, the Board's policies and practices will not discriminate against students with disabilities, and will make accessible to qualified individuals with disabilities its facilities, programs, and activities. See Board policies for further clarification.

The Board is committed to identifying, evaluating, and providing a free appropriate public education (FAPE) to students within its jurisdiction who have a physical or mental impairment that substantially limits one or more major life activities, regardless of the nature of severity of their disabilities. See Board policies for further clarification.

STUDENT SUPPORT SERVICES

Students access the Guidance Office for personal counseling, academic counseling, testing, test interpretation, career information and planning, college applications, and special program opportunities.

SUICIDE PREVENTION

The Academy recognizes that depression and self-destruction are problems of increasing severity among children and adolescents. A student who suffers the psychological disability of depression cannot benefit fully from the educational program of the Academy, and a student who has attempted self-destruction poses a danger both to himself/herself and to other students.

All Academy personnel will receive professional development training in the risk factors, warning signs for suicide and depression, and about the protective factors that help prevent suicide, as well as the available resources regarding youth suicide awareness and prevention.

Parents/guardians shall be notified of any suicide prevention instruction provide their children using the communication method used for regular communication with parents.

GRADES

GPA's (Grade Point Averages) are figured cumulatively at the end of each semester. Credit (CR) and No Credit (NC) are not calculated into the formula for GPAs. The following grading policy has been implemented by the Board of WSC Academy. WSC Academy will use the following grading scale:

100%-93%	4.0 A	82%-80%	2.7 B-
92%-90%	3.7 A-	79%-77%	2.3 C+
89%-87%	3.3 B+	76%-73%	2.0 C
86%-83%	3.0 B	72%-70%	1.7 C-

Any final grade below a 70% (whether it is a semester long class or a year-long class) will receive an "NC" which means that no credit is earned, and the class or an equivalent will need to be revisited to obtain credit.

GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

Successful completion of 18-20 credit hours (based on Cohort Year) is necessary to earn a diploma from WSC Academy. Students with disabilities are assisted in meeting these graduation requirements as appropriate and as specified in their Individualized Education Program (IEP). Students with disabilities who are unable to meet these graduation requirements, or for whom these requirements are deemed inappropriate, may request a personal curriculum. If a personal curriculum is requested, the Academy will consider that request per state guidelines. A curriculum guide is available for parents to read if they have an interest in the courses offered and the descriptions of classes.

Department	Credits	Classification
English	4.0	Students must take four courses of English
Mathematics	4.0	Students must take four courses of math: Algebra I, Geometry, Algebra II, and one other math course. One of those must be taken senior year.
Science	3.0	Biology, Physics or Chemistry, and one other science course.
Social Studies	3.0	Students must take Civics, Economics, World History and Geography, and U.S. History and Geography. AP credits can act as substitutes or additional elective credit.
Spanish/Foreign Language	2.0	Two years of a foreign language are required for class of 2016 and beyond. Colleges recommend at least two years.
Visual/Performing Arts	1.0	A least one year of visual arts, choir, or band.
Physical Education/Health	1.0	0.5 credit for each is required
General Electives	2.0	Throughout the high school required course of study students must complete 2 credits of elective courses.

PROJECT BASED LEARNING

Students at WSC Academy will be responsible for completing a grade-level project for each content area. These projects will provide students a hands-on method to demonstrate what they have learned throughout the course in a real world fashion, and will count as 10% of the final grade for each course. Projects will be graded by teachers, and may be shown in public exhibitions to anyone wishing to attend.

SCHOOL and/or COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION

Students at WSC Academy may receive 5% of course grade for completion of 10 documented hours of School or Community Participation. Opportunities will be provided by the Academy for completion of this requirement.

ATTENDANCE

Students at WSC Academy will also receive 5% of course grade for classroom attendance where absences do not exceed two days a semester (4 absences).

COLLEGE ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

It is recommended that applicants to competitive colleges successfully complete the following high school program:

- 4 years of English
- 4 years of Mathematics
- 4 years of Social Studies
- 4 years of Science
- 2 years (minimum) of Foreign Language
- 1 Technology
- 3 Elective Credits

WORK EXPERIENCE ELECTIVE CREDIT .05 CREDIT PER SEMESTER

Work Experience is a structured work experience that takes place at the workplace and is not linked to any program of study, a particular class, or career choice. A written agreement is drawn up between the school and the worksite. Student progress in the program is supervised and evaluated collaboratively by school and workplace personnel. Guidance Counselor will complete Work Experience evaluation with student at the end of each semester student is completing Work Experience.

These structured work experiences may be paid or unpaid and may take place in public, private, or non-profit organizations. Students are required to work an average

of 10 hours per week and are not required to take a related course. Jobs vary and students are responsible for securing their own work experience.

TESTING

All juniors will automatically take the SAT in the Spring as part of the Michigan Merit Examination. (Other tests will be completed throughout the school year, and will include the MAP test series as well as READ 180 and Math 180 testing)

TRANSCRIPT

A transcript is an official school record of courses taken, grades, credits taken, credits earned, and GPA. A transcript may be requested by contacting the school office.

TESTING OUT POLICY

WSC will grant high school credit to any pupil who can demonstrate mastery in the subject area content expectations or guidelines for a course. Teachers will establish the assessment process that measures a student's understanding of the subject area content expectations for the course. To all students who wish to test out of a course, teachers will provide all the learning objectives for that course, a summary of the course syllabus, a sample written examination, and a description of the final assessment required to establish mastery. The teacher will ensure that the assessment used to determine mastery is comparable to that required of students taking the actual course for credit.

If a student wishes to test out of a particular credit, they should notify the school administrator prior to the beginning of the course. Once notified, the school administrator will provide an assessment schedule and supervise the examinations or other form of assessment as established by the teacher. The teacher will determine whether sufficient mastery has been achieved to grant credit. Mastery can be achieved in the following manner:

- Attaining a grade of not less than 80% on a final exam in the course.

The standards must be comparable to the standards used for the regular course.

The principal is responsible for notifying the student and his/her parents/guardians of the student's performance and whether credit will be issued. Credit earned under this policy shall be based on a "pass" grade and shall not be included in a computation of grade point average for any purpose. Credit earned under this policy may be counted towards graduation, fulfillment of a requirement for a subject area course, and fulfillment of a requirement as to course sequence. Once credit is earned under this policy, a pupil may not receive credit thereafter for a course lower in course sequence in the same subject area.

SUPERVISION

WSC Academy is a closed campus. Students need to sign in if arriving late and sign out if leaving early at the school office and can only do so if pre-arranged with a parent/guardian, unless 18 years of age. Students will be supervised at all times and are expected to remain with staff or a school representative at all times. Students are expected to remain in their assigned areas at all times. Passes will be given if a student needs to leave the classroom with teacher permission.

CLOSED CAMPUS

Students are required to remain on campus while school is in session (see Daily Schedule, page 4). If students choose to leave early without a valid excuse or parent permission it will be marked as an unexcused absence.

TRANSPORTATION

Students may not arrive earlier than 8:00 AM, or 30 minutes before school starts. If a student does arrive earlier than this, s/he will be allowed to wait outside the building until the appropriate time. Please see the WSC Resource Guide for assistance with transportation as needed. Transportation is not typically provided for WSC Academy students. Families are expected to arrange transportation to and from school.

DRESS CODE

We believe appearance and grooming show respect for fellow students and staff, and create the appropriate tone for school and the classroom.

Students are required to wear **appropriate** t-shirts or button and collared long- or short-sleeved shirts. Appropriate includes: no gang, alcohol & tobacco, R.I.P. references, logos, identification or promotion anywhere on the students clothing. Appropriate also includes clothing items that are not revealing either on the torso or the lower portion of the body.

- No hats, hoods, do-rags, or bandanas
- No sagging
- No pajama pants
- ALL yoga pants and leggings must be worn with a top at least finger-length on the thigh
- No spandex or skin tight material may be worn as a top layer. Spandex or spandex like clothing must be covered with a top layer.
- No bare midriffs, belly shirts, short skirts/shorts (need to reach fingertips)
- No spaghetti straps. Shirts must have shoulder straps at least three-finger lengths across.

- Shorts, dresses, and skirts must be at least finger-length on the thigh.
- No low-cut shirts or anything sexually suggestive
- No references to alcohol, drugs, tobacco, or violence
- For safety reasons, no backpacks or book bags allowed. Students may only use sling type back packs (provided by WSC Academy)

ELECTRONICS

Pandora Streaming Music service and headphones are provided by WSC Academy. Accordingly, no electronic devices, including cell phones, are allowed on campus.

PERSONAL ITEMS

Students should not bring items of value to school. Items such as jewelry, expensive clothing, and electronic equipment are tempting targets for theft. WSC Academy cannot be responsible for their safe-keeping and will not be liable for loss or damage to any personal valuables. Students who purchase materials from other students while on school property will be suspended (unless selling items that may be periodically sponsored by the school and the student council, e.g. Valentine candy-grams, etc.)

COMPUTER LAB TIME

Students are expected to be on task and working on academic assignments while in the computer lab. Other unauthorized computer use (e.g. on-line shopping, IM, message boards, etc.) will not be allowed.

- 1st time: Warning
- 2nd time: Restrictions placed on the student's account
- 3rd time: Meeting with student, parent/guardian, principal, and staff to discuss other possible steps prior to student being allowed to return to school.

CONTRABAND ITEMS

Consequences for bringing banned items to school will be determined case-by-case. They should be left home or they will be taken and possibly destroyed. A call will be made to the parent/guardian, principal, probation officer (P.O.), or police, as applicable. Contraband items include illegal substances or paraphernalia, knives, lighters, etc.

PROHIBITION OF ALCOHOL, TOBACCO AND DRUGS

The Academy prohibits the use, possession, distribution, purchase, or sale on Academy property, in any Academy vehicle, or at any Academy-sponsored event of any of the following prohibited substances:

- Alcoholic beverages
- Tobacco (Including Electronic Cigarettes)
- Any illegal drug, controlled substance, or cannabis (including marijuana and hashish)
- Any anabolic steroid or performance-enhancing substance not administered under a physician's care and supervision
- Any prescription drug not prescribed for the student by a licensed health care provider or not used in the manner prescribed
- Any inhalant, regardless of whether it contains an illegal drug or controlled substance: (a) that a student believes is, or represents to be capable of, causing intoxication, hallucination, excitement, or dulling of the brain or the nervous system; or (b) about which the student engaged in behavior that would lead a reasonable person to believe that the student intended the inhalant to cause intoxication, hallucination, excitement, or dulling of the brain or nervous system.
- Look-alike or counterfeit drugs, including a substance not containing an illegal drug or controlled substance, but one: (a) that a student believes to be, or represents to be, an illegal drug or controlled substance; or (b) about which a student engaged in behavior that would lead a reasonable person to believe that the student explicitly or implicitly represented to be an illegal drug or controlled substance.
- Drug paraphernalia, including devices that are or can be used to: (a) ingest, inhale, or inject cannabis or controlled substances into the body; or (b) grow, process, store, or conceal cannabis or controlled substances.

Students under the influence of any prohibited substance are not permitted to be on Academy property, in an Academy vehicle, or at an Academy-sponsored event. The student will be treated as though they have the prohibited substance in their possession.

Consequences for Possession/Use of Any Controlled Substance

1st Offense: Up to a 5-day suspension; may be referred to a substance abuse program (minimum 30 days)

2nd Offense: Up to a 10-day suspension; may be referred to a substance abuse program (minimum 30 days)

3rd Offense: Suspension and/or expulsion.

Distribution/Sale of Marijuana, Alcohol or Other Illicit Drugs

Any distribution or sale of marijuana, alcohol, or other illicit drugs will result in expulsion.

GANG-RELATED BEHAVIORS

Any student involved in any activity, symbol, sign, or communication that is determined by staff to be gang-related, or even possibly so, will be asked to discontinue the behavior without question. Items may be taken, destroyed, etc. Parent/guardian, principal, and/or probation officer may be involved. Suspension may result and will be determined on a case-by-case basis.

LANGUAGE

Conversations must be clean, non-violent, non-offensive, and not negative toward race, gender, sexual orientation, or appearance as determined by staff.

SEXUAL BEHAVIOR, COMMENTS, ETC.

No sexually-related behavior or comments will be tolerated. They will be dealt with on an individual basis. No public displays of affection (PDAs). Demonstration of one's affection toward another person has an appropriate time and place. PDAs should be limited to those types of displays that are deemed appropriate by staff as proper decorum in a school setting. Displays of affections such as kissing, extensive embracing, sitting on someone's lap, or any contact that may be considered sexual in nature will not be allowed on Academy grounds, in Academy vehicles, or at any Academy-sponsored event/activity. Excessive displays of affection may result in suspension from school, or possibly expulsion.

STUDENT ACCIDENT INSURANCE

Student accident insurance is **not** available. It is recommended that parents carry a family insurance plan.

MEDICATION

The following definition of "medication" is adopted for use at WSC Academy: Medication includes prescription, non-prescription, and herbal medications that are taken by mouth, inhaler, or injection; applied as drops to the eyes or nose; or applied to the skin. Oral medication may be administered to students by school personnel according to the following conditions: The parent/guardian has submitted a written request to the school to give medication following label directions, and has brought the medication (in original pharmacy bottles) directly to the teacher/social worker. Parent may give permission using the Medication Use Form for student to receive Tylenol if necessary. If student needs to take over-the-counter medication, parent must drop off medication in the school office with a note and pick up medication at the end of the

school day. Failure to follow this policy will lead to discontinuation of medication being distributed at school.

Unsupervised use of an inhaler is allowed with physician authorization and parent/guardian permission. These students should be instructed by their parents to notify their teacher each and every time they use their inhaler so that frequent use can be communicated to the parents/guardians.

Parents/guardians of students who need an Epi-Pen must contact the school office at the beginning of each school year to institute a medical plan.

Students with disabilities who have an Individualized Educational Program (IEP) or Section 504 Plan are included under the policy and procedures that govern the administration of medications. Note: The policy and procedures do not violate either the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) or Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act.

IMMUNIZATIONS

Immunization is one of the most cost-effective measures to protect children from vaccine-preventable diseases. Accordingly, the Academy requires that all students be properly immunized at the time of registration or not later than the first day of school pursuant to the provisions of the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) regulations.

However, students who do not meet the immunization requirements shall be admitted in accordance with Administrative Procedures. Transfer students shall not be admitted without proof of immunization as required by the State.

There are three (3) circumstances in which a required vaccine may be waived or delayed:

- A. A valid medical contraindication exists to receiving the vaccine. The child's physician must certify the contraindication.
- B. The parent(s)/guardian(s) hold religious or philosophical beliefs against receiving a vaccination. Any parent or guardian who wants to claim a nonmedical waiver must receive education regarding the benefits of vaccination and the risks of disease from a county health department before obtaining the certified nonmedical waiver form through the local health department, and present same to the appropriate Academy personnel.
- C. The child has received at least one (1) dose of each immunizing agent and the next dose(s) are not due yet.

When the Academy provides information on immunizations, infectious disease, medications, or other school health issues to parents and guardians of pupils in at least grades 6, 9, and 12, then with that information the Academy is required to include information about meningococcal meningitis and the vaccine for meningococcal meningitis as well as about the human papillomavirus and the vaccine for human papillomavirus. The information shall include at least the causes and symptoms of meningococcal meningitis, how it is spread, and the risks associated with human papillomavirus. In addition, the information shall include sources where parents and guardians may obtain additional information about both diseases and where they may obtain the associated vaccinations.

STUDENT CODE OF CONDUCT

WSC Academy is a high school dedicated to providing a quality education in a positive environment that encourages academic excellence, high moral standards and personal discipline. The following standards of conduct delineate the values that the school deems essential to the fulfillment of its mission. Each student needs to read, agree to and follow its contents. A student will not be enrolled if a signed contract is not on file.

1. I will be an active member of building a positive WSC Academy community where everyone deserves a fresh start.
2. I will promote a safe environment for the WSC Community. I acknowledge that WSC Academy prohibits acts of bullying, harassment, and other forms of aggression and violence. I understand that such behavior can result in expulsion.
3. I will use safe and positive language. I understand that profane language, racist or bigotry statements are not permitted.
4. I will respect all persons while on the WSC Academy Campus to include students, staff, volunteers and other visitors to the campus.
5. I will appreciate the building and grounds of WSC Academy by refraining from any destructive or damaging behavior. I understand that I am subject to disciplinary action and payment of damages if I do so.
6. I realize that consistent attendance is necessary for academic progress. I understand that I can be dropped if I exceed ten days absence per marking period.

7. I understand that excessive tardiness interferes with my learning requirements. Excessive tardiness will result in a conference which could lead to disciplinary action.
8. I have a bright future. I do not want to jeopardize it by rash and senseless acts of violence. I realize that if I initiate or perpetuate a fight or other acts of violence, I am subject to expulsion. I also understand that bringing a firearm or other weapon to school will result in immediate expulsion.
9. I understand that I must dress appropriately. No gang related clothing, no sagging, no pajama pants, no hats, no do-rags, no profane or alcohol/drug related clothing or jewelry may be worn. ALL yoga pants and leggings must be worn with a top at least finger-length on the thigh. No spandex or skin tight material may be worn as a top layer. Spandex or spandex like clothing must be covered with a top layer. No spikes or studded jewelry. Dress must cover the body, no see-through clothing, no bare midriffs, no spaghetti straps (straps must be three fingers wide). Shorts, skirts, dresses, and cover-up tops must be finger length on the thigh. I understand that I will be sent home to change if the faculty or staff determines my dress to be inappropriate.
10. I understand that open displays of affection and sexually explicit language or innuendoes are not conducive to creating a learning environment. I will refrain from such behavior while at WSC Academy or while attending any school functions.
11. I will exhibit proper classroom behavior in order to provide my fellow students and myself the best possible opportunity to learn. I understand that disruptive and inappropriate behavior will not be tolerated.
12. Pandora Streaming Music service and headphones are provided by WSC Academy. Accordingly, no electronic devices, including cell phones, are allowed on campus.

WSC ACADEMY POLICY AND PROCEDURES FOR STUDENT DISCIPLINE

The goal of behavior management and discipline at WSC Academy is to teach self-control and develop character.

Code of Conduct

The Student Code of Conduct (see above) establishes the rules governing the most serious and obvious types of student misconduct. The behavioral areas listed in this Student Code of Conduct are not to be construed as an all-inclusive list or as a limitation upon the authority of school officials to deal appropriately with other types of conduct which interfere with the good order of the school, the proper functioning of the educational process, or the health and safety of students.

A student violating any of the prohibited acts listed in this Student Code of Conduct shall be deemed to be guilty of a gross misdemeanor and will be disciplined. Additionally, a student who engages in a prohibited act that violates the law may be referred to the appropriate police authority.

The prohibited acts and penalties listed below are applicable when a student engages in a prohibited act:

- on school property
- in a motor vehicle being used for a school related purpose
- at a school-related activity, function, or event
- in travel to or from school
- involving another student who is traveling to or from school
- off school premises, which act, in the judgment of the administration, is of such seriousness that the student's continued attendance in school would present a danger to the health and safety of students or employees or would endanger the proper functioning of the educational process.

Anti-Bullying Policy

The WSC Academy believes that a school that a safe and nurturing educational environment in school is necessary for students to learn and achieve high academic standards. Therefore, it is the policy of the Academy to provide a safe and nurturing environment for all of its students. Appropriate behavior, treating others with civility and respect, and refusing to tolerate harassment or bullying is expected of students, as well as administrators, faculty, staff, visitors, and volunteers.

Bullying means any written, verbal, or physical act, or any electronic communication, including, but not limited to, cyber bullying, that is intended or that a reasonable person would know is likely to harm one (1) or more pupils either directly or indirectly by doing any of the following:

- a) Substantially interfering with the educational opportunities, benefits, or programs of one (1) or more pupils.
- b) Adversely affecting the ability of a pupil to participate in or benefit from the school district's or public school's educational programs or activities by placing the pupil in reasonable fear of physical harm or by causing substantial emotional distress.
- c) Having an actual and substantial detrimental effect on a pupil's physical or mental health.
- d) Causing substantial disruption in, or substantial interference with, the orderly operation of the school.

Bullying and cyber bullying are prohibited at school. "At school" is defined as on school premises, at school-sponsored activities or events, in a school-related vehicle, or using telecommunications access device or provider if it is owned or under the control of the school district.

Bullying and cyber bullying that does not occur "at school," as defined above, but that causes a substantial disruption to the educational environment may be subject to disciplinary action which may include suspension up to expulsion.

Reporting and Investigating Reports of Bullying

Every student is encouraged to report any situation that he or she believes to be bullying behavior directed toward a student to a teacher, a counselor, administrator, or other staff member. Staff members shall report any reports made by students or situations that they believe to be bullying behavior directed toward a student to the principal. Complaints against the principal shall be reported to the board.

Retaliation or false accusation against a target of bullying, a witness, or another person with information about an act of bullying is prohibited. Suspected retaliation should be reported in the same manner as suspected bullying behavior. Making intentionally false accusations of bullying is likewise prohibited. Retaliation and making intentionally false accusations of bullying may result in disciplinary action up to and including expulsion.

All complaints about bullying shall be promptly investigated and documented. The principal or designee is responsible for the investigation. If the investigation results in a finding that bullying has occurred, it shall result in prompt and appropriate disciplinary action, up to and including expulsion for students, up to and including discharge for employees, and up to and including exclusion from school property for parents, guests, volunteers, and contractors. Individuals may also be referred to law enforcement officials.

The Academy will comply with all applicable laws regarding confidentiality of personally identifiable information within education records. In addition, the identity of

an individual who reports an act of bullying or cyberbullying is withheld from the alleged perpetrator and the perpetrator's parents, legal guardians and representatives, and is redacted from any report of bullying or cyberbullying that is publically disclosed.

Gross Misdemeanors or Persistent Disobedience

Any student guilty of gross misdemeanors, persistent disobedience, or persistent disregard of dress code policy may be suspended by the authorized School Leader or expelled by the Board.

Weapons, Arson, or Criminal Sexual Conduct

Any student possessing, using, controlling, or transferring a dangerous weapon (defined by Michigan law as a "firearm, dagger, dirk, stiletto, knife with a blade over 3 inches in length, pocket knife opened by a mechanical device, iron bar or brass knuckles"), any item which may be used to cause or threaten harm to others, or a look-alike weapon; or who commits arson or criminal sexual conduct on Academy property, in an Academy vehicle, or at an Academy-sponsored event, shall be permanently expelled for a period of not less than one hundred eighty (180) days.

Possession, use, or threatening the use of any weapon (not included in the legal definition above) or any dangerous item may result in suspension by the authorized school district administrator or expulsion by the Board. A dangerous item is any object capable of inflicting bodily harm, as determined within the sole discretion of the authorized school district administrator (including but not limited to knives, bullets, fireworks, smoke bombs, any parts of a weapon, or toy weapons).

Physical Assaults Against Academy Personnel and Students

Any student who commits a physical assault against an Academy employee, volunteer, contractor, or another student on Academy property, in an Academy vehicle, or at an Academy-sponsored event may be suspended by the authorized principal or expelled by the Board. Physical assault is defined as intentionally causing or attempting to cause physical harm to another through force or violence.

Verbal Assaults

Any student who commits a verbal assault on school property, on a school bus or other school vehicle, or at an Academy-sponsored activity or event against a WSC Academy employee, volunteer, or contractor may be suspended by the authorized principal or expelled by the Board.

Verbal assault is defined as a threat of immediate harmful or offensive touching, coupled with an apparent immediate ability to commit same, which puts a person in a reasonable apprehension of such touching; the use of offensive language directed at a person, where such language is likely to provoke a reasonable person (e.g. excessive

taunting or teasing, bullying, hazing, or other verbal harassment, or aggressive behavior); or a bomb threat (or similar threat) directed at a school building, other school property, or a school event. A student who encourages others to engage in such behavior also violates this policy. For purposes of this policy, the definition of assault also includes written threats.

Other Prohibited Student Conduct

- Cellular phones or electronic devices are not allowed on campus. If a student is seen with a cellular device during the school day, they will receive one warning and the cell phone will be confiscated for the rest of the school day, at which the student can pick up the cellular device. If the student refuses to hand over the cell phone it will be considered an act of insubordination and appropriate disciplinary steps will be enforced.
- Damaging or attempting to damage another person's personal property.
- Stealing or attempting to steal another person's personal property.
- Being involved in a gang or engaging in gang-like activities, including displaying gang symbols or paraphernalia.
- Engaging in any activity, on or off campus, that interferes with, disrupts, or adversely affects the school environment, school operations, or an educational function, including but not limited to conduct that may reasonably be considered to: (a) be a threat to or an attempted intimidation of a staff member; or (b) endanger the health or safety of students, staff, or Academy property.
- Violating any criminal law, including but not limited to assault, battery, arson, theft, gambling, eavesdropping, and hazing.
- Being absent without a recognized excuse.
- Disobeying rules of student conduct or directives from staff members or Academy officials.

Academic Honesty

We value academic integrity very highly and do not permit any form of dishonesty or deception that unfairly, improperly or illegally enhances the grade on an individual or group assignment. The following is a list of forms of cheating, plagiarism and other forms of dishonesty. If you have any doubt as to whether a particular act constitutes academic dishonesty, ask your teacher before you do it.

Academic Dishonesty includes, but is not limited to: Cheating on exams by copying from others, having or using notes, formulas, or other information in a programmable calculator or other programmable device; having or using a communication device such as a cell phone, pager, PDA or electronic translator to send or receive unauthorized information; having or using a cheat sheet; altering a graded exam and re-submitting it for a high grade; working together on a take home exam unless

approved by the teacher; gaining or providing unauthorized access to the examination or course materials, reporting false grades or copying the work of another peer. Taking screenshots of questions or answers, and looking up test answers during a test with an electronic device is also considered academic dishonesty.

Plagiarism by copying part or all of another person's work and submitting it as your own; acting as a provider of a paper or papers for others; submitting substantial portions of the same work in more than one class without consulting with the teachers; failing to use quotation marks where appropriate; failing to properly cite paraphrased materials with footnotes or a bibliography; making up data for an experiment; citing non-existent sources; giving or getting improper assistance on an assignment meant to be individual work; using the services of a commercial term paper company; using the services of another student.

Attempted cheating, even when unsuccessful, will be treated as academic dishonesty. Simply having observable possession of any prohibited or unauthorized information or device during an exam, even if it is not used, is an act of academic dishonesty. It will be dealt with as such.

You can protect yourself by keeping in mind that, unless you indicate otherwise, readers assume that everything in your paper is your original work, and that plagiarism occurs when you allow the reader to believe that some fact, idea, or phrase originated with you when it did not. Unintentional examples include: copying materials from a source text; supplying proper documentation, but leaving out quotation marks; and paraphrasing materials from a source text without appropriate documentation. Whenever you use exact words from another person or source, they must be put in quotation marks and credited.

Proper credit and citation given to all sources eliminates the danger of unintentional plagiarism.

Consequences for Academic Dishonesty

1st offense: Student will receive a zero on the assignment or test. Teacher and administrator will decide whether student will be able to do an alternate assignment for partial credit. There will be a meeting with the student, parents, teacher, and/or administrator.

2nd offense: Student will receive a zero on the assignment or test with no option for partial credit. There will be a meeting with the student, parents, teacher, and an administrator. The student may be suspended.

Subsequent offenses: Student will receive a zero on that assignment or test. The student may lose credit for the class if cheating has occurred in the same class before this instance. The student may incur additional suspension up to expulsion.

Computer Use Policy

WSC Academy provides computers and a variety of software for student use. Each student assumes the responsibility to avoid actions that may interfere with another student's ability to use the system. A student is allowed to use school-installed programs to access, modify or delete his/her own data on his/her own flash drive. All other use is prohibited. A student will be held responsible for acts (financially and within the discipline system) that access, modify, damage, or delete hardware, software and other data and programs other than their own.

Students are held accountable for information they access on the Internet. This information must be appropriate for school and free from pornography, profanity, drugs or any other offensive material. Parent/guardian and student must sign a computer and Internet usage form each school year.

Working Together to Create an Optimal Learning Environment

WSC Academy has high academic expectation for all of our students. In order to achieve this, we also have high behavioral expectations. Students are expected to work collaboratively and professionally at all times. Students are not allowed to disrupt learning or teaching. Our policy is simple: if a WSC Academy student ignores multiple directives or behavioral support plans to correct disruptive behavior, he/she may be sent from the classroom and face disciplinary actions up to suspension and expulsion.

Students will not be able to be on WSC Academy school grounds or attend extra-curricular activities while serving a suspension.

Any time a student is suspended for a second time, he/she will meet with a principal to go over the school safety and persistent disobedience policies. A parent/guardian meeting may also be required.

All suspensions will be administered by the principal of WSC Academy and will be conducted on a case by case basis depending on the severity and regularity of the infractions.

Damage of Property

Vandalism and disregard for school property will not be tolerated. A student who damages, attempts to damage, steals, or attempts to steal Academy property, will be disciplined. Violations could result in physical or financial restitution, suspension, or expulsion. Graffiti is considered vandalism.

Application to Students with Disabilities

WSC Academy complies with the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 when disciplining students.

Behavioral interventions will be used with students with disabilities to promote and strengthen desirable behaviors and reduce identified inappropriate behaviors. When appropriate a manifestation determination conference will be conducted to determine if a special education or Section 504 student's misconduct is a manifestation of his/her disability. Appropriate disciplinary actions will be determined pending the outcome.

Due Process Rights

All students suspended and/or expelled will be provided notice and an opportunity to be heard in accordance with a student's due process rights under the law.

Progressive Discipline

Each student behavioral incident is considered unique and will be handled as deemed appropriate by staff. Steps may include: redirection, cool-down time, and/or behavior management plan. This will be determined on a case-by-case basis. In cases when a student is refusing to be redirected by staff in class, the staff may deem it necessary that the student have some time away from class to process his/her behavior in order to prepare to re-enter class in a productive manner.

Long-term Suspensions and/or Expulsions

Persistent behavior issues may lead to a meeting with the principal and possible suspension for up to ten days. Long-term suspensions (defined as those greater than ten days) and/or expulsions will be decided by a disciplinary team consisting of the principal, one other WSC Academy staff member, and a board member.

Impartial Hearing

In the case of long-term suspensions and expulsions, the Discipline Committee appointed by the WSC Academy Board will conduct an impartial hearing in compliance with the Open Meetings Act within 10 school days of the incident. The student will have a reasonable amount of time to prepare for the hearing. The principal will present the Academy's case against the student. A certified letter to parents about the issue, including the intent to suspend or expel, must be sent within 48 hours of the incident report. This letter sent to the parent and student will indicate the following:

- The alleged misconduct, which must fit within the Parent/Student Handbook discipline policy. (The written charges should be specific and detailed. All possibly violated discipline rules should be listed. If the student is charged with a violation of a Michigan statute which is not specifically stated in the student

discipline rules, the pertinent section of the Michigan Code will be cited.)

- Length of proposed long-term suspension and/or expulsion.
- The date, time, and location of the scheduled hearing.
- Students and parents are not required to attend the hearing. If the parent/guardian does not attend, the Discipline Committee will take action based on the information presented at the hearing.
- If students and/or parents attend this hearing, their rights include the right to review the information supporting the charges and proposed penalty; to dispute the information supporting the charges and proposed penalty; to introduce information on the student's behalf; and to be represented by legal counsel. The hearing is not a legal proceeding and will not be conducted according to court rules or rules of evidence. If legal counsel is retained, the principal must be notified at least 48 hours prior to the hearing, so the Academy can make arrangements to have its own attorney present. The parent and/or student may request that the hearing be conducted in closed session.

The principal will present the issues and documentation to the Discipline Committee as the Academy representative. All student names will be disguised for presentation at the hearing. Within the paperwork, all other students involved should be referred to as "another student" or "another male/female student."

The student who violates the law and/or behavior code warranting a recommendation for a long-term suspension/expulsion should not be placed on Homebound Education until the hearing has been held or the parent/guardian and student elect to waive the hearing by contacting the school office after the charges have been filed.

Appeal

If the principal determines that a long-term suspension or expulsion is warranted, the parents and/or student may appeal that decision to the full School Board in writing within five (5) school days of receiving the expulsion notification. The appeal must state why the decision of the Discipline Committee was not justified, and any extenuating circumstances that the Board should consider. The Board will discuss the appeal at their next regularly scheduled board meeting. If the Board decides on expulsion, the student is separated from WSC Academy School District. The School Board's decision is final.

Reinstatement

Parents/guardians may petition the WSC Academy School Board to readmit their student upon expiration of the mandated expulsion period as determined by law. WSC follows the Revised School Code as it applies to reinstatement:

1. The expelled student's parent/guardian may initiate a petition for reinstatement at any time after the expiration of 150 school days after the date of expulsion.
2. The expelled student cannot be reinstated before the expiration of 180 school days after the date of expulsion.
3. It is the responsibility of the parent/guardian to prepare and submit the petition. WSC Academy will not provide assistance in preparing the petition.
4. No later than 10 school days after receiving a petition for reinstatement, a school board shall appoint a committee to review the petition and any supporting information submitted by the parent/guardian. The committee shall consist of 2 school board members, 1 school administrator, 1 teacher, and 1 parent of a pupil in the school district. During this time, the Principal may prepare and submit for consideration by the committee information concerning the circumstances of the expulsion and any factors mitigating for or against reinstatement.
5. No later than 10 school days after all members are appointed, the committee shall review the petition, any supporting information, and information provided by the school district, and shall submit a recommendation to the school board on the issue of reinstatement. The recommendation shall be for unconditional reinstatement, for conditional reinstatement, or against reinstatement, and shall be accompanied by an explanation of the reasons for the recommendation and of any recommended conditions for reinstatement. The recommendation shall be based on consideration of all of the following factors:
 - a. The extent to which reinstatement of the individual would create a risk of harm to pupils or school personnel.
 - b. The extent to which reinstatement of the individual would create a risk of school district or individual liability for the school board or school district personnel.
 - c. The age and maturity of the individual.
 - d. The individual's school record before the incident that caused the expulsion.
 - e. The individual's attitude concerning the incident that caused the expulsion.
 - f. The individual's behavior since the expulsion and the prospects for remediation of the individual.
 - g. The degree of cooperation and support that has been provided by the parent or legal guardian and that can be expected if the individual is reinstated, including, but not limited to, receptiveness toward possible conditions placed on the reinstatement.
6. No later than the next regularly scheduled board meeting after receiving the recommendation of the committee, a school board shall make a decision to

unconditionally reinstate the individual, conditionally reinstate the individual, or deny reinstatement of the individual. The decision of the school board is final.

7. The school board may require an individual and, if the petition was filed by a parent or legal guardian, his or her parent or legal guardian, to agree in writing to specific conditions before reinstating the individual in a conditional reinstatement. The conditions may include, but are not limited to, agreement to a behavior contract, which may involve the individual, parent or legal guardian, and an outside agency; participation in or completion of an anger management program or other appropriate counseling; submission of negative screen for illicit drugs and/or alcohol; periodic progress reviews; and specified immediate consequences for failure to abide by a condition. The parent/guardian may include proposed conditions in a petition for reinstatement.
8. This section does not diminish any rights under federal law of a pupil who has been determined to be eligible for special education programs and services.

Exclusion from the Academy

During a suspension or expulsion, a student is not allowed on Academy property, in an Academy vehicle, or to participate in or attend any before- or after-school activities (including, but not limited to, the student's attendance as a spectator of or participant in sport or weekend activities). Once a student has been suspended, s/he is not allowed on campus until his/her suspension has been completed and/or s/he has met with the principal or school designee.

Reporting

Consistent with controlling law, all matters of student out-of-school disciplinary suspensions and expulsions shall be permanently maintained in a student's permanent educational record (CA-60), and shall be transferred to any other private or public elementary school in which the student may seek enrollment. However, such disciplinary records may be deleted upon graduation, except for expulsions for possession of dangerous weapons, arson, criminal sexual conduct, or the physical assault of a staff member, volunteer, or contractor.

Suspension and/or expulsion will be listed as an excused absence within the student's attendance record.

When required by law, the Juvenile Division of the Probate Court will be informed by the principal that the Academy has expelled the student, and the reason for expulsion. Academy administration and staff will also report and share information with local law enforcement agencies and appropriate Family Independence Agencies or County Community Health Agencies regarding student misconduct which may constitute reportable offenses under the law and local agreement.

Corporal Punishment

The administration or teachers will not perform corporal punishment for any reason. However, the use of reasonable physical force necessary to maintain order and control for the purpose of providing an environment conducive to safety and learning is permitted in the following situations as stated by the Michigan Department of Education:

- “To restrain or remove a pupil whose behavior is interfering with the orderly exercise and performance of school district or public school academy functions within a school or at a school-related activity, if that pupil has refused to comply with a request to refrain from further disruptive acts.
- “For self-defense or the defense of another.
- “To prevent a pupil from inflicting harm on himself or herself.
- “To quell a disturbance that threatens physical injury to any person.
- “To obtain possession of a weapon or other dangerous object upon or within the control of a pupil.”

All guidelines for the use of seclusion and restraint will be adhered to at all times. Select staff members have been certified in non-violent crisis intervention.

STUDENT RIGHTS

The rules and procedures of the school are designed to allow each student to obtain a safe, orderly, and appropriate education. Students can expect their rights to freedom of expression and association and to fair treatment to be honored as long as they respect the rights of their fellow students and the staff, and their actions are not disruptive to the educational process. Students will be expected to follow the directions of all staff and obey all school rules. No information which may be considered of a confidential or personal nature may be released to outside agencies without the specific approval of the parent/guardian and school official.

VOLUNTEERS

Volunteers are important to the school. Volunteers of the school are to be treated with the same respect as staff.

MANDATORY REPORTING POLICY: PROTECTIVE SERVICES/DHS

Michigan's Child Protection Law requires that any mandated reporter (which includes WSC Academy staff members) who “has reasonable cause to suspect child abuse or neglect shall make immediately, by telephone at 855-444-3911 or otherwise, an oral report to Children’s Protective Services of DHS. A written report must be made within 72 hours of the oral report to CPS, using form FIA-3200 (‘Report of Suspected Child Abuse or Neglect’).”

POLICE INVOLVEMENT

The assistance of police agencies may be requested when a student:

- Is assaultive.
- Refuses to leave the building when requested to do so by school personnel.
- Does physical damage to the environment.
- Commits an apparent illegal act.
- Runs away.
- Is reasonably suspected of having a weapon on his/her person or in his/her vehicle located on the property.

Generally, when police involvement is requested by school authorities, a formal complaint will be filed. Once this action has been taken, the complaint will not be withdrawn. The initiation of police involvement must be approved by the principal.

FIELD TRIPS

Field trips will be scheduled periodically to augment student learning and to reward student efforts. Students on WSC field trips are required to follow the WSC Academy Code of Conduct and to represent the school in a positive manner. Misconduct on a field trip will lead to disciplinary actions per school policy. A general parent/guardian permission slip will be sent home at the beginning of the year and must be signed and returned before a student may participate. Parents/guardians will be informed in advance of upcoming field trips throughout the school year.

SAFETY DRILLS

The school complies with all fire safety laws and will conduct fire, tornado, and lockdown drills in accordance with State law. Specific instructions on how to proceed will be provided to students by their teachers, who will be responsible for safe, prompt, and orderly evacuation of the building.

During practice lockdown drills, entering and exiting the buildings will be restricted for approximately 15 minutes.

During an actual situation, an "Out of Order" sign will be posted on the doors, and parents/guardians/visitors must return to their vehicles. Situations may include external concerns such as hazardous material spills, police actions, etc.

WORK PERMITS

Any student wishing to obtain the necessary paperwork to receive a work permit should make a request to the school office.

SELECTIVE SERVICE REGISTRATION

Male students age eighteen (18) or older are required by law to register for the Selective Service.

INFORMATION PROVIDED TO MILITARY

Two federal laws require that the Academy provide military recruiters, upon request, with three directory information categories: names, addresses, and telephone listings. If you do not want the Academy to disclose this directory information from your child's education records without your prior written consent, you must notify the Academy in writing by the end of the first week of the school year.

EQUAL EDUCATION OPPORTUNITY

It is the policy of WSC Academy to provide an equal education opportunity for all students. Any person who believes that s/he has been discriminated against on the basis of his/her race, color, disability, religion, gender, or national origin while at the Academy or an Academy activity should immediately contact the principal. Complaints will be investigated in accordance with the administrative guidelines. Any student making a complaint or participating in an Academy investigation will be protected from any threat or retaliation. The principal can provide additional information concerning equal access to educational opportunity.

SEXUAL HARASSMENT

The Academy is committed to providing for its students an educational environment that is respectful of human dignity and free from sexual harassment. Abuse of the dignity of any student by means of sexist slurs, or sexually-oriented obscene, lewd, vulgar, unwanted, offensive, or indecent language will not be tolerated. Sexually derogatory or objectionable conduct, including but not limited to unwanted or offensive touching and physical contact will also not be tolerated.

Any student who feels he or she is being sexually harassed by any other student or students shall report such incidents to a teacher, counselor, school psychologist, school social worker, or principal. Such reports shall be reported to and investigated by the principal. Any student who is determined to have committed sexual harassment will be subject to disciplinary action, based upon the severity and frequency of the offense(s).

HOMELESS STUDENTS

It is the policy of the Academy to ensure that students who meet the federal definition of "homeless" have equal access to the same free, appropriate public education as provided to other students. The Board annually appoints a McKinney-Vento Homeless Liaison to perform all duties as legally required.

The Academy is committed to ensuring that there is no barrier to the enrollment, attendance, or success of homeless children and youths. In addition, no student will be stigmatized or segregated on the basis of their status as homeless. The Academy's Homeless Liaison collaborates and coordinates with state coordinators, community service providers, and school personnel responsible for the provision of education and related services to homeless children and youth. Anyone seeking additional information regarding homeless students should contact the principal.

LIMITED ENGLISH PROFICIENCY

Limited proficiency in the English language should not be a barrier to equal participation in the instructional or extra-curricular programs of an Academy. It is, therefore, the policy of WSC Academy that those students identified as having limited English proficiency will be provided additional support and instruction to assist them in gaining English proficiency and in accessing the educational and extra-curricular programs offered by the Academy. Parents should contact the principal to inquire about procedures and programs offered by the Academy.

INDIVIDUALS WITH DISABILITIES

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act provide that no individual will be discriminated against on the basis of a disability. This protection applies not just to the student, but to all individuals who have access to the Academy's programs and facilities.

A student can access special education services through the proper evaluation procedures. Parent involvement in this procedure is required by Federal (IDEA) and State law. Contact the principal to inquire about evaluation procedures and programs. The principal is the Section 504 Coordinator.

ANIMALS ON ACADEMY PROPERTY

WSC Academy recognizes that there are many occasions when animals are present on Academy property and many reasons for the presence of those animals. Employees, students, parents, vendors, and other members of the public may be accompanied at the Academy by a service or therapy animal in accordance with Federal and State law and Board policy. Contact the office for further clarification of these laws and policies.

SEARCH AND SEIZURE

Search of a student and his/her possessions, including vehicles, may be conducted at any time the student is under the jurisdiction of the Board of Education, if there is a reasonable suspicion that the student is in violation of law or school rules. For safety reasons, students may not bring full size book bags into the school. Only sling type packs (distributed by WSC Academy) may be used in the school

The principal or his/her designee may request the assistance of a law enforcement officer in conducting a search, but shall not be obligated to do so. The principal or his/her designee shall supervise the search. In the course of a search, the principal or his/her designee shall respect the privacy rights of the pupil regarding any items discovered that are not illegal or against Academy policy and rules.

When conducting searches, the principal or his/her designee may seize any illegal or unauthorized items, items in violation of board policy or rules, or any other items reasonably determined by the principal or his/her designee to be a potential threat to the safety or security of others. Such items include but are not limited to the following: firearms, explosives, dangerous weapons, flammable material, illegal controlled substances or controlled substance analogues or other intoxicants, contraband, poisons, and stolen property. Law enforcement officials shall be notified immediately upon seizure of such dangerous items or seizure of items that schools are required to report to law enforcement agencies under the Statewide School Safety Information Policy. Any items seized by the principal or his/her designee shall be removed and held by Academy officials for evidence in disciplinary proceedings, and/or turned over to law enforcement officials. The parent/guardian of the pupil shall be notified by the principal or his/her designee of items removed from the storage area.

STUDENT VEHICLES

Students who have a valid driver's license may choose to drive their own vehicle to school. Vehicles on school ground are available for search and seizure of items deemed inappropriate on school grounds. Vehicles also may be subject to being towed away at the owner's expense.

STUDENT RECORDS

WSC Academy maintains many student records, including both directory information and confidential information. Educational records of students at WSC Academy are safeguarded by policies of federal legislation entitled Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974 and Michigan law. Parents/guardians and/or students eighteen years of age or older who wish to read the educational record should contact the school office.

When transferring student records, school officials are required to transmit disciplinary records, including suspension and expulsion actions against the student.

DIRECTORY INFORMATION

The Family Education Rights and Privacy Act (“FERPA”) requires that the Academy, with certain exceptions, obtain the written consent of the parent or guardian of a student prior to the disclosure of personally identifiable information from their child’s education records. However, the Academy may disclose appropriately designated “directory information” without written consent, unless you have advised the Academy to the contrary in accordance with Academy procedures. The primary purpose of directory information is to allow the Academy to include this type of information from your student’s education records in certain school publications. Examples include:

- A playbill showing your student’s role in a drama production
- Individual or group recognition of achievement and /or accomplishments
- Graduation programs

Directory information, which is information that is generally not considered harmful or an invasion of privacy if released, can also be disclosed to outside organizations without a parent’s prior written consent. Outside organizations include, but are not limited to, companies that manufacture class rings or publish yearbooks.

If you do not want the Academy to disclose directory information from your child’s education records without your prior written consent, you must notify the Academy in writing by the end of the first week of the school year. The Academy has designated the following information as directory information:

- Student’s name
- Participation in officially recognized activities and sports
- Address
- Telephone listing
- Electronic mail address
- Photograph/video/DVD
- Honors, awards, and other recognitions
- Classroom or unit designation

Legal Ref.: Section 9528 of the ESEA (20 USC §7908), as amended by the No Child Left Behind Act of 2001 (PL 107-110); the Education Bill; 10 USC §503, as amended by §554; the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2002 (PL 107-107); Family Education Rights and Privacy Act of 1974, 20 USC §1232g.

TEACHER QUALIFICATIONS

All of the teachers at WSC Academy are Highly Qualified and are teaching in the areas that they are certified to teach. Each teacher holds a minimum of a bachelor’s degree and a valid State of Michigan Teaching Certificate. The WSC Academy teachers are all considered highly qualified in accordance to the No Child Left Behind

Requirements for Highly Qualified Teachers. Any parent who wants to know the particular teacher qualifications of his/her child's teacher(s) can contact the Principal at any time.

REVIEW OF INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS AND ACTIVITIES

Parents have the right to review any instructional materials being used in the school. They also may observe instruction in any classroom. Any parent who wishes to review materials or observe instruction must contact the principal prior to coming to the school. Parental rights to review teaching materials and instructional activities are subject to reasonable restrictions and limits.

PARENT & OTHER STUDENT SUPPORT INVOLVEMENT (I.E. THE STUDENT SUPPORT TEAM)

Our school promotes a strong partnership with the Student Support Team (SST), which is defined as parents/guardians, probation officers, case workers, or counselors (as applicable). Teachers use a variety of means to connect with the SST in order to assist with any barriers that may come up in regards to communication. For example, mailings are sent every marking period, but the SST is also encouraged to connect with teachers via e-mail or phone about any concerns or needs. The teachers act as central communication links for the SST about the student and his/her needs. WSC Academy also employs other methods to engage parent/guardians, including mail, phone, e-mail, and/or special behavior contracting meetings.

WSC Academy staff recognizes the significance of SST participation in accomplishing high levels of student academic achievement. Staff is committed to fostering and supporting active participation of the SST.

Our school has established programs and practices that enhance SST involvement and reflect the specific needs of students and families. These include:

- An active parent representation on the School Improvement Team that meets quarterly
- A family handbook that is distributed to all parents
- Bi-annual parent newsletter that details current happenings, as well as information on how to be involved and to support student learning
- Classrooms that are always open for parent visits
- An annual parent survey that gathers information about parent satisfaction and suggestions for improvement

PREPAREDNESS FOR TOXIC AND ASBESTOS HAZARDS

WSC Academy is concerned for the safety of students and attempts to comply with all Federal and State Laws and Regulations to protect students from hazards that may result from industrial accidents beyond the control of school officials or from the presence of asbestos materials used in previous construction. A copy of the Academy's Preparedness for Toxic Hazard and Hazard Policy and asbestos management plan will be available for inspection at the school office upon request.

PESTICIDE NOTICE

The Academy is required by Michigan Regulations 637, Rule 14, and PA 171 to maintain an effective pest control program for our buildings. As part of an effective pest management program, school buildings and grounds may be treated as needed to control or eliminate pests. The least hazardous methods will always be incorporated to remove pests as per the Michigan Pesticide Control Act. Under most circumstances, chemical treatments will be a last resort. When pesticides are used, a notice will be posted on the front door of the school and in the school newsletter. If you would like to request prior notification of the application of pesticides or herbicides, please see the school office. However, pesticides may be used in an emergency situation without advance notice. In such a case, we would make every effort to inform all affected parties. If you have any questions or wish to review the school's integrated pest management plan or records of pesticide applications, please contact the principal.

NOTICE OF NONDISCRIMINATION

WSC Academy is committed to equal opportunity and does not discriminate on the basis of age, race, color, religion, sex, handicapping conditions, or national origin including limited English proficiency. No person is excluded from participation in, denied the benefits of, or otherwise subjected to unlawful discrimination on such basis under any educational program of student activity, or of any employment. Any inquiries or complaints regarding discrimination or equal access (Title II, Title VI, and VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Title IX Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, and the Age Act) may be directed to the Principal, WSC Academy or Section 504/Americans with Disabilities Act Coordinator and dealt with promptly and in accordance with law.

OTHER INFORMATION

- Transportation: Bus tokens are available to WSC Academy as needed.
- Work Permits: Provided as needed after employer completes required section, Principal will sign. A copy must be retained in student file.
- Lunch: Provided to all students

Please contact our main school office if you have any questions or concerns.

SIGNATURE PAGE

I acknowledge that I have read and will abide by the contents of the WSC Student Handbook.

*Please print your name and then provide your signature.
Return to the Office Supervisor.
Thank you.*

Student Name (PRINT)

Student Name (SIGNATURE)

DATE

Parent/Guardian (SIGNATURE)

DATE