

LqPV Middle School
2860 291st Ave
Madison, MN 56256
320-752-4200



LqPV Middle School Staff

Principal	Scott Sawatzky	
Teachers	Leanne Stoeckman Janelle Stender Pete McGinty Linda Stromswold Heidi Tosel	
Art	Dan Ludvigson	
Band	Dawn Mork & Kim Omland	
Music	Sue Tillma	
Physical Education	Barry Besonen	
Adaptive Physical Education	Jennifer Tostenson	
Special Education	Angie Comes	
Speech Clinician	Amanda Lowry	
Occupational Therapist	Lori Larson	
ESL/LEP	Georgette Jones	
Psychologist	Andrea Hagen	
Social Worker	Emily Schlieman	
Child Guide	Pat Swenson & Kay Thole	
Secretaries	Priscilla Rotunda & Kathy Nesvold	
District Nurse	Renaee Schreck	
SPED Paraprofessionals	Linda Ehrenberg Linda Lemcke	Pat Redepinning
Library	Cari Weeding	
Food Service	Camey Maland Tere Kenyon	Penny Mork
Custodians	Terry Swenson Allen Jensen Aggie Erdmann Tere Kenyon	Dave Gronholz Richard Larson Garold Van Winkle

Lac qui Parle Valley School District Staff

Superintendent	Brad Madsen & Renae Tostenson	320-752-4205
Community Education	Steve Sterud	877-889-4153
Technology Coordinator	David Raddatz	320-752-4200
Transportation Director	Kristin Pierce	320-289-1871

**LAC QUI PARLE VALLEY MIDDLE SCHOOL, INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT #2853
POLICIES AND PROCEDURES**

The focus of the school system is on the student. His or her educational development is the central concern in establishing Board policy and administrative regulation.

Every effort shall be made to work toward the established State of Philosophy and Educational Goals of the district within the resources available to carry out these programs.

ACTIVITY FEES

	<u>Grades</u> <u>9-12</u>	<u>Grades</u> <u>7-8</u>
*Football	\$90.00	\$65.00
*Volleyball	\$80.00	\$60.00
Cross Country	\$80.00	\$60.00
Tennis	\$80.00	\$60.00
*Basketball	\$80.00	\$60.00
*Wrestling	\$80.00	\$60.00
Danceline	\$80.00	\$60.00
Cheerleading	\$80.00	\$60.00
*Baseball	\$80.00	\$60.00
*Softball	\$80.00	\$60.00
*Track	\$80.00	\$60.00
Golf	\$80.00	\$60.00
Knowledge Bowl	\$35.00	\$25.00
Speech	\$35.00	\$25.00
Plays	\$35.00	\$25.00
Driver Education	\$230.00	

**Gate Admission Charged*

Instrument Rental		
Semester	-	\$40.00
Year	-	\$70.00

ADMISSIONS AND FEES – (Extra-Curricular Events)

	<u>Gate</u>	10 Punch <u>Ticket</u>	Season <u>Pass</u>
Student	\$4.00	\$20.00	\$30.00
Adult	\$6.00	\$50.00	\$80.00
Senior Citizens (62 & over)	\$4.00		
Family Pass (<i>Parents and children age 0 – grade 12</i>)	- \$150.00		

ARRIVAL TIME

School buses run on a scheduled route and try to maintain as regular a pick up and drop off schedule as possible. The student arrival time at the school will begin at 8:10 a.m. for most students. This includes bus riders, walkers, and students who are driven to school. **PLEASE DO NOT DROP OFF STUDENTS BEFORE 8:00 – WE DO NOT PROVIDE SUPERVISION FOR STUDENTS PRIOR TO THIS TIME.** Shuttle buses will transport students from Appleton and Madison at 8:00 a.m. and from Milan at 7:40 a.m. Classes start at 8:20 a.m. Shuttle buses will transport students back to their respective transfer site at 3:15 p.m. Buses then leave for their routes at 3:30 p.m.

Assignment Books

Assignment Books are used in grades 5 – 6 at LqPV Middle School. They serve the very functional role of recording daily work and activities, assignments, and various notes. They also serve to develop the life-long skill of organization and the characteristic of responsibility. We encourage parents to use them to communicate with teachers and hope to enlist your support in utilizing them daily. Assignment books are given to students at the beginning of the school year. The cost for the school year is \$5.00. If a student loses his/her assignment book during the year, he/she will be asked to replace it.

Attendance Policy

Absence from school can never really be made up. Success at school requires, like success on any job, promptness, responsibility and dependability. The school holds firmly to the belief that the student must not only complete school work satisfactorily, but also maintain a good attendance record.

Absences/tardies will be excused by parents/guardian contacting the school. Parents/Guardians must call or notify the school office prior to 9:00 A.M. on the morning of the day the student will be absent or tardy in order for the tardy or absence to be excused. The school will contact the parent/guardian if a call or notification is not received by this time to ensure that the student is safe. However, the absence or tardy will be recorded as unexcused. The school reserves the right to verify all calls and notes.

Reasons for absence which may be considered are:

- illness or hospitalization with parent note and/or medical verification.
- religious observances
- death in the family or funeral
- school activities
- family trips (only when advance notice is given to the principal)
- professional health and legal appointments
- a doctor's recommendation that the student should not attend school during illness

Some reasons which may not be considered are:

- oversleeping - hair appointments
- suspension - undocumented absences
- work - truancy/habitual truant/continuing truant

It is the student's responsibility to check with each instructor for make-up work the day after an absence. (Parents may wish to contact the office regarding homework assignments. These assignments may then be picked up after noon on the day of the absence.) All work missed or assigned because of an absence must be completed, or the student will receive an incomplete grade for the

course. Instructors will give assistance, necessary to complete the work missed or assigned, to students who need help because of excused absences.

Students are not to leave school because of illness or any other reason without reporting to school personnel in the nurse's office or principal's office. Students who fail to report will be considered unexcused.

It shall be the policy of the LqPV K-6 Public Schools to permit a student to accumulate without penalty a total of ten (10) days absences.

These absences are not approved skip days, but are to be used for illnesses, medical or other professional appointments, serious personal or family problems, or the death of a close personal relative. A student requiring additional absences may appeal to the principal for an extension.

Five (5) tardies will count as one day absent.

Excessive Absences - School administrators will review Student attendance reports. The following steps will be taken based on the total number of absences:

- Five (5) absences: Parents will be notified of days absent and reminded of the need for regular attendance by letter or telephone.
- Ten (10) absences: Parents will be notified, in writing, of absences and of the need for medical or legal verification for all additional absences.
- **Eleven (11) absences: A mandatory meeting with the building principal and parents/guardians to discuss the possibility of a court referral and/or retention.**

Attendance, and the reasons for the absences will be considered with other factors including grades, and performance on standardized tests, when determining grade-level promotions. Students away from school on school business will not be counted absent.

Planned Absences - Absences for reasons other than illness or death in the family, are strongly discouraged. If your child must be absent for an extended period or for an emergency reason, notify the school that your child will be absent. If time allows, your child will receive a form to take to his/her teachers, notifying them of the expected absence and requesting homework assignments.

Unexcused Absences - A student who is absent from school without lawful excuse (unexcused absence) for three school days is considered "continuing truant". After three unexcused absences a student may be referred to the County Truancy Prevention Program.

A student who is absent from school without lawful excuse (unexcused absence) for seven school days is considered "habitual truant". Cases involving habitual truancy will be turned over to the county attorney's office.

Educational Neglect: As required by current statutes, regulations of the State Department of Education, and the school board, students shall be in attendance each day school is in session. It is considered educational neglect if a child age eleven or younger to age seven is absent from school without lawful excuse for seven days in a school year. This also applies to child under the age of seven who is registered for school, unless the parent officially withdraws the student. The school is legally mandated to report educational neglect to the county child protective services.

Band

Band lessons are an option for LqPV students in grades 5 and 6.

Birthdays

Birthdays are special occasions when parents may send treats to school for the entire class. If you would like to send a treat, please comply with Minnesota State Health Guidelines which state that such treats must be purchased from a bakery or store and all candy must be individually wrapped. Homemade treats are not allowed. Please have an accurate count of your child's classmates before bringing/sending treats, and *please check with the teacher to see if this is a classroom procedure.*

Birthday invitations are very special to receive. We ask your cooperation in not sending birthday invitations to school to be handed out. We have many disappointed children when invitations are handed out and they are not included.

Boxtops for Education

LqPV Middle School students collect Boxtops for Education from General Mills products. We also collect **pop tabs, Campbell's Soup Labels, Our Family labels, empty ink-jet and laser printer cartridges, old cell phones, and Kemps "Give 'em Five" Milk Lids and Labels showing the cow in a graduation cap.** Also, we benefit from charge purchases you put on your Target Guest Card. These funds help to pay for the little "extras" that make our school an even better place for our students.

Bus Service

While law requires School Districts to furnish transportation, the Board of Education believes that parents are responsible for students until such time as the student boards the bus in the morning and after the student leaves the bus at the end of the school day. It is assumed that bus drivers will use good judgment when dropping students off during times of inclement weather.

In view of the fact that a bus is an extension of the classroom, the Board of Education believes that reasonable standards for behavior be established between the administration and bus driver. Students who become serious disciplinary problems will have their riding privileges suspended.

Any child changing his/her way of going home must bring a note home indicating the change of plans, or call the secretary indicating the change. Otherwise, children will be sent home in the usual manner. For example, a child who usually rides the bus will be sent home on the bus if there is no note or phone call. If a child plans to have a birthday party after school at his/her home, the parent/guardian needs to contact the driver of the school bus ahead of time. A note needs to be sent to the driver also.

STUDENT TRANSPORTATION SAFETY POLICY

I. PLAN FOR STUDENT TRANSPORTATION SAFETY TRAINING

A. School Bus Safety Week

The first week of school is designated as school bus safety week.

B. Student Training

The School District shall provide students enrolled in grades kindergarten through 12 with school bus safety training. Students in grades K – 3 will receive training at least twice during the instructional year. The training shall be results-oriented and shall consist of both classroom instruction and practical training using a school bus. Upon completing the training, a student shall be able to demonstrate knowledge and understanding of at least the following competencies and concepts:

1. transportation by school bus is a privilege not a right;
2. district policies for student conduct and school bus safety;
3. appropriate conduct while on the bus;
4. the danger zones surrounding a school bus;
5. procedures for safely boarding and leaving a school bus;
6. procedures for safe vehicle lane crossing; and

7. school bus evacuation and other emergency procedures

Student school bus safety training shall commence during school bus safety week. All students who are transported by school bus and are enrolled during the first week of school must demonstrate achievement of the school bus safety training competencies by the end of the third week of school. Students who enroll in a school after the first week of school and are transported by school bus shall undergo school bus safety training and demonstrate achievement of the school bus safety competencies within three weeks of the first day of attendance. The School District may deny transportation to a student who fails to demonstrate competencies, unless the student is unable to achieve the competencies due to a disability.

The School District's curriculum for transportation is maintained and available to review in the office of the Superintendent.

II. CONDUCT ON SCHOOL BUSES AND CONSEQUENCES FOR MISBEHAVIOR

Riding the school bus is a privilege, not a right. Students are expected to follow the same behavioral standards while riding school buses as are expected on school property or at school activities, functions or events. All school rules are in effect while a student is riding the bus or at the bus stop. Consequences for school bus/bus stop misconduct will be imposed by the Building Principal. In addition, all school bus/bus stop misconduct will be reported to the District's Transportation Safety Director. Serious misconduct is reported to the Department of Public Safety and to local law enforcement.

A. School Bus and Bus Stop Rules

The School District school bus safety rules are to be posted on every bus. If these rules are broken, the School District's discipline procedures are to be followed. Consequences are progressive and may include suspension of bus privileges. It is the school driver's responsibility to report unacceptable behavior to the School District's Transportation Office/School Office

B. Rules at the Bus Stop

1. Get to your bus stop 5 minutes before your scheduled pick up time. The school bus driver will not wait for late students.
2. Respect the property of others while waiting at your bus stop.
3. Keep your arms, legs and belongings to yourself.
4. Use appropriate language
5. Stay away from the street, road or highway when waiting for the bus. Wait until the bus stops before approaching the bus.
6. After getting off the bus, move away from the bus.
7. If you must cross the street, always cross in front of the bus where the driver can see you. Wait for the driver to signal to you before crossing the street.
8. No fighting, harassment, intimidation or horseplay.
9. No use of alcohol, tobacco or drugs.

C. Rules on the Bus.

1. Immediately follow the directions of the driver.
2. Sit in your seat facing forward.
3. Talk quietly and use appropriate language.
4. Keep all parts of your body inside the bus.
5. Keep your arms, legs and belongings to yourself.
6. No fighting, harassment, intimidation or horseplay.
7. Do not throw any object.
8. No use of tobacco, alcohol, or drugs.
9. Do not bring any weapon or dangerous objects on the school bus.
10. Do not damage the school bus.

D. Consequences

Consequences for school bus/bus stop misconduct will apply to regular and late routes. Decisions regarding a student's ability to ride the bus in connection with co-curricular and extra-curricular events (for example, field trips or competitions) will be the sole discretion of the School District. Parents or guardians will be notified of any suspension of bus privileges.

1. Middle School (5-6)

1st offense - written warning

2nd offense - 3 school day suspension from riding the bus/meeting with parent

3rd offense - 5 school day suspension from riding the bus/meeting with parent

4th offense - 10 school day suspension from riding the bus/meeting with parent

5th offense - suspended from riding the bus for the remainder of the school year

2. Other Discipline

Based on the severity of a student's conduct, more serious consequences may be imposed at any time.

Depending on the nature of the offense, consequences such as suspension or expulsion from school may also result from school bus/bus stop misconduct.

3. Records

Records of school bus/bus stop misconduct will be forwarded to the individual school building and will be retained in the same manner as other student discipline records. Reports of serious misconduct will be provided to the Department of Public Safety. Records may also be maintained in the transportation office.

4. Vandalism/Bus Damage

Students damaging school buses will be responsible for the damages. Failure to pay damages (or make arrangements to pay) within two weeks may result in the loss of bus privileges until damages are paid.

5. Criminal Conduct

In cases involving criminal conduct (for example, assault, weapons, possession or vandalism), the Superintendent, local law enforcement officials and the Department of Public Safety will be informed.

III. PARENT AND GUARDIAN INVOLVEMENT

A. Parent/Guardian Responsibilities for Transportation Safety

1. Become familiar with District rules and policies, regulations and principles of school bus safety.
2. Assist students in understanding safety rules and encourage them to abide by them.
3. Recognize their responsibilities for the actions of their students.
4. Support safe riding practices and reasonable discipline efforts.
5. When appropriate, assist students in safely crossing local streets before boarding and after leaving the bus.
6. Support procedures for emergency evacuation, and procedures in emergencies as set up by the School District.
7. Respect the rights and privileges of others.
8. Communicate safety concerns to school administrators.
9. Monitor bus stops, if possible.
10. Support all efforts to improve school bus safety.

B. Parent and Guardian Notification

A copy of the School District school bus and bus stop rules will be provided to each family at the beginning of the school year or when a child enrolls, if this occurs during the school year. Parents and guardians are asked to review the rules with their students.

Breakfast Program

It is important for students to have a nutritious breakfast to maximize their learning potential. LqPV Middle School offers free breakfast for students at the start of each day. The menu for the breakfast is listed on the back of the Lunch Menu that is sent home at the end of each month in our newsletter.

Calendar

At the front of this handbook you will find a school calendar. The calendar lists the days school is in session and also makeup dates in case of emergency school closings. Please post as a reference, and note *it is subject to change*, in which case you would be notified.

Choir

Choir is an option for LqPV Middle School students in grades 5 and 6.

Clothing (see Dress Code)

We enlist parents support in making certain our students are properly dressed for current weather conditions. We also ask that you follow our dress code in helping students dress appropriately in the school setting.

Class Lists

One of the biggest tasks our staff will do is preparing class lists for next year. A tremendous amount of thought and energy goes into this lengthy process. Classroom teachers meet many times amongst themselves, with specialists, special education teachers, the social worker, and the principal to discuss appropriate placement of students. Their goal is to develop classes that will grow into positive learning environments for all students. Things that are crucial to consider as we build those class lists include, but are not limited to:

- A balance of boys and girls;
- A blend of abilities;
- Careful consideration of student personalities and behaviors;
- A mixture of students from classrooms; and
- Placing students who work well together as learners, which does not necessarily mean they are friends.

Most parents do not request teachers; however, we realize that parents/guardians know their child better than anyone. With respect to this, we have developed a process for providing your input to this process. Please follow the steps below:

- 1) Use the PARENT INPUT FOR STUDENT PLACEMENT form. You can pick one up at either office or request one via mail.
- 2) Use a separate form for each child.
- 3) Only these forms will be accepted. Please do not use handwritten notes or letters.
- 4) Do not indicate teacher's names on the forms.
- 5) Return the form to the Appleton Office by April 30, 2004.

As mentioned earlier, the process of class formation is a very thoughtful one. You can rest assured that the professionals developing these classes are highly skilled people whom you can trust. Also, please realize that teaching assignments can change over the course of a summer.

Conferences

Conferences are typically held following the completion of first quarter and the reception of student report cards. This typically falls somewhere around early to mid-November. Your support at conferences sends a powerful message to your son and daughter that school and learning is important.

Curriculum

All students receive instruction in these core subjects: Language Arts (reading, writing, spelling, handwriting), Mathematics, Social Studies, Science, and Health. In addition, specialists in the following areas provide instruction: Physical Education, Music, and Art. Students have computer experience both in lab settings and in the classroom. The emphasis is on integrating computer use with subject area curriculum, which enables the computer to be used as a tool to help students learn. Our local school district's curriculum aligns with the Minnesota Department of Education's statewide standards, which comply with federal standards.

Data Privacy

Data Privacy Laws prohibit us from releasing the name, telephone number, or address of any student or staff member for any reason. As well, general information regarding students other than your own child cannot be given out. Please respect the law and other families' rights to privacy by not asking questions regarding behavior, consequences, and other confidential information.

Discipline

Our school discipline plan intends to protect and nurture the rights of our students to physical, social, mental, and emotional growth. Actions of individual students will not be allowed to limit one's own or the educational growth of others. Maintaining an effective learning environment requires the combined effort and partnership of students, parents, teachers, school administrators and other school staff involved in the educational process. All of these persons are citizens in our school community. All students have individual rights that go hand in hand with responsibilities. When we respect the rights of others, we preserve our individual rights. A plan is detailed below listing the philosophy, rights, expectations, consequences, and major offenses. Each family is asked to read and discuss the plan and sign (student and parent) stating that they support the discipline plan. *Please look for this in your summer mailing.*

LqPV MIDDLE SCHOOL DISCIPLINE POLICY

Philosophy:

- Our school discipline plan intends to protect and nurture the rights of our students to physical, social, mental, and emotional growth.
- Actions of individual students will not be allowed to limit one's own or the educational growth of others.
- Maintaining an effective learning environment requires the combined effort and partnership of students, parents, teachers, school administrators, and other school staff. All of these persons are citizens in our school community.
- All students have individual rights that go hand in hand with responsibilities. When we respect the rights of others, we preserve our individual rights.

Rights:

1. Every citizen deserves to be treated with respect.
2. Every citizen is entitled to learn and teach without interference or distraction, with fair assessment of progress.
3. Each citizen has the right to feel safe and secure within the school and on the school grounds.

Expectations:

Building

- Walk quietly in the hallways
- Speak with an appropriate, inside voice
- Keep hands, feet, and objects to yourself
- Use restrooms, sinks, and drinking fountains appropriately
- Respect and care for each other and our school building

Classroom

- Be an active, participating listener
- Show respect to other people, their property, and their ideas
- Do your best work and try challenging activities
- Complete assignments on time as required

Playground/Athletic Fields

- Use sportsmanship
- Play safely and follow playground rules
- Be kind and respect other people and their property
- Respect the authority of the supervisors

Lunchroom

- Stand quietly in line, single file, along the wall

- Eat your meal appropriately and clean up your area
- Respect the authority of the supervisors

Assemblies

- Sit silently when the signal is given to begin
- Watch, listen, and participate in the presentation
- Keep hands, feet, and objects to yourself
- Following the presentation remain seated until dismissed

Bus & Bus Lines

- Stay in line and wait your turn to board the bus
- Respect the authority of the bus drivers, supervisors, and monitors
- Stay seated while the bus is moving
- Keep hands, feet, and objects to yourself
- Respect other people and their property

Consequences:

It is a minor offense when an expectation is not met. When a staff member observes a student breaking an expectation, the inappropriate behavior is recorded and the following consequence will be given:

- | | |
|----------------------|---|
| - First offense | Verbal Warning |
| - Second offense | Classroom consequence and parent contacted |
| - Continued offense | Possible school detention/sanctions and parent contacted |
| - After 3 detentions | Possible In-school suspension/sanctions and meeting with all stakeholders |

Major Offenses:

- | | |
|---|----------------------------------|
| - Fighting or threatening another person | - Sexual harassment |
| - Swearing, vulgar language, or obscene gestures | - Ethnic or racial harassment |
| - Damaging property (school or personal property) | - Blatant disrespect |
| - Continued misbehavior in school | - Stealing |
| - Excessive incomplete assignments | - Unsafe bus behavior |
| - Carrying a weapon or look-alike weapon | - Disrespect of student monitors |

When a staff member observes a student who is involved in a major offense, the inappropriate behavior is documented. All major offenses will be brought to the attention of the principal, and the parent(s) will be notified. Consequences will be determined based on the severity of the offense and frequency of the misbehavior. Out of school suspension/dismissal of one day or more may be enforced.

Pupil Fair Dismissal Act

Should a student's consequences result in either suspension, expulsion, or exclusion, the Pupil Fair Dismissal Act establishes grounds and procedures for the suspension, exclusion and expulsion of students and will be exclusively followed.

- **Suspension** is an action taken by the school administration which prohibits a student from attending school for a period of no more than five school days. Each suspension includes a readmission plan and alternative programs to be implemented during or following readmission.
- **Exclusion** is an action taken by the school board to prohibit enrollment or reenrollment of a student for a period not extending beyond the school year.
- **Expulsion** is an action taken by the school board to prohibit an enrolled student from further attendance for a period up to but not extending beyond one year.

(This is a summary of the Pupil Fair Dismissal Act. A complete description is available by contacting the school office.)

Dress Code

LqPV Middle School encourages students to respect themselves and others. We require that students' dress habits reflect this feeling; therefore, we have established a dress code to protect your child's image and the rights of others. Shorts and shirts worn to school should be an appropriate length (SHORTS AND SKIRTS NO SHORTER THAN

KNEE LENGTH. NO WAISTLINE SHOWING, i.e.- shirt and waistline must overlap. SHIRT NECKLINES NO LOWER THAN TWO INCHES BELOW THE NECKLINE i.e.- top of sternum bone). The dress code will include physical education class. T-shirts or other shirts and caps with alcohol, tobacco or drug logos or unfavorable sayings and graphics are not allowed to be worn in school. Caps and other headgear are not acceptable pieces of clothing during the school day. As a student matures and progresses through the grade levels, dressing appropriately becomes more potentially problematic. We simply ask your help in assisting your child to make common sense, appropriate clothing choices.

Drug-Free Environment

The LqPV Middle School building and grounds is a drug-free environment. Tobacco, alcohol, and chemical use are strictly prohibited on school grounds. This includes all activities before, during, and after school and includes all students, siblings, parents, and staff. **Parent chaperones that accompany classes on field trips must adhere to these policies as well.**

Early Dismissal

The directive to close schools comes from the office of the Superintendent of Schools. The following stations announce school closings:

WCCO-TV	Alexandria	(Channel 7 & 4)
KSAX-TV	Alexandria	(Channel 42)
KARE-TV	Minneapolis	(Channel 11)
KLQP-FM	Madison	(92.1)
KSTP		(Channel 5)
KMSP – FOX 9		
KDMA-AM, KMGM-FM	Montevideo	(1460 and 105.5)
WCCO-AM	Minneapolis	(83.0)
KQIC-FM	Willmar	(102.5)

- www.lqpv.org

If school is dismissed early, make certain your child has a safe place to go in case you are not home. Do not call the school unless it is an extreme emergency. Parents may pick up only their own children. Please send the name, address and phone number of someone that your child can stay with in town if the need arises.

Emergency Phone Numbers

Please fill out the Emergency Card provided to you at the beginning of the school year with the name, address and phone number of a relative or friend in case we cannot reach you in an emergency. If you have a regular schedule of activities, please let us know your schedule along with the phone numbers where you can be reached. *It is critical that this record be kept current. Please let the office know if there are any changes or additions during the year.*

Field Trips

Field trips are an important part of our educational program. Through these experiences, students see what they are learning in the classroom applied to real life. It is also a time to develop skills in courtesy, safety, and good citizenship. The students will either walk to the local sites or be transported in our buses. If your child's class is planning a field trip, you will be asked to sign a permission slip to allow your child to go with the group. There may also be a small cost. We encourage all students to attend field trips. All students not receiving parental permission to participate with their class should plan on attending school that day where alternative grade level activities will be provided. Parents are encouraged to join the group if space allows (Please check with the teacher). Parents must pay their own way into an area that charges a fee. For liability reasons we must limit chaperones to parents or guardians. Preschool children are not allowed to attend the trip. Other relatives (such as a grandparent) would only be used when there is not a sufficient number of parents/guardians. Our insurance only covers students who are riding on the bus, so all students must use the bus or school vehicle for transportation on a field trip. If you are not chosen to chaperone, we ask that you do not drive to the location of the field trip on your own to be with your child. The teachers have divided their students into small groups of students with an adult chaperone. It is highly beneficial to the students to remain with their peers and benefit from the teacher-directed activities

Fire Drill/Emergency Procedures

State law requires schools to have five drills each school year. If a fire emergency or other emergency requiring evacuation does occur, students have to evacuate at that moment. Students may not have time to put on coats or jackets.

Game Boys, Hand-Held CD Players, Cell Phones, Other Electronic Devices/Games

Gameboys, hand-held CD Players, handheld electronic games, cell phones, remote control vehicles and similar toys *are not recommended in school*. These items have proven to be very disruptive, troublesome and have contributed a great deal to inappropriate behaviors and discipline... even with the promise to be kept away, not used on the bus, shared with another student, etc. The school will not be responsible for these items if they are damaged, lost, or stolen.

Going Home With a Friend

To avoid communication problems between home and school, we require a written, dated note (signed by a parent) if a child is to go home with someone else. "On the spot" play dates, sleepovers, etc. coordinate among students are not permitted.

HHealth Services

A licensed school nurse and two health assistants provide first aid care for students and staff, ongoing vision and hearing screenings and referrals, and medication administration.

Medications—State law sets standards for dispensing medication within the school. Before a medication can be dispensed at school, we must have a written order from a physician including:

1. Student's name
2. Name of medication
3. Diagnosis (the reason the medication is needed, and why it is needed during the school hours)
4. Time of administration
5. Route and dosage of medication to be administered
6. Possible side effects
7. Termination date for administration

Health office personnel are not allowed to dispense any medication without the physician's order. This includes over-the-counter medications (i.e., Tylenol, cold medications, etc.). The parent must also sign this authorization. Please contact the school office for a copy of this form.

If your child must have medication of any type given during school hours, you may complete the physician's order as outlined above, or you may come to school to give the medication to your child at the appropriate time(s).

If your child has a health condition or is on medication at home, please let us know in order for us to best serve his/her health needs. The school nurse will complete an emergency care plan (if needed) or individualized health plan to assure the health and safety of your child while in school or on a field trip. (This would include students who have diabetes, seizure disorders, asthma, bee sting allergies, etc.)

Illness—Many students and parents are frequently concerned about when students should stay home or attend school. General Practice:

- If the student has had a fever of 100 degrees or more, the student should stay home for **24 hours after the temperature returns to normal.**
- If the student has vomited or had diarrhea, the student should stay home until **24 hours after the last episode.**
- If the student has any rash that may be disease-related, or you do not know the cause, check with your family physician before sending the student to school.
- If the student is ill, please call the school daily to report the illness.

When your child develops a temperature above normal or shows other symptoms of illness, parents will be contacted so he/she can be picked up. If the parent cannot be reached, information provided on the Emergency Card will be used. Please contact the school to update this information if there are changes in home or work phone numbers.

Immunizations—State law provides for compulsory immunizations for all new students entering Minnesota schools. All children must be adequately immunized against polio, diphtheria, tetanus, whooping cough, measles, and mumps. Five DPT, four Polio, one MMR, and three Hepatitis B immunizations are required. A second MMR is required before entering grade 7. Verification of these immunizations is required previous to enrollment. Your child **will not** be able to attend school this fall unless his/her immunization record is complete. If you have any questions, please contact the school nurse.

Head Lice Management

Students found to have live lice in their hair will be sent home and parents will be requested to shampoo their hair with an appropriate lice killing shampoo product and remove all nit eggs before readmission to school. Once head lice have been diagnosed or discovered on your child, it is important to respond quickly so that your child misses a minimal amount of school, and so the spread of lice to others can be prevented. The procedures are as follows:

- A. The School Nurse will check for evidence of live lice and/or nit eggs when students have observable problems with their hair (i.e. itching, scaling, dry scalp, dandruff, etc.)
- B. Lice checks will occur in the Nurse's Office when done individually or in the classroom when the entire class is checked.
- C. Each lice check will be recorded, noting the date, time, student(s) and results on a flow sheet in the Nurse's Office.
- D. If live lice and/or viable nit eggs are found by the nurse, the student's parent(s) will be contacted and the student will be sent home for treatment. Lice treatment procedures will be sent home with the student.
- E. All students returning to school from treatment at home will be checked by the school nurse on duty before going back to class. Results of this check will follow the above policy.
- F. Hair will be checked on day 7, 14, 21 and 28 following initial treatment to prevent reinfestation.
- G. A classroom check will be initiated whenever there is lice found on one of the students in that classroom or requested by the teacher.

Homework

Research tells us that homework not only reinforces learning but helps teach students the life-long skill of organization and develops responsibility. Homework assignments vary from teacher to teacher. Some homework consists of completing assignments that were not finished during the school day. Other homework may include special projects that relate to a unit of study or reinforces a skill worked on at school. All homework is meant to reinforce and enrich a student's learning experience. It is natural to expect homework to increase as your child becomes older.

Homework during an absence: When your child has an extended illness and you want to pick up homework, please notify the teacher before classes begin in the morning. This allows time for the teacher to prepare the assignments. The homework can be picked up in the office at the end of the day or sent home with another student.

Insurance

Insurance information is given to each family at the beginning of the school year. The service is provided through a private agency for your convenience. It is completely optional.

Internet Access

Teachers will provide instruction and guidance on acceptable use of the Internet to all students. The Internet is a teaching tool, and students will be using it to access online reference materials, such as encyclopedias, atlases, magazines, and educational sites to complete assignments. Inappropriate use of the Internet may result in suspension of computer privileges and/or other disciplinary action. Parents may request that their child not use the Internet by notifying the school.

Library

Students at LqPV Middle School have regularly scheduled library times. Please help children to remember and care for library materials. We hope to develop a life-long interest in reading, and a positive library experience is one piece to this puzzle. We strongly encourage children to check out materials at their reading level and also encourage parents to take an interest in these materials too. Reading to and with children is one of the best things a parent can do to foster growth.

Lock Down (Safety) Drills

We will conduct five state required drills each school year.

Lost and Found

If your child is missing an article of clothing, PLEASE CHECK THE LOST AND FOUND by each office or have the student check. A few suggestions to help keep track of your child's clothing are:

- Clearly label your child's coat, hats, boots, mittens, etc. with his/her full name and grade.

- ☛ When an article is lost, don't let time elapse before trying to locate it. Check the lost and found at the school to see if the item has been turned in.
- ☛ Even if the child has searched, if you are in the school it might be worth your effort in giving the lost and found a look over (sometimes a second pair of eyes is helpful!).

Lunch

A well-balanced hot meal is served each day under the direction of our head cooks. Cost of a daily meal is \$1.85. Students may bring their own lunch instead of eating hot lunch served in school. Breakfast will be served every morning from 8:10-8:25 a.m. for students desiring to eat. Breakfast is free to all students. Cartons of milk will be available - cost is \$.35 each. Applications for free or reduced price school meals for children are available at school.

Parents are welcome to each lunch with their son or daughter. If you do so, ***please call the school in advance*** either the day before or the morning of, as the lunch count will need to be adjusted. The cost of an adult meal is \$3.25; breakfast is \$1.75. The cost of a 2nd meal for students or adults is \$3.25.

Student Lunch/Breakfast Charges

The Board of Education believes that the responsibility for paying for students' lunch charges rests with the parents. The Boards direct the Superintendent of Schools to establish procedures and structures for the collection of said lunch charges.

1. Parents are required to pay in advance for their students' lunches.
2. Parents that do not pay in advance will be notified by a call or written letter.
3. If payment is not received in advance the student will be required to bring a bag lunch.
4. Parents who should be signed up for free or reduced lunches should do so in the beginning of each school year. Forms are sent to parents in August.

At the beginning of each month, the parent should stop into the school or send with their child payment for their student's lunch. Please make checks payable to Independent School District #2853. The minimum monthly payment is \$37.00.

If an unpaid meal charge reaches \$15.00 the parents or guardians will be notified with a letter. Upon receipt of this letter, you will be expected to make arrangements with the school district to pay past and current charges. If payment is not received, children must bring their own meal from home.

At the beginning of the school year, each student will be electronically finger-printed as a means to monitor when they receive school lunches.

Newsletter

A newsletter is sent home with the students at the end of each month. Many important announcements will be included in the newsletter as well as school news items. Please read the newsletter each time.

Outside Recess

We believe it is healthy for children to get fresh air and play in an outdoor environment where physical activity is not constrained due to building space. LqPV Middle School uses current weather conditions to determine if children will play outside (-10 wind chill or actual temperature 0 degrees and students stay inside). Students must wear appropriate winter clothing (boots, snow pants, etc.) during winter weather months to participate in recess. Please dress children appropriately for the weather.

Parents and Children Attending School Functions

When parents accompany children to school functions such as art shows, concerts, assemblies, etc., the school views the parent as the primary party responsible for monitoring behavior of their children. Students are still required to maintain expectations as if it were still the regular school day. Please monitor your child and help them follow school expectations. If not, school personnel are then obligated to help your child follow school expectations.

Parties

During certain times of the year classrooms may decide to celebrate with a party. Examples of times might be holidays, reaching milestones, achieving goals, recognizing achievements, etc. The nature and extent of the party varies from classroom to classroom.

Pets

Please check with your child's classroom teacher before arranging a visit from a pet. Many reasons may discourage this possibility, from allergies and asthma in children and staff to phobia of animals and general student safety.

Phone Use

Students may only use phones when given permission by a staff member. We will not allow students to call home to make arrangements to visit a friend. These types of arrangements should be made prior to the visit, and the parent verifying the details of the visit should send a note.

Parents should feel free to call school and are encouraged to communicate to teachers. Please remember that teachers are consumed with children most of their day and likely cannot field a phone call during the school day unless it happens to match their lunch break or when they are preparing lessons or looking at student work. However, we will certainly take a message, or please look on the school's website, <http://lqpv.org>. Here you will find staff email addresses for quick and easy access.

Phy Ed

For participatory purposes and safety, every child needs a pair of non-marking tennis shoes for Phy Ed classes.

Picking Up Students

When a student is picked up from school at the end of the day or for a special appointment, *please check into the office and wait in the designated waiting area by the office. Please do not walk to your child's classroom and wait outside the door or interrupt class* – this can be very disruptive to the learning process and for putting closure to the end of the day.

Pictures

Students have school pictures taken early in the school year and in the spring. Information will be sent home prior to each Picture Day regarding prices of picture packages so families can make informed decisions regarding the purchase of school pictures.

Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge of Allegiance is observed every morning as we begin our day at LqPV Middle School. If you do not wish your child to participate, please contact the office and we will respect his/her right to decline. In addition proper flag etiquette, display of , respect towards, and general patriotic exercises will be addressed through instruction, lyceums and assemblies, or other activities throughout the school year.

Psychologist, Social Worker, Child Guide Team

LqPV Middle School guidance staff is a multi-disciplinary team consisting of the principal, instructional assistant, nurse, speech clinician, learning disability teachers, psychologist and social worker.

These services include the following:

- Testing to find a student's potential
- Consulting and counseling with parents
- Working with school staff and parents regarding special learning or behavior problems
- Referring parents and children to assistive resources in the community
- Counseling students

A child may be referred to the special education staff by any one of a number of people. Often the teacher or team in conjunction makes a referral with parents. A major objective of the psychologist and social worker is to work closely with school staff and home, encouraging good communication and understanding of the child's needs.

A school social worker is available at LqPV Middle School to work with students, parents, and staff in the areas of self-esteem, social development behavior, feelings, etc. She provides entire classroom activities, small groups, individual and family counseling, and consultation. The social worker works closely with teachers and encourages you to contact her if she can help in any way to make this a better year for your child.

Report Cards

Student progress is formally reported after each quarter. Report cards are sent home with the students or may be mailed home.

Special Education

The special education programs at LqPV Middle School include:

- Speech or Language Impairments
- Specific Learning Disability
- Developmental Cognitive Disability
- Emotional/Behavioral Disorders
- Autism Spectrum Disorders
- Developmental Adapted Physical Education
- Occupational Therapy
- Physical Therapy
- Visual and Hearing Impairments

All students referred for special education assessment must have parent permission prior to assessment. After the assessment, parents will be called for a conference to discuss assessment results.

Supplies

Being prepared for school is an expectation at LqPV Middle School. This entails remembering to take work home, completing it, and returning it to school when it is due. It also means having necessary supplies, especially paper and pencils. Parents are requested to check to make sure their children have all necessary materials. Labeling items helps students keep track of them.

Fifth Grade

Pencils/Erasers
Colored Pencils
Pencil Sharpener for Desk
Markers
Compass for Art
1 Sharpie – Black
1 ultra thin permanent marker
1 Dry Erase Marker (low odor)
Scissors
Glue bottle and Glue stick
12” Ruler (metric & inch)
1 each – red, blue, and black pen
6 pocket folders
6 notebooks
Calculator
School Box
(2) Box of Tissues
Paint Shirt
Athletic Shoes for PE (Non-Marking)
NO TRAPPER KEEPERS

Sixth Grade

Pencils/Erasers
Scissors
Glue Bottle and Glue Stick
3 Sharpie Markers – Fine Point
6 Pocket Folders
6 Notebooks
Colored Pencils
Markers
Crayons
3-Ring Binder (3”) Need at end of
year for MN Booklet
12” Ruler (metric & inch)
Calculator
1 Soft Covered Supply Container
(2) Box of Tissues
Paint Shirt
Athletic Shoes for PE (Non-Marking)
Black & Blue Vis-A-Vis Marker
(1) Plastic Pencil Sharpener for Desk
Compass (Art)
MN Map
NO TRAPPER KEEPERS

Student Visitors

Student visitors may attend school with a student with special permission from the classroom teacher. It is important to take into consideration whether the visit may interrupt the student’s learning. Such visits must be pre-approved by the teacher and principal.

Testing

Currently students in grades 5 and 6 are tested using the Minnesota Comprehensive Assessments II's(MCA-II). These are state mandated tests. More information can be obtained about the tests in general, our district, and our particular school sites by visiting the Minnesota Department of Education's website at <http://education.state.mn.us/>.

The dates of the MCAs are determined by the State Department of Education and our local school district and generally take place in late April to early May.

We ask that if at all possible students be in school on these dates. Please try to schedule appointments, vacations, and activities around these days as we have no flexibility with the state determined schedule.

Title I Reading Support

Some students need additional help in the basic reading and math skills. Title I is a federal program available at LqPV Middle School for students who meet federal and local Title I qualifications. The instruction is carried out by certified teaching staff. You will be contacted if your child meets these qualifications.

Vacations

The school calendar is published several months in advance. If at all possible we ask that you plan family vacations around the school calendar, especially during testing dates (see Testing). If you wish to take a child out of school for a family vacation, the teacher, as well as the office, must be contacted. Many school activities cannot be made up. Students will be responsible for completing assignments during or as soon as possible after their return.

Visiting School

Parents and community members are most welcome as visitors. Arrangements should be made in advance with the classroom teacher. Please stop at the school office before you visit the classroom. If you wish to have a special conference with your child's teacher, make arrangements through the office. Please do not interrupt class. Exceptions may be made for special circumstances.

Web site

Our district website can be found at <http://lqpv.org/>. Here you can access this handbook, monthly newsletters, school information, and classroom information.

Withdrawing a Student

Please notify the teacher and the school office at least three days prior to withdrawing your student when moving out of our school district. You are asked to indicate the last date of attendance and the name of the new school or school district. This will enable us to properly close our school records on your child.

Appendix

- I. INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT 2853 WEAPONS POLICY
- II. INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT 2853 POLICY PROHIBITING HARASSMENT AND VIOLENCE
- III. INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT 2853 RELIGIOUS, RACIAL OR SEXUAL HARASSMENT AND VIOLENCE REPORT FORM

INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT 2853 WEAPONS POLICY

No student shall possess a weapon when in the school building, on school grounds, or on any school-sponsored trip or activity. "Possession": refers to having a weapon on one's person or in an area subject to one's control on school property or at a school trip/activity.

"Weapons" are identified in two categories:

(1) articles commonly used or designed to inflict bodily harm and/or intimidate other persons. Examples are: firearms, whether loaded or unloaded; knives; clubs; metal knuckles used in a threatening manner; numchuks; throwing stars; explosives, stun guns, ammunition; chains; pellet guns; look-alike guns; and other non functioning guns that could be used to threaten others;

(2) articles designed for other purposes but which are actually used to inflict bodily harm and/or intimidate. Examples include, but are not limited to: belts, combs, pencils, files, scissors, compasses, broken glass, clubs, bats and letter openers.

(3) Expulsion for Possession of Firearm - Minnesota State Crime Bill 1995

(a) Notwithstanding the time limitation in section 127.27, subdivision 5, a school board must expel for a period of at least one year a pupil who is determined to have brought a firearm to school except the board may modify this expulsion requirement for a pupil on a case-by-case basis.

For the purposes of this section, firearm is as defined in United States Code, title 18, section 921.

(b) Notwithstanding chapter 13 a student's expulsion or withdrawal or transfer from a school after an expulsion action is initiated against the student for a weapons violation under paragraph "a" may be disclosed by the school district initiating the expulsion proceeding. Unless the information is otherwise public, the disclosure may be made only to another school district in connection with the possible admission of the student to the other district.

A student who finds a weapon on the way to school or in the school building and immediately notifies the principal's office shall not be considered to possess a weapon.

Minimum corrective action shall include initial suspension for up to ten days, confiscation of weapon, notification of police, and parental notification.

If the student has an IEP, the IEP Team will meet to make further recommendations for disposal of the incident. This may be a recommendation to the School Board for exclusion or expulsion.

If the student does not have an IEP, an Assessment Team composed of building administration, counseling office staff, teacher representatives and a law enforcement representative will meet to make further recommendations for disposal of the incident. This may be a recommendation to the School Board for exclusion or expulsion.

INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT 2853
POLICY PROHIBITING HARASSMENT AND VIOLENCE

I. GENERAL STATEMENT OF POLICY

It is the policy of District 2853 (the "School District") to maintain a learning and working environment that is free from religious, racial or sexual harassment and violence. The School district prohibits any form of religious, racial or sexual harassment and violence.

It shall be a violation of this policy for any pupil, teacher, administrator or other school personnel of the School District to harass a pupil, teacher, administrator or other school personnel through conduct or communication of a sexual nature or regarding religion and race as defined by this policy. (For purposes of this policy, school personnel includes school board members, school employees, agents, volunteers, contractors or persons subject to the supervision and control of the District.)

It shall be a violation of this policy for any pupil, teacher, administrator or other school personnel of the School District to inflict, threaten to inflict, or attempt to inflict religious, racial or sexual violence upon any pupil, teacher, administrator or other school personnel.

The School District will act to investigate all complaints, either formal or informal, verbal or written, of religious, racial or sexual harassment or violence, and to discipline or take appropriate action against any pupil, teacher, administrator or other school personnel who is found to have violated this policy.

II. RELIGIOUS, RACIAL AND SEXUAL HARASSMENT AND VIOLENCE DEFINED

A. Sexual Harassment; Definition Sexual harassment consists of unwelcome sexual advances, requests for sexual favors, sexually motivated physical conduct or other verbal or physical conduct or communication of a sexual nature when:

- (i) submission to that conduct or communication is made a term or condition, either explicitly or implicitly, of obtaining or retaining employment, or of obtaining an education; or
- (ii) submission to or rejection of that conduct or communication by an individual is used as a factor in decisions affecting that individual's employment or education; or
- (iii) that conduct or communication has the purpose or effect of substantially or unreasonably interfering with an individual's employment or education, or creating an intimidating, hostile or offensive employment or educational environment.

Sexual harassment may include but is not limited to:

- (i) unwelcome verbal harassment or abuse;
- (ii) unwelcome pressure for sexual activity;
- (iii) unwelcome, sexually motivated or inappropriate patting, pinching or physical contact, other than necessary restraint of pupil(s) by teachers, administrators or other school personnel to avoid physical harm to persons or property;
- (iv) unwelcome sexual behavior or words, including demands for sexual favors, accompanied by implied or overt threats concerning an individual's employment or educational status;
- (v) unwelcome sexual behavior or words, including demands for sexual favors, accompanied by implied or overt promises of preferential treatment with regard to an individual's employment or educational status; or
- (vi) unwelcome behavior or words directed at an individual because of gender.

B. Racial Harassment; Definition Racial harassment consists of physical or verbal conduct relating to an individual's race when the conduct:

- (i) has the purpose or effect of creating an intimidating, hostile or offensive working or academic environment;
- (ii) has the purpose or effect of substantially or unreasonably interfering with an individual's work or academic performance; or
- (iii) otherwise adversely affects an individual's employment or academic opportunities.

C. Religious Harassment; Definition Religious harassment consists of physical or verbal conduct which is related to an individual's religion when the conduct:

- (i) has the purpose or effect of creating an intimidating, hostile or offensive working or academic environment;
- (ii) has the purpose or effect of substantially or unreasonably interfering with an individual's work or academic performance; or
- (iii) otherwise adversely affects an individual's employment or academic opportunities.

D. Sexual Violence; Definition Sexual violence is a physical act of aggression or force or the threat thereof which involves the touching of another's intimate parts, or forcing a person to touch any person's intimate parts. Intimate parts, as defined in Minnesota Statutes Section 609.341, include the primary genital area, groin, inner thigh, buttocks or breast, as well as the clothing covering these areas.

Sexual violence may include, but is not limited to:

- (i) touching, patting, grabbing or pinching another person's intimate parts, whether that person is of the same sex or the opposite sex;
- (ii) coercing, forcing or attempting to coerce or force the touching of anyone's intimate parts;
- (iii) coercing, forcing or attempting to coerce or force sexual intercourse or a sexual act on another, or
- (iv) threatening to force or coerce sexual acts, including the touching of intimate parts or intercourse, on another.

E. Racial Violence; Definition Racial violence is a physical act of aggression or assault upon another because of, or in a manner reasonably related to, race.

F. Religious Violence; Definition Religious violence is a physical act of aggression or assault upon another because of, or in a manner reasonably related to, religion.

G. Assault; Definition Assault is:

- (i) an act done with intent to cause fear in another of immediate bodily harm or death;
- (ii) the intentional infliction of or attempt to inflict bodily harm upon another, or
- (iii) the threat to do bodily harm to another with present ability to carry out the threat.

III. REPORTING PROCEDURES

Any person who believes he or she has been the victim of religious, racial or sexual harassment or violence by a pupil, teacher, administrator or other school personnel of the School District, or any person with knowledge or belief of conduct which may constitute religious, racial or sexual harassment or violence toward a pupil, teacher, administrator or other school personnel should report the alleged acts immediately to an appropriate School District official designated by this policy. The School district encourages the reporting party or complainant to use the report form available from the School district office, but oral reports shall be considered complaints as well. Nothing in this policy shall prevent any person from reporting harassment or violence directly to a District Human Rights Officer.

A. In Each School Building. The building principal is the person responsible for receiving oral or written reports of religious, racial or sexual harassment or violence at the building level. Any adult School District personnel who receives a report of religious, racial or sexual harassment or violence shall inform the building principal immediately.

Upon receipt of a report, the principal must notify the School District Human Rights Officer immediately, without screening or investigating the report. The principal may request, but may not insist upon, a written complaint. A written statement of the facts alleged will be forwarded as soon as practicable by the principal to the Human Rights Officer. If the report was given verbally, the principal shall personally reduce it to written form within 24 hours and forward it to the Human Rights Officer. Failure to forward any harassment or violence report or complaint as provided herein will result in disciplinary action against the principal. If the complaint involves the building principal, the complaint shall be made or filed directly with the Superintendent or the School District Human Rights Officer by the reporting party or complainant.

B. In the District The School Board hereby designates Robert Munsterman as the School District Human Rights Officer(s) to receive reports or complaints of religious, racial or sexual harassment or violence. If the complaint involves a Human Rights Officer, the complaint shall be filed directly with the Board Chairperson. The School District shall conspicuously post the name of the Human Rights Officer(s), including mailing addresses and telephone numbers.

C. Submission of a good faith complaint or report of religious, racial or sexual harassment or violence will not affect the complainant or report's future employment, grades or work assignments.

D. Use of formal reporting forms is not mandatory.

E. The School District will respect the privacy of the complainant, the individual(s) against whom the complaint is filed, the witnesses as much as possible, consistent with the School District's legal obligations to investigate, to take appropriate action, and to conform with any discovery or disclosure obligations.

IV. INVESTIGATION

By authority of the School District, the Human Rights Officer, upon receipt of a report or complaint alleging religious, racial or sexual harassment or violence, shall immediately undertake or authorize an investigation. The investigation may be conducted by School District officials or by a third party designated by the School District.

The investigation may consist of personal interviews with the complainant, the individual(s) against whom the complaint is filed, and others who may have knowledge of the alleged incident(s) or circumstances giving rise to the complaint. The investigation may also consist of any other methods and documents deemed pertinent by the investigator.

In determining whether alleged conduct constitutes a violation of this policy, the School District should consider the surrounding circumstances, the nature of the behavior, past incidents or past or continuing patterns of behavior, the relationships between the parties involved and the context in which the alleged incidents occurred. Whether a particular action or incident constitutes a violation of this policy requires a determination based on all the facts and surrounding circumstances.

In addition, the School District may take immediate steps, at its discretion, to protect the complainant, pupils, teachers, administrators or other school personnel pending completion of an investigation of alleged religious, racial or sexual harassment or violence.

The investigation will be completed as soon as practicable. The School District Human Rights Officer shall make a written report to the Superintendent upon completion of the investigation. If the complaint involves the Superintendent, the report may be filed directly with the School Board. The report shall include a determination of whether the allegations have been substantiated as factual and whether they appear to be violations of this policy.

V. SCHOOL DISTRICT ACTION

A. Upon receipt of a report, the School District will take appropriate action. Such action may include, but is not limited to, warning, suspension, exclusion, expulsion, transfer, remediation, termination or discharge. School District action taken for violation of this policy will be consistent with requirements of applicable collective bargaining agreements, Minnesota and Federal law and School District policies.

B. The result of the School District's investigation of each complaint filed under these procedures will be reported in writing to the complainant by the School District in accordance with state and federal regarding data or records privacy.

VI. REPRISAL

The School District will discipline or take appropriate action against any pupil, teacher, administrator or other school personnel who retaliates against any person who reports alleged religious, racial or sexual harassment or violence or any person who testifies, assists or participates in an investigation or who testifies, assists or participates in a

proceeding or hearing relating to such harassment or violence. Retaliation includes, but is not limited to, any form of intimidation, reprisal or harassment.

VII. RIGHT TO ALTERNATIVE COMPLAINT PROCEDURES

These procedures do not deny the right of any individual to pursue other avenues of recourse which may include filing charges with the Minnesota Department of Human Rights, initiating civil action or seeking redress under state criminal statutes and/or federal law.

VII. HARASSMENT OR VIOLENCE AS ABUSE

Under certain circumstances, alleged harassment or violence may also be possible abuse under Minnesota law. If so, the duties of mandatory reporting under Minn... Stat. 626.556 may be applicable.

Nothing in this policy will prohibit the School District from taking immediate action to protect victims of alleged harassment, violence or abuse.

IX. DISSEMINATION OF POLICY AND TRAINING

- A. This policy shall be conspicuously posted throughout each school building in areas accessible to pupils and staff members.
- B. This policy shall appear in the student handbook.
- C. The School District will develop a method of discussing this policy with students and employees.
- D. This policy shall be reviewed at least annually for compliance with state and federal law.

Religious, Racial, and Sexual Harassment and Violence are against the Law.
Discrimination is against the Law.

CONTACT: HUMAN RIGHTS OFFICER
Mrs. Renae Tostenson, Superintendent
Lac qui Parle Valley School District
2860 291st Ave
Madison, Minnesota 56256
320-752-4205

INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT 2853
RELIGIOUS, RACIAL OR SEXUAL HARASSMENT AND VIOLENCE REPORT FORM

General Statement of Policy Prohibiting Religious, Racial or Sexual Harassment

Independent School District 2853 maintains a firm policy prohibiting all forms of discrimination. Religious, racial, or sexual harassment or violence against students or employees is discrimination. All persons are to be treated with respect and dignity. Sexual violence, sexual advances or other forms of religious, racial or sexual harassment by any pupil, teacher, administrator or other school personnel, which create an intimidating, hostile or offensive environment will not be tolerated under any circumstances.

Complainant _____
Home Address _____
Work Address _____
Home Phone _____ Work Phone _____

Date of Alleged Incident(s) _____

Circle as appropriate sexual / racial / religious

Name of person you believe harassed or was violent toward you or another person. _____

If the alleged harassment or violence was toward another person, identify that person. _____

Describe the incident(s) as clearly as possible, including such things as: what force, if any, was used; any verbal statements (i.e. threats, requests, demands, etc.); what, if any, physical contact was involved; etc. (Attach additional pages if necessary) _____

Where and when did the incident(s) occur? _____

List any witnesses who were present _____

This complaint is filed based on my honest belief that _____ has harassed or has been violent to me or to another person. I hereby certify that the information I have provided in this complaint is true, correct and complete to the best of my knowledge and belief.

(Complainant Signature)

(Date)

(Received by)

(Date)