

Weymouth High School

Handbook

2018-2019

May 10, 2018
Second Reading
April 26, 2018
First Reading

Independent Status - pg 37

Old Text

Students interested in obtaining independent status as defined by WHS policy, should consult their Dean for details once they reach the age of eighteen. Students who have independent status are permitted to provide their own written excuse for tardiness and dismissals. The student is responsible for all missed class work due to tardiness and/or dismissals. The student accepts responsibility and accountability for his/her actions. Students with Independent Status are not allowed to dismiss themselves from school when they have an assigned detention.

New Text

Students who have reached the age of 18 can apply for Independent Status. Parents/Guardians of the student must sign an Independent Status form for a student to be eligible for Independent Status. The student accepts responsibility and accountability for their actions. Students who are 18 and have the form signed have the following rights:

1. The student may sign their own absence notes, though school officials may require satisfactory verification as to the cause of the absence.
2. The student may dismiss themselves from school, however, not when they have an assigned detention.
3. The student may sign their own permission slips for field trips.
4. The student may withdraw from school without permission of a parent or guardian.
5. The student has all the rights, which would belong to a parent or guardian in connection with the special education process, including the right to consent to or object to their own individual education plan (IEP).

Parents/Guardians have the right to come to Weymouth High School and request to inspect their student's records.

Working Papers - pg 37

Old Text

Applicants for working papers must be at least fourteen years of age. Working papers are required for each job until the student's eighteenth birthday. A working paper may not be obtained until a position is secured. A working paper must be obtained for every change in position.

In all cases, the applicant must make a personal application and present a birth certificate. A baptismal certificate will not suffice. Working papers are issued to Weymouth High School students during the school year in both maroon and gold offices

New Text

Applicants for working papers must be at least fourteen years of age. Working papers are required for each job until the student's eighteenth birthday. A working paper may not be obtained until a position is secured. A working paper must be obtained for every change in position.

In all cases, the applicant must make a personal application and present a birth certificate **or a passport**. A baptismal certificate will not suffice. Working papers are issued to Weymouth High School students during the school year in both maroon and gold offices **and during the summer**.

WHS Grade Point Average Weighted Rank - pg 38

Old Text

		<u>A.P.</u>	<u>(NEW)</u>	<u>HONORS</u>	<u>(NEW)</u>	<u>COLLEGE PREP</u>
97 – 100	A+	6.33	5.33	5.33	4.83	4.33
94 – 96	A	6.00	5.00	5.00	4.50	4.00
90 – 93	A-	5.67	4.67	4.67	4.17	3.67
87 – 89	B+	5.33	4.33	4.33	3.83	3.33
84 – 86	B	5.00	4.00	4.00	3.50	3.00
80 – 83	B-	4.67	3.67	3.67	3.17	2.67
77 – 79	C+	4.33	3.33	3.33	2.83	2.33
74 – 76	C	4.00	3.00	3.00	2.50	2.00
70 – 73	C-	3.67	2.67	2.67	2.17	1.67
67 – 69	D+	3.33	2.33	2.33	1.83	1.33
64 – 66	D	3.00	2.00	2.00	1.50	1.00
60 – 63	D-	2.67	1.67	1.67	1.17	0.67
Below 60	F	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

WHS Grade Point Average Weighted Rank - pg 38

New Text

WHS Grade Point Average Weighted Rank

Numerical Range	Grade	AP	Honors	College Prep	Un-weighted
97-100	A+	5.33	4.83	4.33	4.33
93-96	A	5.00	4.50	4.00	4.00
90-92	A-	4.67	4.17	3.67	3.67
87-89	B+	4.33	3.83	3.33	3.33
83-86	B	4.00	3.50	3.00	3.00
80-82	B-	3.67	3.17	2.67	2.67
77-79	C+	3.33	2.83	2.33	2.33
73-76	C	3.00	2.50	2.00	2.00
70-72	C-	2.67	2.17	1.67	1.67
67-69	D+	2.33	1.83	1.33	1.33
63-66	D	2.00	1.50	1.00	1.00
60-62	D-	1.67	1.17	.67	.67
Below 60	F	0	0	0	0

College Entrance Exams - pg 38

Old Text

All four year colleges and some community colleges, technical schools and schools of nursing require entrance exams. It is the students' responsibility to arrange for taking the correct tests. Most college bound students take the PSAT exam in the fall of their junior year and SAT I, SAT II, Achievement and/or ACT exams in the spring of the same year. These tests may be repeated in the senior year. Questions regarding these tests should be directed to the counseling services department.

New Text

All four year colleges and some community colleges, technical schools, and schools of nursing require entrance exams. It is the students' responsibility to arrange for taking the correct tests. Most college bound students take the PSAT exam in the fall of their **junior** **sophomore** year and SAT I, SAT II, Achievement and/or ACT exams in the spring of the **same** **junior** year. These tests may be repeated in the senior year. Questions regarding these tests should be directed to the counseling services department.

Capstone Project - pg 41 - 42

Old Text

Students will work with an advisor to complete an independent project which will synthesize their learning from the electives in their career academy as well as demonstrate command of core 21st century skills in a real-world context.

As the capstone is an independent student project, the form and focus will vary greatly, however, all students must adhere to the following guidelines:

1. Students will create a proposal of the project dealing with one of the themes in their career pathway
2. Students will design and produce a rigorous project, which includes
 - a. A bibliography of 10-20 sources used in the creation of the project
 - b. A 3-4 page reflective paper that identifies how the project demonstrates proficiency of the core 21st century skills
3. Students will present the project to an audience consisting of teachers, administrators, parents, and community participants

Capstone Project - pg 41 - 42

New Text

Students will work with an advisor to complete an independent project which will synthesize their learning from the electives in their career academy as well as demonstrate command of core 21st century skills in a real-world context.

As the Capstone is an independent student project, the form and focus will vary greatly, however, all students must adhere to the following guidelines:

1. Students will create a proposal of the project dealing with one of the themes in their career pathway
2. Students will design and produce a rigorous project, which includes:
 - a. A bibliography of 10-20 sources used in the creation of the project,
 - b. A 3-4 page reflective paper that identifies how the project demonstrates proficiency of the core 21st century skills.
3. Students will present the project to an audience consisting of teachers, administrators, parents, and community participants.

To facilitate the successful completion of the Capstone Projects students will enroll in the following classes:

Junior Capstone Seminar	4th quarter	.25 credits
Senior Capstone Seminar	1st - 3rd quarter	.75 credits

Homework Policy pg 42

New Text

Homework Policy

	Post-Secondary Pathway	Pacing		Home work	Independent Learning		Summer work	
AP	Competitive four-year Colleges	Intense		***	**		*	
H	Four year colleges	Fast		**	*			
CP	Two/four year colleges, Technical Colleges	Moderate		*	*			

Highest expectation

**

High expectation

*

Expectation

Attendance Policy - pg 45

Old Text

According to state law, high schools are required to hold school for a minimum of 990 hours and 180 days a year. Regular attendance for *the entire school day* by a student is a primary requisite for learning.

If a student has more than six unexcused absences in a quarter then s/he will be considered an attendance failure and will receive an F* for that term unless extenuating circumstances exist. For classes that meet every other day, the fourth unexcused absence in a term will result in an F* for that term. If a student receives an F*, it represents a 59% or the grade they actually earned in the class if it is lower than 59%. Please contact your child's dean if you have further questions.

Due to a shortened fourth term graduating seniors with 5 unexcused absences will receive an attendance failure (F*).

Outside/non-school sponsored events, competitions, and extracurricular events are not considered an excused absence.

New Text

According to state law, high schools are required to hold school for a minimum of 990 hours and 180 days a year. Regular attendance for *the entire school day* by a student is a primary requisite for learning.

If a student has more than ~~six~~ ~~four~~ unexcused absences in a quarter, then s/he will be considered an attendance failure and will receive an F* for that term unless extenuating circumstances exist. For classes that meet every other day, the ~~fourth~~ ~~third~~ unexcused absence in a term will result in an F* for that term. If a student receives an F*, it represents a 59% or the grade they actually earned in the class if it is lower than 59%. Please contact your child's Dean if you have further questions.

Due to a shortened fourth term, graduating seniors with ~~5~~ ~~three~~ unexcused absences will receive an attendance failure (F*).

Outside/non-school sponsored events, competitions, and extracurricular events are not considered an excused absence.

Code of Conduct - pg 47

New Text

In every case of student misconduct for which suspension may be imposed, the principal, or their designee, shall exercise discretion in deciding the consequence for the offense. The principal shall consider ways to re-engage the student in learning and shall attempt to avoid long term suspension as a consequence until alternatives have been tried. These alternatives may include the use of evidence-based strategies and programs such as mediation, conflict resolution, restorative justice, and positive behavioral interventions and supports

Chemical Substance - pg 50

Old Text

Possession, use, sale or distribution of tobacco, drugs or alcohol in the school building, on school grounds, or at school sponsored activities is prohibited by state law (Chapter 71, Section 37H) and School Committee policy. Violators of this policy are liable to the appropriate penalties as outlined in Section 37H, which may include exclusion and/or expulsion.

New Text

Possession, use, sale or distribution of tobacco, **electronic smoking devices, vaping, or vaping paraphernalia,** drugs or alcohol in the school building, on school grounds, or at school sponsored activities is prohibited by state law (Chapter 71, Section 37H) and School Committee policy. Violators of this policy are liable to the appropriate penalties as outlined in Section 37H, which may include exclusion and/or expulsion.

Breath Alcohol Testing Policy & Procedure - pg 51

Old Text

Prior to entering the dance/Prom all students will be screened as follows:

1....

2. A trained school administrator will administer the breath testing device (AlcoBlow, AlcoHawk, etc.).

New Text

Prior to entering the dance/Prom **and leaving the dance/Prom** all students will be screened as follows:

1. ...
2. A trained school administrator will administer the breath testing device (AlcoBlow, AlcoHawk, etc.).

Tobacco Possession/Use Disciplinary Actions - pg 53

Old Text

Tobacco Possession Use Disciplinary Actions

Suspicion of Possession and/or Use of Tobacco Products/

- Involvement of a building administrator
- Student is subject to search by administration

Possession and/or Use of Tobacco Products may be subject to any of the following.

- All policies and consequences outlined in Weymouth Public Schools' *Smoke Free Schools* policy. (Page 11 Weymouth Public Schools Handbook)

As well as,

- Confiscation of any contraband
- Parent notification
- Independent Work Station
- External Suspension

New Text

Tobacco Possession/Electronic Smoking Devices and Paraphernalia** Use Disciplinary Actions**

*Suspicion of Possession and/or Use of Tobacco Products/**Electronic***

Smoking Devices and Paraphernalia

- Involvement of a building administrator
- Student is subject to search by administration

*Possession and/or Use of Tobacco Products/**Electronic Smoking Devices and Paraphernalia** may be subject to any of the following:*

- All policies and consequences outlined in Weymouth Public Schools' *Smoke Free Schools* policy. (Page 11 Weymouth Public Schools Handbook)

As well as,

- Confiscation of any contraband
- Parent notification
- Independent Work Station
- External Suspension

Expectation of Behavior at Extracurricular Events - pg 53

New Text

Expectation of Behavior at Extracurricular Events

Weymouth High School encourages all students to support our sports teams, our theatre company, our music and art program, and clubs at after school events. Students must attend school that day or have an excused absence in order to attend an after school event. Students in IWS are not allowed to attend any after school event on the day they serve IWS. Students who attend after school events are expected to behave in a positive manner. Any behavior that is deemed inappropriate towards a staff member, a member of an opposing team, the officials, the venue, or anyone attending the event may result in disciplinary action by Weymouth High School. This could include detention, IWS, out of school suspension and/or social probation, which can include suspension from future athletic/extracurricular events.

Student Parking Regulations - pg 56

Old Text

**Parking passes cost \$100, however those purchased on Feb 1st or after, will cost \$50 This applies to students without previous parking violations.*

New Text

**Parking passes cost \$100, however those purchased on Feb 1st or after, will cost ~~\$50~~ \$10 a month. This applies to students without previous parking violations.*

Disciplinary Code for Athletics and Extra-Curricular Activities - pg 59

Old Text

A Chemical Health Committee made up of the School Principal Athletic Director and Dean has been established to oversee the implementation of the disciplinary code.

When a student who participates in an extracurricular activity or athletics is reported to have been found in violation of the Disciplinary Code, the Chemical Health Committee will convene. The Chemical Health Committee will verify, and authenticate the reported information. Once the reported information, as it relates to a violation, is verified and deemed actionable, insofar as it requires a meeting with the student, the Chemical Health Committee will conduct a hearing to provide the student in question with due process prior to assigning any consequences. In each case, the student's parents or guardians will be invited to the hearing. Should the parent/guardian of the student(s) in question decide not to attend, for whatever reason, the Chemical Health Committee is authorized to conduct a hearing as needed without a parent or guardian in attendance. Due to the need to expedite this kind of hearing to avoid potential issues related to the forfeiture of an athletic contest, (see MIAA rules) the hearing will be scheduled at the earliest possible time, including during the course of the school day.

Alcohol, tobacco, or controlled substance violation: A student shall not, regardless of the quantity; use, consume, possess, buy, sell or give away any beverage containing alcohol, tobacco/tobacco-like or nicotine product, or controlled substance including marijuana, synthetics, steroids, or any other controlled substance. This policy includes products such as "NA or near beer".

Disciplinary Code for Athletics and Extra-Curricular Activities - pg 59

New Text

A Chemical Health Committee made up of the School Principal and/or Principal Designee, Athletic Director and Dean has been established to oversee the implementation of the disciplinary code. The committee could also include the School Resource Officer, School Health Official, Event Staff, and/or Faculty Member.

When a student who participates in an extracurricular activity or athletics is reported to have been found in violation of the Disciplinary Code, the Chemical Health Committee will convene. The Chemical Health Committee will verify, and authenticate the reported information. Once the reported information, as it relates to a violation, is verified and deemed actionable, insofar as it requires a meeting with the student, the Chemical Health Committee will conduct a hearing to provide the student in question with due process prior to assigning any consequences. In each case, the student's parents or guardians will be invited to the hearing. Should the parent/guardian of the student(s) in question decide not to attend, for whatever reason, the Chemical Health Committee is authorized to conduct a hearing as needed without a parent or guardian in attendance. Due to the need to expedite this kind of hearing to avoid potential issues related to the forfeiture of an athletic contest, (see MIAA rules) the hearing will be scheduled at the earliest possible time, including during the course of the school day.

Alcohol, tobacco, electronic smoking device (vaping) or controlled substance violation: A student shall not, regardless of the quantity; use, consume, possess, buy, sell or give away any beverage containing alcohol, tobacco/tobacco-like or nicotine product, or controlled substance including marijuana, synthetics, steroids, or any other controlled substance. This policy includes products such as "NA or near beer".

Disciplinary Code for Athletics and Extra-Curricular Activities - pg 60

Old Text

First Violation: When the Chemical Health Committee confirms, following an opportunity for the student to be heard, that a violation has occurred, the student shall lose eligibility for the next 50% of consecutive athletic/club/extracurricular events in which the student is a participant. (e.g., student in violation right before first game of 20 game basketball season...student will miss 10 games). The possibility of dismissal from the team or club is also at the discretion of the principal/advisor/coach. This information will be shared with the student and parent/guardian at a Chemical Health Violation meeting, facilitated by the Athletic Director and School Administration. The student must participate in and complete an approved chemical dependency program or treatment program at his/her personal expense to be considered for reinstatement to the team or club. The 50% will carry over to the next athletic/club/extracurricular activity in which the student will be involved. It is recommended that the student be allowed to remain at the activity/practice for the purpose of rehabilitation.

New Text

First Violation: When the Chemical Health Committee confirms, following an opportunity for the student to be heard, that a violation has occurred, the student will either lose eligibility for the next 50% of consecutive athletic/club/extracurricular events in which the student is a participant. (e.g., student in violation right before first game of 20 game basketball season...student will miss 10 games) or will lose eligibility for the next 25% of consecutive athletic/club/extracurricular events in which the student is a participant and will enroll in the DART program offered by the Weymouth Police Department. The possibility of dismissal from the team or club is also at the discretion of the principal/advisor/coach. This information will be shared with the student and parent/guardian at a Chemical Health Violation meeting, facilitated by the Athletic Director and School Administration. The student must participate in and complete an approved chemical dependency program or treatment program at his/her personal expense to be considered for reinstatement to the team or club. The 50% or 25% will carry over to the next athletic/club/extracurricular activity in which the student will be involved. It is recommended that the student be allowed to remain at the activity/practice for the purpose of rehabilitation.

Disciplinary Code for Athletics and Extra-Curricular Activities - pg 60

Old text

Second Violation: When the Chemical Health Committee confirms, following an opportunity for the student to be heard, that a violation has occurred during the same calendar year, the student shall be dismissed from the team, club, or extracurricular activity. The student will not be able to participate in any club, athletic team or any other extracurricular activity for one full school year. The possibility of dismissal from the team or club is also at the discretion of the principal/advisor/coach. This information will be shared with the student and parent/guardian at a Chemical Health Violation meeting, facilitated by the Athletic Director and School Administration. It is recommended that the student be allowed to remain at the activity/practice for the purpose of rehabilitation.

New Text

Second Violation: When the Chemical Health Committee confirms, following an opportunity for the student to be heard, that a violation has occurred during the same calendar year, the student shall be dismissed from the team, club, or extracurricular activity. The student will not be able to participate in any club, athletic team or any other extracurricular activity for one full school year. The student shall lose eligibility for the next consecutive interscholastic contests (regular season and tournament) totaling 60% of all interscholastic contests in that sport. The student must enroll in an approved chemical dependency program or treatment program at his/her personal expense to be considered for reinstatement to the team or club. The possibility of dismissal from the team or club is also at the discretion of the principal/advisor/coach. This information will be shared with the student and parent/guardian at a Chemical Health Violation meeting, facilitated by the Athletic Director and School Administration. It is recommended that the student be allowed to remain at the activity/practice for the purpose of rehabilitation.

Disciplinary Code for Athletics and Extra-Curricular Activities - pg 59

New Text:

**In every case of a Chemical Health Violation, the Hearing Committee has jurisdiction to impose a greater penalty based on the findings presented at the hearing.*

WPS Responsible Use Guidelines High School Grades 9 - 12

Brett Lindholm, Director Educational Technology

Additional Edits

- All years/dates will be updated to reflect the 2018-2019 school year
- All “he/she”, “he or she” have been changed to “their” or “student”