



BOARD MINUTES - DRAFT
BOARD MEETING
ADMINISTRATION BUILDING
May 11, 2026
7:00 P.M.

LIVESTREAM LINK

<https://www.youtube.com/@WesternBooneCountyCommunitySch>

Call to Order: Phil Foster, Brian Gott, Dennis Reagan, and Adam Shepherd. Absent: Greg Hole, Melissa Smith and Shane Steimel.

Pledge of Allegiance

Prayer

- **Project and Second Public Determination Hearing**

The Chair presided over the hearing. It was explained that under Indiana law whenever a school corporation proposes to construct or renovate a school building at a cost in excess of one million dollars it must first hold a public hearing. Additionally, another purpose of the meeting was that under Indiana Code § 6-1.1-20-3.5 whenever a school corporation proposes to enter into a lease agreement and/or issue bonds for the construction or renovation of a school building resulting in total costs in excess of certain thresholds, or if the School Corporation has a Debt Service Fund tax rate over a certain amount, the School Corporation is required to hold two public hearings on its preliminary determination to issue such bonds and enter into such lease agreement. The first hearing on the preliminary determination for the Project (as defined herein) was held on April 13, 2026. Notice of both public hearings was published in the *Lebanon Reporter* on April 2, 2026, and was mailed via certified mail with tracking information to the Boone County Clerk and any organizations previously requesting such notice as provided in Indiana Code § 6-1.1-20-3.5. The proof of publication of the notice of the hearing was presented to the meeting.

It was explained that at this hearing all interested people may give testimony and/or ask questions concerning the renovation of and improvements to facilities throughout the School Corporation, including site improvements, the potential construction of additions, outbuildings and a transportation facility and the purchase of buses, equipment, real estate, and technology (collectively, the "Project"). The purpose of the hearing is two-fold: (1) to inform the public as to the proposed Project; and (2) to allow all interested parties, taxpayers and patrons of the School Corporation to voice their opinions as to the Project and ask questions.

After the purpose of the hearings was explained, the presentations regarding the need for the Project were given. An evaluation of the existing facilities was presented, including the building plan explaining the proposed Project. The estimated Project cost and schedule were then presented to the public. It was explained how this Project could be funded and the tax rate impact the Project would have on the community.

After the above presentations, the Chair announced that the Board would now hear testimony and questions from the public. No public testimony was given.

At the conclusion of the public hearing, the chair announced that the resolutions would be presented for approval under the Business section of the agenda.

- **MINUTES**

- The Chair entertained a motion to approve the minutes of the April 13, 2026, School Board Meeting.

Motion: Dennis Reagan, Second: Adam Shepherd, (Discussion), Vote: 4-0

ACTION ITEMS

By individual motions, the Board approved/adopted the following items or actions.

- **PERSONNEL** All employment recommendations are pending a completed satisfactory criminal background history report.
- **Granville Wells**
 - Joyce Keim – Resignation – Special Education Teacher effective end of 2025-2026 school year
 - Jaime Garrison – Employment – 6th Grade Teacher effective 2026-2027 school year
 - Emily Taylor – Employment – 2nd Grade Teacher effective 2026-2027 school year

ECA
 Tammy Middleton – Spell Bowl Coach
 Allyson Gardner – Spell Bowl Coach
 April Seneriz – RTI Teacher Rep.
 Kim Myers RTI Teacher Rep.
 McKenzie Hamed – Maker Space Manager
 Courtney Henry – Maker Space Manager
- **Thorntown**
 - Joanna Wright – Resignation – 6th Grade Teacher effective April 9, 2026
 - Kailey Gideon – Resignation – Instructional Assistant effective May 6, 2026
 - Lily Kuhlmeier – Employment – 1st Grade Teacher effective 2026-2027 school year
 - Diana Osborne – Change in Position Full-time to Substitute cafeteria effective August 3, 2026
- **Western Boone**
 - Erika Wiley – Employment – Custodian effective April 20, 2026
 - Hannah Kelly – Resignation – PE/Health Teacher effective end of 2025-2026 school year
 - Katie Pilkington – Resignation – PE/Health Teacher effective end of 2025-2026 school year
 - David Joest – Employment – Assistant Principal effective July 20, 2026
 - Kimberly Boone – Employment – Special Education Teacher effective 2026-2027 school year

ECA
 Garrett Prickett – Summer Band Assistant
 Jacob Hickle – Summer Band
 Shayla Ingram – Summer Band
 Jared LaFond – Summer Band
 Elliot Smith – Summer Band
- **Western Boone Corporation**
 - Jeff Christner – Change in Position from Network System Admin to Director of Technology effective July 1, 2026
 - Rebecca Boddicker – Employment – Business Manager effective July 1, 2026
- **Western Boone Athletics**
 - Nate Birk – Summer Strength and Conditioning
 - Justin Pelley – Summer Strength and Conditioning
 - Wyatt Barnett – Summer Strength and Conditioning
 - Aspen Bruce – High School Girls Basketball Assistant Coach
 - Candice Huckstep – High School Girls Basketball Assistant Coach
 - Penny Scott – High School Girls Basketball Assistant Coach
 - Wes Nicley – High School Girls Basketball Volunteer Assistant Coach
 - Jeremy Simpson – High School Girls Basketball Volunteer Assistant Coach
 - Jason Smith – Varsity Girls Golf Coach
- **Western Boone Transportation**
 - Margaret Beesley – Retirement -Bus Driver effective May 22, 2026

Motion: Phil Foster, Second: Adam Shepherd, (Discussion), Vote: 4-0

- **BUSINESS**

- **Project Resolution**

- Kristin McClelland, bond counsel with Ice Miller, summarized the Project Resolution, and the chair entertained a motion and second for approval.

Motion: Adam Shepherd, Second: Dennis Reagan, (Discussion), Vote: 4-0

- **Preliminary Determination Resolution**

- Kristin McClelland, bond counsel with Ice Miller, summarized the Preliminary Determination Resolution, and the chair entertained a motion and second for approval.

Motion: Dennis Reagan, Second: Phil Foster, (Discussion), Vote: 4-0

- **Declaration of Official Intent to Reimburse Expenditures Resolution**

- Kristin McClelland, bond counsel with Ice Miller, summarized the Declaration of Official Intent to Reimburse Expenditures Resolution, and the chair entertained a motion and second for approval.

Motion: Adam Shepherd, Second: Dennis Reagan, (Discussion), Vote: 4-0

- **Criminal Organization Activity in Schools BP – 6410**

- Superintendent Ramey recommended the Board approve the Criminal revised Board Policy – 6410 that prohibits criminal organization activity.

Motion: Adam Shepherd, Second: Dennis Reagan, (Discussion), Vote: 4-0

- **Handbook Revisions and Changes for 2026-2027**

- Justin Rausch, Assistant Principal, recommended the Board approve the revisions to Thorntown Elementary student handbook as submitted.

Motion: Adam Shepherd, Second: Phil Foster, (Discussion), Vote: 4-0

- **Greater Jamestown Area Fund Committee**

- Superintendent Ramey recommended the Board appointment Linda Wray and Kyle Whiteley to the Greater Jamestown Area Fund Board for the following term May 19, 2026 to April 30, 2028.

Motion: Dennis Reagan, Second: Adam Shepherd, (Discussion), Vote: 4-0

- **Non-Resident Student**

- Superintendent Ramey recommended the Board approve the following Non-Resident Student:
 - Easton Cline – Thorntown, PreK, 2026-2027 school year.

Motion: Phil Foster, Second: Adam Shepherd, (Discussion), Vote: 4-0

- **Intra-District Transfers**

- Superintendent Ramey recommended the Board approve the following Intra-District Transfers:
 - Sophia Serrano – Granville Wells from Thorntown
 - Autumn Cerny – Granville Wells from Thorntown

Motion: Adam Shepherd, Second: Dennis Reagan, (Discussion), Vote: 4-0

- **Donation**
 - Superintendent Ramey recommended the Board approve the following Donation:
 - Western Boone High School Baseball received an anonymous donation of \$500.00.

Motion: Adam Shepherd, Second: Phil Foster, (Discussion), Vote: 4-0

- **CLAIMS**

- The Chair entertained a motion to approve the claims for April 13, 2026, through May 11, 2026, as submitted.

Motion: Adam Shepherd, Second: Dennis Reagan, (Discussion), Vote: 4-0

- **MONTHLY FINANCIAL REPORTS**

- Kyle Whiteley, Director of Business and Technology, provided an update on the financial reports of the school corporation.

- **OTHER**

- **PERSONNEL**

- **Granville Wells**

- Amanda Cavins – Resignation – Special Education Life Skill Teacher effective May 22, 2026

- **Thorntown**

- Sharon Bell – Resignation – Cafeteria effective May 1, 2026

- **Western Boone**

- Whitney Cosgray – Employment – Physical Education Teacher effective 2026-2027 school year

Motion: Adam Shepherd, Second: Phil Foster, (Discussion), Vote: 4-0

- **BUSINESS**

- **Non-Resident Student**

- Superintendent Ramey recommended the Board approve the following Non-Resident Student:
 - Heidi Cox – Thorntown. Kindergarten, 2026-2027 school year.

Motion: Dennis Reagan, Second: Adam Shepherd, (Discussion), Vote: 4-0

- **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- Western Boone Senior Awards Night – Wednesday May 13, 2026, at 7:00 P.M.
- Western Boone Junior High Awards Program – Friday May 15, 2026, at 9:00 A.M.
- Western Boone – POPS Choir Concert Saturday May 16, 2026, at 7:00 P.M.
- Thorntown – Talent Show – May 19, 2026, at 9:00 A.M.
- Granville Wells – 6th Grade Promotion May 19, 2026, at 6:30 P.M.
- Thorntown 6th Grade Awards May 19, 2026, at 6:00 P.M.
- Granville Wells – 1st – 5th Grade Awards May 20, 2026, at 9:30 A.M.
- Granville Wells – Kindergarten Promotion May 20, 2026, at 1:00 P.M.
- Thorntown – Kindergarten Promotion May 20, 2026, at 1:15 P.M.
- Western Boone High School Graduation May 23, 2026, at 11:00 A.M.
- Congratulations to Leslie Baker and the Western Boone High School Band on their State All Music Award! First time in school history!

- **ADJOURNMENT**

Motion: Dennis Reagan, Second: Adam Shepherd, (Discussion), Vote: 4-0



Western Boone County Community School Corporation

Preliminary Determination Hearings

April 13, 2026

May 11, 2026

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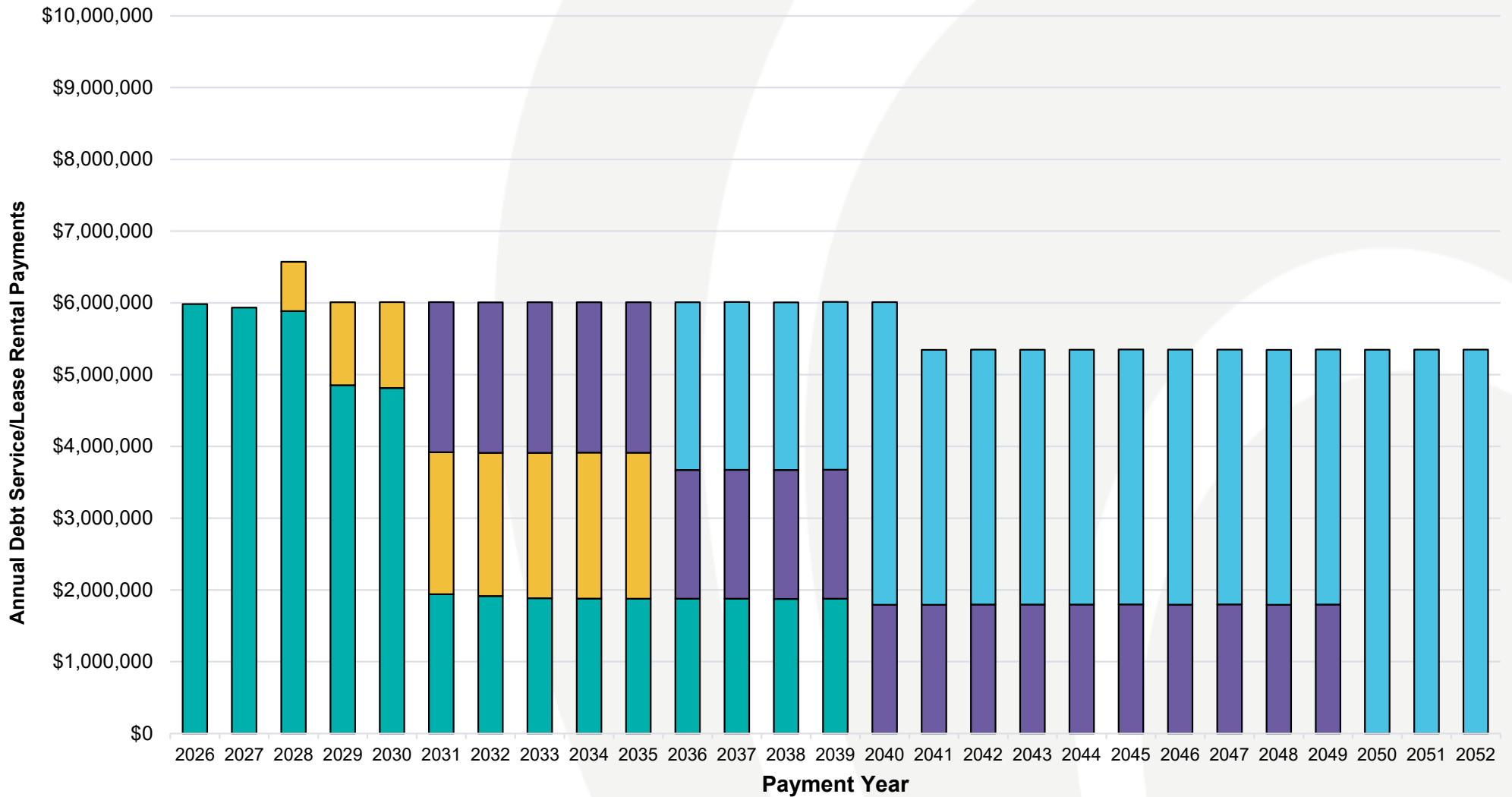
SUMMARY OF FINANCING INFORMATION

Unified Project	
Maximum Borrowing Amount:	\$69,215,000
Estimated Proceeds Available for Project (1)	\$67,615,000
Assumed Maximum Repayment Term (2)	20 Years per series
Estimated Total Interest Expense (3)	\$41,080,429
Maximum Annual Debt Service Payment	\$6,010,000
Estimated Debt Service Levy Increase (4)	\$300,000
Estimated Debt Service Tax Rate Increase (4)	\$0.0281

- (1) Preliminary estimate, subject to change. To the extent capitalized interest may be necessary, net bond proceeds would be reduced by the corresponding amount. Net of allowances for costs of issuance and underwriter’s discount.
- (2) Assumes multiple series of bonds in 2027, 2030, and 2035 with varying repayment terms. Dated date and repayment terms are for illustrative purposes and subject to change. Each bond will have a maximum term not to exceed 20 years, per series.
- (3) Based upon estimated 5.5% interest rates. The maximum allowable interest rate is 7.0%. Actual interest rates will be determined at the time of sale, and resulting interest expense, annual payments and capacity for borrowing could vary significantly from what is assumed in this analysis.
- (4) Estimated debt service levy increase represents the increase over the 2026 certified debt service fund levy of \$5,431,478. Assumes a miscellaneous revenue factor based upon 2026 certified distributions. Tax rates will vary based upon other factors such as net assessed valuation, available and authorized operating balance and actual tax collections. The School Corporation’s 2026 certified net assessed value is \$1,068,767,849 per the DLGF and the School Corporation’s debt service tax rate is \$0.5082.

Note: Senate Enrolled Act 1 (SEA 1) was signed into law on April 15, 2025, as amended by House Enrolled Act 1427 (HEA 1427) which was signed into law on May 6, 2025, and include several changes impacting property taxes in the coming years. Specifically, these two Acts restructure homestead deductions and adds additional homestead credits, adds deductions for 2% properties, increases the agricultural land capitalization rate, and increases the exemption threshold for business personal property. These changes may result in a decrease in the net assessed valuation or slow the growth in net assessed valuation. A decrease in net assessed valuation may result in an increase in tax rates. This report assumes no net assessed valuation change after 2026. Actual tax rates will fluctuate with fluctuations in net assessed valuation.

SUMMARY OF FINANCING INFORMATION



■ Total Annual Debt Service/Lease Rental Payments
 ■ Conceptual 2027 Bonds
 ■ Conceptual 2030 Bonds
 ■ Conceptual 2035 Bonds





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EXHIBIT A

PROJECT RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the Board of School Trustees (the "Board") of Western Boone County Community School Corporation (the "School Corporation") at a meeting on May 11, 2026 held a public hearing in accordance with Indiana Code § 20-26-7-37 for the purpose of answering questions and listening to taxpayers' comments and any evidence they may present about the proposed renovation of and improvements to facilities throughout the School Corporation, including site improvements, the potential construction of additions, outbuildings and a transportation facility and the purchase of buses, equipment, real estate, and technology (collectively, the "Project"); and

WHEREAS, the Board has carefully studied all of the known options and feels that the proposed Project is in the best interests of the present and future students to be served by these facilities; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, that the purpose of the Project is to provide an improved educational environment for students.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the estimated hard and soft construction costs of the Project are \$67,615,000, with estimated costs of issuance (including capitalized interest less interest earnings and interim lease rental) of \$1,600,000, resulting in total estimated Project costs of \$69,215,000.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the estimated \$69,215,000 will be funded by one or more of the following: Operations Fund, common school fund loan, and state and/or federal grant monies, general obligation bond issue, and/or a building corporation bond issue with an anticipated impact on the Debt Service Fund tax rate of \$0.5363 per \$100 assessed valuation based on an estimated \$1,068,767,849 assessed valuation beginning in 2028. However, as existing obligations

mature, the anticipated net increase to the Debt Service Fund levy is expected to be \$300,000 above the current Debt Service Fund levy.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Debt Service Fund tax rate as of the date hereof is \$0.5082.

Passed and adopted this 11th day of May, 2026.



President, Board of School Trustees

Secretary, Board of School Trustees

EXHIBIT B

PRELIMINARY DETERMINATION RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, Western Boone County Community School Corporation (the "School Corporation") published a Notice of Preliminary Determination Hearings on April 2, 2026 in the *Lebanon Reporter* and mailed such notice via certified mail with tracking information to the Boone County Clerk and any organizations requesting such notice as provided in Indiana Code § 6-1.1-20-3.5 with respect to the renovation of and improvements to facilities throughout the School Corporation, including site improvements, the potential construction of additions, outbuildings and a transportation facility and the purchase of buses, equipment, real estate, and technology (collectively, the "Project"); and

WHEREAS, the first preliminary determination hearing was held on April 13, 2026 and the second preliminary determination hearing was held on May 11, 2026 in accordance with the notice and the law of the State of Indiana (the "State"); and

WHEREAS, the School Corporation has made the following information available to the public at the public hearings: (a) the result of the School Corporation's current and projected annual debt service payments divided by the net assessed value of taxable property within the School Corporation, which is 0.61%; (b) the result of (i) the sum of the School Corporation's outstanding long term debt plus the outstanding long term debt of other taxing units that include any of the territory of the School Corporation; divided by (ii) the net assessed value of taxable property within the School Corporation, which is 10.79%; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of School Trustees (the "Board") of the School Corporation preliminarily determines to issue bonds and enter into a lease agreement for the Project.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that each lease agreement will be for a maximum term of thirty-three (33) years with a maximum annual lease rental of \$6,010,000. The maximum annual lease rental has been estimated based upon an estimated principal amount of bonds of \$69,215,000, estimated interest rate of 5.50%, and estimated total interest costs of \$41,080,429. The School Corporation may issue general obligation bonds to fund the Project and if such bonds are issued, they will fit into the parameters listed above. If the School Corporation issues general obligation bonds, the principal amount of the bonds associated with the Lease, as described above, would be reduced by the principal amount of the general obligation bonds issued, such that the total principal amount of bond issued to finance the Project would not exceed the aggregate estimated principal amount of \$69,215,000.

The School Corporation's current Debt Service Fund levy is \$5,431,478 and the current Debt Service Fund tax rate is \$0.5363. After the School Corporation enters into the proposed lease agreements and the bonds are issued, the Debt Service Fund levy will increase by a maximum of \$6,010,000 and the Debt Service Fund tax rate will increase by a maximum of \$0.5623. However, as existing obligations mature, the anticipated net increase to the Debt Service Fund levy is expected to be \$300,000 above the current Debt Service Fund levy. The maximum annual debt service for the Project for any year in which the Bonds are outstanding is \$6,010,000. The estimated amount of the School Corporation's Debt Service Fund levy and Debt Service Fund tax rate that will result during the following ten years if the School Corporation enters into the lease and issues the bonds, after considering any changes that will occur to the Debt Service Fund levy and Debt Service Fund tax rate during that period on account of any outstanding bonds or lease obligation that will mature or terminate during that period is as follows:

<u>Year</u>	<u>Estimated Total Debt Service Levy</u>	<u>Estimated Total Debt Service Rate</u>
2026	\$5,431,478	\$0.5082
2027	5,431,478	0.5082
2028	5,731,478	0.5363
2029	5,731,478	0.5363
2030	5,731,478	0.5363
2031	5,731,478	0.5363
2032	5,731,478	0.5363
2033	5,731,478	0.5363
2034	5,731,478	0.5363
2035	5,731,478	0.5363
2036	5,731,478	0.5363

The purpose of the lease agreement is to provide for the completion of the Project.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that all capital improvement projects addressed in the most recent threat assessment and school safety plan have been completed.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Board is hereby authorized and directed to publish the notice of adoption of this preliminary determination in accordance with Indiana law.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that if a valid petition pursuant to Indiana Code § 6-1.1.-20-3.5 is received by the School Corporation, the Secretary of the Board is hereby authorized pursuant to Indiana Code § 6-1.1.-20-3.5(c) to submit the notice required by Indiana Code § 6-1.1.-20-3.5(b)(2) and any other required information to the Boone County Auditor.

Passed and adopted this 11th day of May, 2026.

President, Board of School Trustees

Secretary, Board of School Trustees



EXHIBIT C

DECLARATION OF OFFICIAL INTENT TO REIMBURSE EXPENDITURES

WHEREAS, Western Boone County Community School Corporation (the "School Corporation") intends to finance the renovation of and improvements to facilities throughout the School Corporation, including site improvements, the potential construction of additions, outbuildings and a transportation facility and the purchase of buses, equipment, real estate, and technology (collectively, the "Project"); and

WHEREAS, the School Corporation reasonably expects to reimburse certain costs of the Project with proceeds of obligations to be incurred by and/or on behalf of the School Corporation in an amount not to exceed \$69,215,000; and

WHEREAS, the School Corporation, acting through a leasing entity, expects to have obligations issued on its behalf for the Project and to use the proceeds to reimburse or pay costs of the Project; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the School Corporation declares its official intent to acquire, construct or rehabilitate the Project with proceeds of obligations incurred by and/or behalf of the School Corporation in an amount not to exceed \$69,215,000 for the purpose of paying or reimbursing costs of the Project; and to approve obligations issued by a leasing entity that will lease the Project to the School Corporation.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the School Corporation reasonably expects to reimburse itself from proceeds of obligations issued by and/or on behalf of the School Corporation for costs of the Project paid prior to the issuance of the obligations.

Passed and Adopted this 11th day of May, 2026.

President, Board of School Trustees

Secretary, Board of School Trustees



CRIMINAL ORGANIZATION ACTIVITY IN SCHOOLS

BP – 6410

The Board of School Trustees of the Western Boone County Community School Corporation prohibits criminal organization activity and similar destructive or illegal group behavior on school property, on school buses, and/or at school-sponsored functions and prohibits reprisal or retaliation against individuals who report gang or criminal organization activity and similar destructive or illegal group behavior or who are victims, witnesses, bystanders, or other people with reliable information about an act of criminal organization activity and similar destructive or illegal group behavior.

The following definitions apply to this policy:

Criminal Organization means a group with at least three (3) members that specifically:

(1) either:

(A) promotes, sponsors, or assists in; or

(B) participates in; or

(2) requires as a condition of membership or continued membership;

the commission of a felony or an act that would be a felony if committed by an adult or the offense of battery.

Criminal organization means a student who knowingly or intentionally actively participates in a criminal organization or a student who knowingly or intentionally solicits, recruits, entices, or intimidates another individual to join a criminal organization.

Per state law, a school employee shall report any incidence of suspected criminal organization activity, criminal organization intimidation, or criminal organization recruitment to the principal and the school safety specialist. The principal and the school safety specialist may take appropriate action to maintain a safe and secure school environment, including providing appropriate intervention services. Appropriate consequences and remedial actions are those that take into consideration the severity of the offenses and consider both the developmental ages of the student offenders and the students' histories of inappropriate behaviors per the code of conduct.

Any corporation and school employee who promptly reports an incident of suspected criminal organization activity and who makes this report in compliance with the school corporation procedures is immune from a cause of action for damages arising from any failure to remedy the reported incident.

The principal or designee shall conduct a thorough and complete investigation for each report of suspected criminal organization activity. The investigation shall be initiated by the principal or the principal's designee within one school day of the report of the incident. The principal may appoint additional personnel and request the assistance of law enforcement to assist in the investigation. The investigation shall be completed, and the written findings

submitted to the principal as soon as possible, but not later than five school days from the date of the report of the alleged incident of criminal organization activity.

The principal shall take any appropriate disciplinary actions based upon the findings of the investigation, in accordance with the code of conduct. The superintendent of the school corporation is authorized to define the range of ways in which school staff and the principal or the principal's designee shall respond once an incident of criminal organization activity is confirmed, according to the code of conduct. Consequences for a student who engages in criminal organization activity may range from positive behavioral interventions up to and including suspension or expulsion.

The principal shall provide the parents of the students who were investigated with information about the investigation. The information to be provided to parents includes the nature of the investigation, whether the corporation found evidence of criminal organization activity, and whether consequences were imposed, or services provided to address the activity. This information is to be provided in an expedited manner.

As appropriate to the investigative findings, the principal also shall provide intervention and/or relevant support services. The principal shall inform the parents of all students involved in alleged incidents and discuss the availability of counseling and other intervention services.

Support services may include one or more of the following:

1. Criminal organization awareness education that shows promise of effectiveness based on research. The gang or criminal organization awareness education information should be revised and updated regularly to reflect current trends in gang or criminal organization and gang or criminal organization-like activity.
2. Culturally and/or linguistically appropriate services/supports for parents and families.
3. Counseling coupled with mentoring for students and their families.
4. Community and faith-based organizations and civic groups.
5. Viable, sustainable after-school programs developed in collaboration with other stakeholders.
6. Job training and employment opportunities as both a deterrent to criminal organization involvement and an incentive to leave gang or criminal organization involvement.
7. Schoolsanctioned/facilitated extra-curricular activities.

The principal shall submit the report to the superintendent of the school corporation within ten (10) school days of the completion of the investigation. The superintendent or his/her designee shall report the results of each investigation to the school board on a quarterly basis during regularly scheduled board meetings.

Each school within the school corporation shall record the number of investigations disposed of internally and the number of cases referred to local law enforcement, disaggregated by race, ethnicity, age, and gender. Each school shall report this information to the school corporation superintendent who shall submit a written report to the Indiana Department of Education by June 2 of each year.

This policy shall be annually disseminated to all parents who have children enrolled in a school within the school corporation. Notice of this policy must be published in student handbooks and all other publications of the school corporation that set forth the rules and procedures for schools within the school corporation.

School officials are encouraged to collaborate with stakeholders to provide criminal organization prevention and intervention services and programs, including but not limited to:

1. Provide training for staff and teachers on gang criminal organization prevention and intervention resources within a jurisdiction on a periodic basis. The criminal organization awareness information should be revised and updated regularly to reflect current trends in gang or criminal organization activity.
2. Create formalized collaboration plans between local school administration and community-based prevention and intervention providers (possibly using the existing County Safe School Commissions as points of contact). The formalized collaborations should make effective, coordinated, and maximized use of federal funding a priority.
3. Coordinate resources and funding opportunities to support criminal organization prevention and intervention activities.
4. Consider integrating the Gang Resistance Education and Training (G.R.E.A.T.) Program into curricula.

LEGAL REFERENCE: IC 20-26-18
IC 20-33-9-10.5
IC 35-45-9-1

Date Adopted: 05/09/16
Date Revised: 09/06/23
05/11/26

WELCOME TO THORNTOWN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

On behalf of the staff, I am pleased to welcome you to Thorntown Elementary School. This Student Handbook is prepared so that all students and parents of Thorntown Elementary may have a ready reference to information which is necessary for the understanding of the daily operation of our school. It is important that all students and parents read the information contained in this handbook so there may be as few misunderstandings as possible. When this handbook does not give you the information you need, you should contact your principal or classroom teacher for help.

Abbie Hayden

Principal

THORNTOWN ELEMENTARY

2026/2027

PHILOSOPHY OF THORNTOWN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

The purpose of education is to give each student a positive outlook and to help him/her to become a useful, integral part of society. Our curriculum recognizes that everyone has unique needs and capabilities; and attempts to provide the necessary learning experiences to develop the whole child. The development of each child to his or her highest potential is a shared responsibility among students, parents, faculty, administration, and community.

WESTERN BOONE MISSION STATEMENT

Every STAR shines brightly

Rooted in strong values and providing diverse opportunities in a safe, supportive, and caring environment

We are committed to creating a welcoming environment that fosters empowerment and growth. We strive to strike a balance between support and challenge, providing opportunities for individuals to thrive and achieve their full potential.

THORNTOWN MISSION STATEMENT

Thorntown Elementary staff, parents, and community dedicate themselves to promoting and improving the education of children and youth. In addition, the school provides a safe climate, favorable to positive educational growth. Educational experiences are flexible enough to enhance the personal and intellectual development of all students and encourage students to become life-long learners.

Principal - Mrs. Abbie Hayden

Assistant Principal - Mr. Justin Rausch

Secretary -

Mrs. Britleigh Berry

Treasurer -

Mrs. Alicia Threlkeld

	Pg		Pg		Pg
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A SAFE SCHOOL

A major goal of our school is to provide a safe and secure environment for our students and staff. In order to accomplish this goal, parent help is essential. The following guidelines are in place to help ensure a safe environment. All students, parents, volunteers and visitors must enter the school through the front doors of the building. To ensure the safety of our students, all visitors/parents must sign in at the office and present a government issued photo ID upon entering the building. You will be given a badge to wear that identifies you by name and indicates your reason for being in the building. If you are planning to visit your child's classroom, pre-communication with the teacher/school is recommended. Other rules concerning safety are found later in the handbook. Our school has a current crisis response plan in place and practiced each semester.

Thorntown Elementary School is a SMOKE FREE School and campus. For the purposes of this policy "use of tobacco" shall mean all uses of tobacco, including a cigar, pipe, snuff or any other matter or substance that contains tobacco. To protect students and staff who choose not to use tobacco from an environment noxious to them, the Board prohibits the use of tobacco in school buildings, on school grounds, in school vehicles, or at any school-related event. BP-1370

ARRIVAL AND DEPARTURE

We appreciate support from families and the community during arrival and departure periods. The priority is getting kids to and from school safely and it takes all of us to make that happen.

Students should not arrive prior to 7:30. The doors will open at 7:30, so encourage them to come as close to 7:30 as possible. The tardy bell rings at 7:55. If you have students who catch the bus to Western Boone, they need to board the bus by 7:40. Buses will not be stopped for students to board once they have started their engines to pull away from the school.

Walkers/Bikes: Vine Street is closed to car traffic before and after school, and this is our designated safe zone for students walking and biking to or from school. All students who are walking or biking to school should utilize Vine Street and only cross at the designated crossing supervised by the crossing guard.

Car traffic should avoid Vine and Mill during arrival and dismissal.

Car Riders: Car rider drop off occurs at the south entrance. This involves 3 lanes. The left lane will be reserved for dropping off Western Boone Jr/Sr High students, ONLY those who have been assigned Thorntown Elementary as their bus stop. If these vehicles also include Thorntown Elementary students, they may exit the vehicle with the high school siblings and gather at the south canopy until the doors open at 7:30. Western Boone Jr/Sr High students, assigned to Thorntown Elementary as a bus stop, must be here by 7:35 to ensure they catch a bus to WEBO. Busses cannot be held for late arrivals. The two right lanes will be held until we begin releasing Thorntown students.

Buses: Bus rider drop off will be in the east parking lot. Buses will enter from Mill Street, minding the crossing guard at the intersection of Mill and Vine. Buses will pull in at an angle, facing the building. Students will be released by radio to enter the building.

DISMISSAL

Walkers/Bikes: Students who walk or bike from school will exit the front entrance and cross Mill Street to travel down Vine Street (closed to motor traffic for arrival and dismissal). There is a crossing guard posted at the intersection of Mill/Vine to help manage bus traffic as folks gather for dismissal. We discourage students and families from crossing Mill Street at an angle to/from the gas station. Pedestrian traffic should cross with the crossing guard and travel the designated paths or sidewalks. Walkers and bike riders will be released after the buses have left the property. Students going to youth group or WAVE will exit with walkers.

Car Riders: Car rider pickup occurs at the south entrance. This involves 3 lanes for pickup, which will merge into 2 lanes as you exit the property. The right line will exit to the north, and the left lane will exit to the south. Staff members will call students to the loading area as cars pull forward. It is helpful for you to have a sign in your window listing the names of the students you are picking up. Car rider dismissal will begin at 2:40 and we are typically finished by 2:55, once we have the routine down.

Buses: Buses will be parked in the angled spaces, as assigned, along the east side of the building. Bus riders will be escorted by staff members from the northeast doors and down the sidewalk, ensuring each student boards the correct bus.

Bus riders will begin to exit northeast door to begin loading at 2:35

Thorntown Elementary is a designated drop-off location for Western Boone Jr/Sr High students assigned to this bus stop. These buses will pull up in front of the building to release students for dismissal. Parents should refrain from parking along the south side of Mill Street during this time. Please adhere to stop-arm laws while students are being released from buses.

ENROLLMENT INFORMATION

At the beginning of each year, the student information database is updated with new or changed information. It is extremely important that you continue to report to us during the school year any changes in phone numbers or names and numbers to contact in case of emergencies. Please review this information with your child.

NEW STUDENTS

Thorntown Elementary extends a warm welcome and a hope that together we may accomplish the educational goals and desires we have for your child. According to IC 20-8.1-3-17, each public school shall require a student who initially enrolls in the school after July 1, 1989, to provide:

1. The name and address of the school the student last attended, if any.
2. A certified copy of the student's birth certificate or other reliable proof of the student's date of birth (i.e. Social Security card)
3. Proof of current immunizations
 - (a) If proof of immunization or a religious waiver is not provided within twenty (20) days of school the child will be excluded from school
 - (b) If records appear to be inaccurate or fraudulent; the school shall notify the Indiana Clearinghouse for information on missing children under IC 10-1-7 and determine if the child has been reported missing.
4. Proof of Residency such as a current utility bill, lease agreement, or mortgage paperwork.

STUDENT WITHDRAWS

If your family is moving to another school corporation, you must sign a record release form in the school office. You will receive a pupil withdrawal and transfer form indicating the grades and attendance of your child at the time of withdrawal. All textbooks, workbooks, library books, and material belonging to the school must be returned before leaving. Also, all fees owed to the school must be paid.

ATTENDANCE POLICY

BP-6020

Students are expected to attend school every day unless there is a very good reason to be absent. Students are allowed no more than 10 absences each school year. Absences are either excused or unexcused, and both count toward the 10-day limit, unless the reason for absence is listed under Section A (not to be counted toward the 10-day limit). After a student's 10th absence in a school year, all absences will be considered unexcused regardless of circumstance unless the reason for absence is listed under section A or C.

Section A (Excused by law, these do not count toward the 10-day limit)

1. Service as a page for the Indiana Legislature.
2. Serving as a poll worker on election day or helper to a political party or candidate.
3. Active duty with the Indiana National Guard, the United States Armed Forces, or their reserve components.
4. Civil Air Patrol participation
5. Exhibiting at or participating in the Indiana State Fair or member of the student's household (up to five days and if the student is in good academic standing)
6. Participating in a scheduled competition, exhibition, or event for educational purposes offered by the national or Indiana FFA organization or a 4-H club approved in writing by the principal (up to six days and if the student is in good academic standing)
7. Court appearances with a subpoena

Section B (Excused, **will** count toward the 10-day absence limit) the following will be considered excused absences and considered unexcused beyond the 10-day limit:

1. Personal illness verified by the parent
2. Professional appointments – Parents are encouraged to schedule medical, dental, legal, and other necessary appointments outside of school hours. When appointments are necessary during the school day, the student shall report back to school immediately after the appointment with a signed statement from the doctor, dentist, lawyer, counselor, etc.
3. Military connected families' absences related to deployment and return
4. College visit, family vacations, and trips – must be pre-arranged
5. Other: documentation not listed may be approved at the principal or designee's discretion.

Section C : These absences are to be considered excused with documentation, even beyond the 10-day limit:

1. Illness verified by a note from a physician or qualified medical professional
2. Required court attendance with documentation
3. Death in the immediate family or of a relative with documentation

Administrative consideration may be given when an extenuating circumstance would indicate that it would be in the best interest of the student and/or school, such as in the case of medically fragile students and

unique circumstances beyond the student's and parent's control. The administration has final approval in this policy and the administrative procedures followed.

Unexcused Absences

Other absences not listed above, including truanancies, will be considered unexcused absences.

Reporting an Absence

If a student must be absent, the parent or legal guardian must call their student's school to report the absence.

During non-school hours, you may leave a message on the attendance hotline reporting the absence.

Parents/guardians who do not call the school on the day of their child's absence by 9:00am will be called and may receive a home visit by the SRO and the absence will be counted as unexcused.

Make Up Work

Work from excused absences will be given and may be made up after the student returns to school. Students will have one day to complete work for each day they are absent.

Kindergarten Attendance

Even though it is not mandatory that parents enroll their children into kindergarten, once a child is enrolled in kindergarten, the child is expected to adhere to all state statutes, including attendance guidelines.

Habitual Truancy

Habitual truancy is defined to include students absent more than 10 days from school within a school year without being excused. Board Policy 6293 prohibits students who are defined as habitually truant from participating in extracurricular or co-curricular activities.

Chronic Absenteeism

Chronic absenteeism includes students absent from school for 10% or more of the school year for any reason. Any time a student is absent 10% of the school year without extenuating circumstances, regardless of the types of absences; a report may be filed with the Department of Child Services.

Truancy Prevention Procedures:

The following steps will be taken to keep parents informed of their child's absences and prevent truancy:

Number of Absences	School Response
5 Unexcused absences in a ten-week period	School officials will provide written notice to parents that the student is entering the "Excessive Absence Prevention Procedures Protocol"
5 Absences of any kind in a school year	School officials will send a letter to families notifying them of the number of absences the

	student has accumulated and inform them of the attendance policy.
10 Absences of any kind in a school year	School officials will send a letter to families notifying them of the number of absences the student has accumulated and inform them of the attendance policy. This communication will include notice that upon the 10 th unexcused absence or 18 total absences, a referral may be made to Boone County Child Protection Services.
10 unexcused absences in a school year OR 10% Absent in a school year	School officials will file a report with the Boone County Sheriff's Department and the Department of Child Services.

Per Indiana code, a student will not be suspended or expelled solely for being a habitual truant (missing ten or more unexcused absences in a school year) or being chronically absent (missing eighteen or more days during a school year).

Excessive Absence Prevention Procedures:

The following procedures apply to students enrolled in Kindergarten through Twelfth Grades who have 10 absences for the school year or five unexcused absences in a 10-week period.

1. The school shall upon the student's 10th absence provide written notice to parents. Such written notice shall include:
 - a. the student is an excessive absent student based upon having 10 absences in a school year;
 - b. the parent is responsible for monitoring the school attendance of the student and ensuring the student attends school;
 - c. the school will be initiating truancy prevention measures in regards to the absent student;
 - d. The parent is required to attend an attendance conference concerning the truancy measures the school will be implementing;
2. The school shall hold an attendance conference to discuss the student's absences and establish an attendance plan. The conference will be with the following people:
 - a. Assistant Principal
 - b. School Counselor
 - c. The parent of the student
 - d. Student at discretion of the school
3. The school shall establish an attendance plan that includes:
 - a. Wraparound services to ensure school attendance for the student.
 - b. The effective time period for the plan, but not to exceed 45 instructional days. This plan may carry over to the following school year.
 - c. Disciplinary actions the school will take if the student does not comply with the plan.
 - d. A referral to counseling, mentoring, or other services for the student as appropriate.
 - e. Whether the parent is required or expected to attend the services assigned to the student.
 - f. The signature of the student and the parent agreeing to the plan.

Tardiness

Elementary

Arriving after the morning bell or leaving early before 2:15 pm is considered a tardy or absence from regular school hours and will negatively impact a student's attendance rate. The school administration will, through written notification or email, contact the parents/guardians of students who have accumulated 8 days of tardiness. If attendance does not improve following the attendance notification, the administration will contact the SRO to report truancy concerns. A student who is tardy to school in the morning must report directly to the main office at the school and receive an admit slip.

STUDENT HEALTH SERVICES STATE REQUIREMENTS

The school maintains health services for all children so they may attend school with the best physical, mental, and emotional health conditions attainable to facilitate learning. Students who enter school for the first time, whether preschool, kindergarten or first grade, are requested to have a completed physical and dental examination.

BIRTH CERTIFICATE AND CURRENT IMMUNIZATION RECORD REQUIRED

The state requires a certified copy of the student's birth certificate and a copy of the child's current immunizations to be on file in our student records.

IMMUNIZATION POLICY

All children in K-12 need to have 2 doses of MMR & Varicella vaccine and should be vaccinated against Hepatitis B.

Current Indiana State Dept. of Health Requirements listed below:

Indiana State Department of Health
School Immunization Current Requirements

	3-5 Year Olds	K	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
DTaP/DTP/DT/Td*	4	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5
Polio **	3	4** *	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4
Measles	1	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2
Mumps	1	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2
Rubella	1	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2
Hepatitis B-	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3
Varicella ∞	1	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2
Hepatitis A	2	2	2	2	2	2	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	2
Tdap	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
MCV4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	1	1	1	1	2

*Four doses of DTaP/DTP/DT are acceptable if the fourth dose was administered on or after the child's fourth birthday.

**Three doses of polio vaccine are acceptable if 3rd dose was administered on or after the child's fourth birthday and the doses are all IPV or all OPV.

***The 4th dose of polio vaccine must be administered on or after child's fourth birthday.

~Two dose alternative adolescent schedule (Recombivax HB given at age 11-15 years x 2 doses) is acceptable if properly documented.

∞Physician documentation of disease history, including month and year, is proof of immunity for preschool – 6th grade students. A signed statement from the parent/guardian indicating chicken pox history of disease, including month and year is required for children in grades 7-12.

SCHOOL NURSE

A school nurse is in our building every day of the week. The school nurse is on call for medical emergencies.

In cases of medical emergencies, every effort will be made to first contact a parent or guardian of the child. If this is not possible or if, in school officials' opinion, immediate action is required, emergency ambulance services will be called.

STUDENT ILLNESS

1. A child with an illness that prevents the child from feeling well enough to participate in the usual activities and routines should not be sent to school. This would include fever over 99.6 degrees, vomiting, diarrhea, excessive coughing or runny nose, or extreme fatigue.
2. At school, if your child's temperature reaches 100.0 degrees, vomiting occurs, or he/she is unable to participate in the usual activities and routines because of illness, we will contact you. Keep contact information current.
3. Do not send your child back to school until they have been without a fever or fever reducing medication for 24 hours. A child should not return to school until the start of the next FULL school day following the 24-hour period. For example, if your child leaves at 1:00 PM on Monday, they are eligible to return on Wednesday morning. Your child needs this time to recuperate from the illness.

MEDICATIONS

To protect the health and welfare of children and school staff members alike, Indiana laws require that school personnel observe certain safeguards in administering prescription medication to pupils. If we are to administer prescription medicine to your child, the following procedures will be observed:

1. We must have written request of the parent/guardian or physician.
2. Medication that is brought to school must be checked in with authorized school personnel at your child's building.

3. Medication must be in the original container from the pharmacist with directions on when it is to be taken and how much to give.
4. Continuing long term medication must be re-verified at the beginning of each school year.

Non-prescription medication will be given or dispensed by the school nurse or other school personnel ONLY upon written request of the parent/guardian, which must include the specific instructions for administration.

WE CANNOT ASSUME RESPONSIBILITY FOR MEDICATION UNLESS THESE PROVISIONS ARE FOLLOWED.

We do stock Tylenol, Ibuprofen, Benadryl, Tums and Cough Drops for occasional minor aches and pains. If you want your child to receive these over-the-counter medications as needed, permission is indicated on Harmony and is good for the current school year.

POLICY FOR MEDICATION SENT TO SCHOOL

To protect the health and welfare of children and school staff members alike, Indiana law requires that school personnel observe certain safeguards in administering medications to students. This includes:

1. Only those medications that are medically necessary during the school hours for a student's attendance should be sent to school. All medication must be checked in with authorized school personnel. No student will be allowed to keep medication with them during the school day. (Exceptions-see # 4)
2. If prescription medication is required during the school day, we must have a written request of the parent/guardian or physician. Medication must be in the original container with the prescription label giving directions on when it is to be taken and how much is to be given. **Parents are responsible for transporting the medication.**
3. Tylenol tablets, Ibuprofen tablets, antacids and throat lozenges are available for occasional and unexpected discomforts during the school day. Parent permission is obtained at registration and is for the current school year only. Other non-prescription medications will be provided by and dispensed only upon written request of parent/guardian. These medications must be in the original container with specific instructions for administration.
4. A student with a chronic medical condition may possess and self-administer medication (Insulin, inhalers, Epi-pen) for their condition at school, at any school related activity, or on the school bus if the following conditions are met:
 - a. The student's parent has filed an authorization with the school to self-possess and self-administer the medication.
 - b. A physician states in writing that:
 - i. the student has a medical condition that requires urgent/emergency administration of the medication
 - ii. the student has been instructed in how and when to administer the medication.

HEALTH TRAINING PROGRAMS

Social Health also presents films and discussion on physical maturation for boys and girls, in grades 4, 5, and 6. Notices will be sent home with the students notifying the parents as to the date and time of the maturation film and discussion. If a parent objects or wishes to preview the material, please notify school administration.

E-LEARNING DAYS

Western Boone County Community School Corporation will be utilizing eLearning Days for both planned and inclement weather days. Planned days will be used to provide staff development, whereas inclement weather days will be unscheduled and determined as necessary.

On scheduled eLearning days, work will be posted by 3PM the afternoon before the scheduled day. Students will have until the following Sunday at Midnight to complete all work. Student work will be graded similarly to in-class work.

For inclement weather eLearning days, parents will still be notified by 6:00 AM. Students will be recorded as present when school work is completed within five school days. Assignments will be posted by 9:00 AM. If a delay is called, then changed to a closure, assignments will be posted by 10:00 AM. Student work will be graded similarly to in-class work.

Teachers will be available via email to answer questions during an eLearning day.

SCHOOL DISMISSAL DUE TO INCLEMENT WEATHER

School will remain open in Western Boone each school day unless inclement weather conditions bring about a crucial safety hazard to students getting to and from school. Officials will determine as early as possible if the schools are to be closed.

Parents will be contacted via the Student Notification System. Weather delays and closing are also posted on our school website and on Twitter. If severe weather conditions arise during the school day, the bus drivers will be notified and plans for dismissal will be made. However, at these times telephone lines often are jammed and communication is difficult. The radio stations will be alerted with an announcement. Parents are urged to make arrangements in advance for such an emergency that would involve their children.

When weather is bad, but not severe enough to close schools, buses will be traveling slower than usual and may be behind schedule. If more than ten minutes late, it is suggested that parents check the radio to see if schools are closed. It is possible that on a given day one road might be blocked when the other roads are accessible. In this case the bus driver may not attempt to drive that section of the route. Students who are missed because the road is blocked will not be counted absent on the day that the bus driver could not pick them up.

Procedures to be followed for extra-curricular activities due to inclement weather:

Morning Delay in School- No morning practices

Early Dismissal of School- No practice or games.

- Determination time in the morning will be no later than 6:00 a.m.
- Discretion of the Superintendent will be used when unusual circumstances arise.

School Messenger Notification System

The School Messenger Notification System is a web-based system that allows Western Boone School officials to send immediate notification of emergency information of official information to all home telephones, cell phones, or email addresses in a matter of minutes to all subscribed parents and patrons. Upon enrollment at WB school, the parent is automatically subscribed to the School Messenger system. To unsubscribe, parents may notify the school office.

School Messenger will also deliver text messages with important information about upcoming events, school closings, safety alerts, and more. You can participate in this free service by sending a text message 'Y' to school's short code number, 67587. You can opt out of these messages at any time by simply replying to one of our messages with "stop".

HARMONY

Harmony gives you and your children secure access to limited information contained in the school's Student Management System, so you can see important information that is specific to your child's performance and conduct in class, grades, attendance, and so forth. You will also be able to communicate with school staff via email, whenever you need to. Parents and guardians can create a Family Access account, including user ID and Password. For assistance, please call the Thorntown office at 765) 485-2447

PARENT-TEACHER ORGANIZATION

The Thorntown PTO is a nonprofit organization of parents and teachers interested in the education and development of students. PTO sponsors fundraisers and special events for students and families throughout the year. Profits are used to support many activities and to help purchase school equipment. Most events are announced through newsletters or via Harmony. Watch for ways you can be involved in your child's school and please volunteer. Students benefit more when everyone supports PTO.

PARENT TEACHER CONFERENCES

Parent-Teacher conferences will be scheduled during the first semester of the year. Teachers will hold conferences during the evening hours. All parents and guardians are encouraged to attend.

SCHOOL VISITATIONS

Any school visitors should be scheduled in advance. When visiting, we would request that cell phones be kept silent. All visitors must provide photo ID, and sign-in through Safe Visitor to receive an identification badge upon entering. Visitors should refrain from bringing younger children or siblings when volunteering at school.

VOLUNTEERS/ CHAPERONES

We appreciate the tremendous volunteers and chaperones who help our students and staff; however, we need to maintain an environment as safe as possible. To support this, we are requiring anyone who volunteers or chaperones at school functions to have a Limited Criminal History Check, which can be accessed by clicking on the volunteer registration link found on our district webpage.

KINDERGARTEN

Although kindergarten is not compulsory, it is our hope and desire that eventually 100% of our children will have kindergarten training. Western Boone Community Schools operates a full-day kindergarten program. Students must be five years old on or before Aug. 1 to enter kindergarten. Students turning 5 years old prior to September 1 may be considered for early entry to kindergarten per school board policy SB 6294. Early entry is not guaranteed.

PRESCHOOL

Thorntown Elementary provides a parent-funded preschool program. To be eligible for preschool, students must be 4 years old on or before August 1. Registration information is available by calling the office anytime during school hours.

DEVELOPMENTAL PRESCHOOL – This class will be available to students who qualify for speech, occupational, or physical therapy services as determined by a case conference committee. Preschool

curriculum focuses on literacy skill instruction and developmentally appropriate learning opportunities. This class will be held at Granville Wells Elementary School.

GRADE LEVEL STANDARDS

Grade level standards may be accessed by visiting the Indiana Department of Education website- in.gov/doi

HEARING AND VISION

Hearing screening is required for students in grades 1st and 4th, students transferring into the school and any student suspected of having a hearing defect. Schools must report hearing screening results to the Indiana Department of Education via the School Health Report due by June 15th of each school year. Students that fail their hearing screen at school will be rescreened in 2 weeks. Students who fail the rescreen will be referred for further screening outside of school.

Vision screening is required for students in grades 1st, 3rd, and 5th; and any student suspected of a visual defect. Schools must report their vision screening results to the Department of Education via the School Health Report due by June 15th of each school year. MCT (modified clinical technique) is performed by an Optometrist at school for students in 1st grade. Students that fail their vision screen at school will be rescreened in 2 weeks. Students who fail the rescreen will be referred for further screening outside of school.

SPEECH

The Speech/Hearing clinician will screen teacher referrals to determine if placement in speech, language and hearing programs would be advantageous to the student.

TECHNOLOGY

Students in grades K-12 are assigned a laptop for use at school each day. Students access technology daily to enhance instruction and learning. Students must follow the instruction of the teacher to ensure proper use and care for the equipment.

Computer use:

1. School computers are to be used for educational activities in support of curriculum plans.
2. To maintain the privilege of using a school computer, a student must abide by the computer/network usage rules found in our district Acceptable Use Policy (AUP).
3. Any student using any computer in the building must be supervised by a teacher.
4. Student email access is permitted for educational purposes.
5. Chat room and broadcast messages are prohibited.
6. No one may log in under someone else's name. Both parties will be found at fault.
7. Sharing of passwords is strictly prohibited. Violations will result in loss of computer/network privileges.
8. Deleting or altering someone else's files is prohibited.
9. Classroom and school rules apply to computer use.
10. Students not observing computer safety rules may lose their technology privileges.
11. Anyone suspecting illegal or inappropriate use of the internet is to report it immediately to the teacher or school administrator.
12. Students that cause damage to school computers by misuse, negligence, or vandalism will be

charged for repairs or replacements.

S.T.E.M.

Western Boone School emphasizes learning in the areas of science, technology, engineering, and math. Thorntown Elementary houses a state-of-the-art Makerspace and a Tech Studio. Classrooms visit this space for special projects and to apply the problem-solving process, through collaborative efforts and critical thinking. Sixth grade students produce daily video announcements, in the format of a news broadcast, which are viewed across the school each morning

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Physical Education involves a wide variety of physical activities. Each student will have a physical education class regularly. When the classes are held, all students must wear tennis shoes for the child's safety. These shoes do not have to be new but should be left at school for gym use only. Any student without tennis shoes will not be permitted to participate. To prevent loss of instructional time, students will not change clothes for physical education classes.

If a student is to be excused from physical education for any length of time a medical excuse from a doctor will be required.

A doctor's excuse will be required to allow the child to return to physical education if they have had a previous medical note excusing them for this activity.

SNACKS AND WATER BOTTLES

Students are permitted to bring a snack for individual consumption each day. We ask that they do not store snack for multiple days, as it can attract insects or rodents. Students are also invited to bring a water bottle each day, filled only with water. Water refill stations are available throughout the building.

SCHOOL COUNSELOR

The school counselor is an important part of our school community. The counselor regularly meets with students individually, in small groups, and with whole classes. Examples of lessons would include:

- College and Career Readiness
- Anti-bullying
- Social Skills
- Academic goal setting
- 6th Grade transition to WeBo

The counselor also serves as a part of our crisis response team. If you feel your student could benefit from seeing the school counselor, please contact the office for more information.

TITLE I PROGRAM

The Title One Program is a federally funded program that provides supplemental instruction intended to help students meet high expectations. All students at Thorntown benefit from small group instruction designed to meet their unique needs. Students are identified for tiered levels of support through achievement test scores and by teacher referral.

The Board of Education endorses the parent involvement goals of Title I and encourages regular participation by parents in the learning programs at Thorntown. The education of children is viewed as a cooperative effort among the parents, school and community. In this policy, the "parent" also includes guardians and other family members involved in supervising the child's schooling.

Pursuant to federal guidelines, the school will develop jointly with parents and distribute a written parent involvement policy.

At the required annual meeting of Title I parents will have opportunities to participate in the design, development, operation and evaluation of the program for the next school year. Proposed activities shall be present to fulfil the requirements necessary to address the requirements of parental involvement.

In addition to the required annual meeting, additional meetings shall be held, at various times of the day and /or evenings, for parents of children participating in support services. The meetings shall be used to provide parents with:

1. Information about programs provided under Title I
2. A description and explanation of the curriculum in use, the forms of academic assessment used to measure student progress, and the proficiency levels students are expected to meet
3. Opportunities to formulate suggestions and to participate, as appropriate, in decisions relating to the education of their children; and
4. The opportunity to bring parental comments, if they are dissatisfied with the school's Title I program to the district level

The parents of children identified to participate in supplemental support services shall receive an explanation of the reasons supporting each child's selection for the program, a set of objectives to be addressed, and a description of the services to be provided. Opportunities will be provided for the parents to discuss their child's progress. Parents will also receive guidance as to how they can assist in the education of their children at home.

Each school in the corporation receiving Title I funds shall jointly develop with parents of the children served in the program a "School-Parent Compact" outlining the manner in which parents, school staff and students share the responsibility for improved student academic achievement in meeting State standards.

The "School-Parent Compact" shall:

1. Describe the school's responsibility to provide high-quality curriculum and instruction in a supportive and effective learning environment enabling children in the Title I program to meet the State's academic achievement standards;
2. Indicate the ways in which each parent will be responsible for supporting the children's learning, such as monitoring television watching, volunteering in the classroom, and participating, as appropriate, in decisions related to their child's education and positive use of extra-curricular time; and
3. Address the importance of parent-teacher communication on an on-going basis, with at a minimum, parent-teacher conferences, frequent reports to parents, and reasonable access to staff.

Legal Reference: 20 U.S.C. 6318

Dyslexia Plan

In accordance with the Indiana Dyslexia Law, Western Boone Community School Corporation will screen all students in grades K-2 during the first semester of the school year. We will administer the Universal Screening process. This is where students in the above-mentioned grades will be tested in 6 subset categories to determine if they may be "at risk" or "at some risk" for dyslexia.

These 6 subsets will be screened by using a combination of NWEA, Words Their Way, and the Arkansas Rapid Naming Screener (RAN). Once the Universal Screeners have been administered, cut scores will be determined based upon the grade level's performance. We then can identify the bottom 20% of students

in each of the grade levels K-2. The bottom 20% will be considered our “at risk” or “at some risk” students.

At this juncture, these students will be placed into an intervention group. The interventions will include but not limited to: Phoneme ID, Letter recognition, Letter sounds, Phonemic Awareness, Rapid recall, and Phonics. After 6-weeks of the above-mentioned interventions these students will be rescreened using the Universal Screeners.

- If students show appropriate growth they will be released from this intervention group.
- If students do NOT show appropriate growth a parent letter will be sent home stating their child needs additional screening and intervention in the areas of phonics and phonemic awareness.

Next, these “at risk” or “at some risk” students will be given the Level 1 screeners from NWEA & Words Their Way. They will then be placed into an intensive intervention group focusing primarily on phonemic awareness and phonics. Again we will have a 6-week cycle of intensive interventions and then rescreen the Level 1 tests.

- If students show appropriate growth on the Level 1 rescreen, they will be released from the intensive intervention group.
- If the student does NOT show appropriate growth they will continue with intensive interventions while an M-team meeting will be planned and a new course of action will be determined.

Universal Screening Potential Schedule: September - 2nd grade; October - 1st grade;
November/December - Kindergarten

High Ability/GT Program

High Ability Belief Statement

Western Boone County Community Schools are a partnership of school and community that ensures each child has the opportunity to maximize personal academic growth in a safe learning environment. The school and community recognize that not all children learn at the same rate. Some children possess the ability to learn at an advanced level in areas of general aptitude, language arts, and math. We recognize that children who possess advanced intellectual capabilities come from various cultural, ethical, and socioeconomic backgrounds. The corporation will provide curriculum that meets the academic, social, and emotional needs of all students.

Student Identification and Qualification

Multi-Faceted Identification Process

Western Boone employs a multi-faceted identification process to identify high ability learners.

The following measures will be used to identify students as high ability:

Terra Nova Achievement Assessment: K-6
CogAt Aptitude Assessment: K-2
OLSAT Aptitude Assessment: 3-9
PSAT: Grades 10-12

Teacher Observation Checklist: K-6

Students who score at or above the 95th percentile in three of four areas are identified as high ability learners.

NWEA assessment scores will serve as a screener for High Ability identification. Based on the results of NWEA assessment scores, students will be considered for additional assessments to evaluate for potential high ability identification. Parents of students selected for additional evaluation will be notified and will be provided an opportunity to permit or decline additional testing for high ability identification.

In addition, students may be considered for evaluation with a teacher or parent request, or if the student is a new enrollee whose school records indicate that the child qualified for high ability programming at the school where the child was previously enrolled.

Students who are identified as high ability in previous grades will be reassessed and must meet the qualification criteria in 5th grade to continue high ability identification.

If a student does not meet the qualification criteria to be identified as high ability, a teacher or parent may submit a formal appeal in writing using the Appeal for High Ability Identification Form available from the school principal.

Appeal Process

Parents or teachers who wish to appeal a student's high ability identification may do so by obtaining an appeal form from the building principal and returning it to the classroom teacher or high ability resource teacher. Additional student data will be considered during the Appeals Committee meeting. A minimum of three (3) certified members of the BBPC will meet to review the appeal packet and make a determination to recommend admission or denial.

B.A.S.E. PROGRAM

The Parent Handbook for the Before and After School Experience has been developed to provide parents with information concerning the policies and procedures which govern the program. Mental Health America of Boone County is responsible for the administration and operation of the program with the Before and After School Experience Advisory Committee, the appropriate school personnel, parents, the Lebanon Community School Corporation and the Western Boone County School Corporation. Parents interested in more information about BASE should contact 482-3020.

Mental Health America in Boone County is a not-for-profit corporation whose objectives are the promotion and development of programs that address the spiritual, emotional, physical, recreational, intellectual and cultural needs of the youth of Boone County and their families. This council has an elected Board of Directors of nine. They have under their direction the Before and After School Advisory Committee.

The program will be located at each of the four elementary schools in Lebanon Community School Corporation and the two elementary schools in the Western Boone School District as enrollment dictates. The program is open to all children enrolled in these elementary schools with priorities given based on family commitments as outlined below. It is nonsectarian and is available without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin or handicapping conditions. Questions should be directed to the Business Director or site leader.

PROGRAM PURPOSE

The purpose of the Before and After School Experience is to provide a consistent and quality childcare alternative to parents who are unavailable to supervise their children at home before and after school. It is not an academic extension of school even though it is located in the schools. Instead, a more open-ended setting will be provided where the children will be allowed to master their own interests and use free time creatively. There will be mixed age groupings, a variety of choices, homework tutoring, self-help skills, provisions for privacy, and opportunities for physical and emotional release. The program is designed to be a support program for working parents. Priority for enrollment will be given to children from K-3

**In the event of inclement weather and school is dismissed early there will be no B.A.S.E program for that day.*

D.A.R.E. PROGRAM

The Western Boone School Corporation, in conjunction with the Boone County Sheriff Department, is presenting a drug abuse, anti-gang and violence education program at your child's elementary school. The primary emphasis of the program is to assist students in recognizing and resisting the pressures that influence them to experiment with drugs and/or gangs. The program is entitled D.A.R.E. (Drug Abuse Resistance Education).

Taught by highly trained law enforcement officers, DARE Education Programs deliver evidence-based curricula that teach students good decision-making skills that will help them lead safe and healthy lives and cope with high-risk circumstances including drugs, alcohol, violence, bullying, and internet safety.

The curriculum, developed by the Los Angeles Unified School District's Instructional Specialists, will be taught by an officer in uniform and will cover such topics as how to say no to peers, building self-esteem and alternatives to drug use. For the first and second graders, this will be an introductory four-week course taught once a week for approximately fifteen to twenty minutes per lesson. For the third and fourth graders, this will be a five-week course taught once a week for approximately twenty to twenty-five minutes per lesson. A semester course will be given one day each week to fifth grade students.

SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICER (SRO)

Each Western Boone school has a full-time SRO on-site throughout each school day. These officers contribute to the school culture to foster a sense of safety and security. They also engage with students throughout the building as a positive role model. DARE is taught to students in grades K-5 by our DARE officer. School SROs have completed specialized training from the National Association of School Resource Officers.

STUDENT COUNCIL

Thorntown Elementary has an organized Student Council. The purpose of this organization will be to promote school spirit and give students a sense of pride in their school, as well as to provide a sense of self-government. Student Council will consist of 1 boy and 1 girl elected from each class in grades 4-6. These elected members will meet with their club sponsors to have planning sessions for special school events. The Student Council will elect from its own ranks a President (6th grader), Vice-President (5th grader), Secretary and Treasurer.

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

1. Students must be passing all subjects listed to be eligible for Student Council (English, Reading, Math, Social Studies, Science/Health). Students must maintain a C average to be an active representative of the Student Council.
2. If grade requirements are not met, one probationary period of 9 weeks will be allowed for the representative with the alternate to take his/her place. At the end of the probationary period if the

elected representative grade requirements are not met, the alternate will complete the year.

3. Students must be in good standing with administration and teachers to remain active in Student Council.

ATHLETIC PROGRAM

Students in 6th grade are invited to participate in sports at Western Boone Jr./Sr. High. All student athletes need to be registered in Final Forms, with a current IHSAA physical on file.

To participate in athletics, a student must pass all their subjects. If a student demonstrates failing grades within a sports season, the administration will conference with parents and the student regarding an action plan for limited or continued participation. Student athletes also must be in good standing with attendance and discipline. Sixth grade students participating in athletics at Western Boone will maintain academic and behavioral expectations outlined by the athletic department. Students should remember that during any after school activity they are representing our school and school rules are still applicable.

Sixth Grade Activities

Western Boone Junior High School fields athletic interscholastic teams in cross country, volleyball, tennis, soccer, basketball, wrestling, swimming, track, baseball, softball, and golf. Volleyball and basketball are considered to be grade level specific sports. Students only compete on and against participants at the same academic grade level. Cross country, tennis, soccer, wrestling, swimming, track, baseball, softball and golf are not considered to be grade level specific and allow competition across grade levels.

Most of the schools with whom Western Boone Junior High School competes are comprised of students in grades six through eight. To increase participation in sports which are not considered to be grade level specific, participation is open to Western Boone School Corporation students in grade six. All sixth-grade athletes need to be registered in Final Forms for participation.

The administration of Western Boone Junior / Senior High School reserves the right to limit the participation of any and all sixth-grade students in their interscholastic teams' dependent upon the participation level at the seventh and eighth grade levels.

Sixth grade students also have the option of participating in band and/or choir at Western Boone. Student participation will take place during the last period of the day and will be in lieu of other related art classes. Students will be transported via bus from TES to Western Boone.

FIELD TRIPS

Field trips are an important part of the educational program; however, while they may be enjoyable, their

primary purpose is educational. Adult chaperones should not bring younger children/siblings along on field trips. A parent permission slip will be sent home prior to each trip. The form must be signed and returned for your child to participate. Teachers will establish guidelines for the students and chaperones. To help offset the cost of the trips, each student could be asked to pay a fee for each trip. However, no child will be denied field trips that cannot meet this expense. We require parents to have a Limited Criminal History Check on file before they can chaperone a field trip.

HOMEWORK

Homework will be assigned at the discretion of the teacher within the policy guidelines as follows:

1. Teachers will assign homework as an extension of the class work. Homework assignments need to be completed according to the directions given by the teacher. It will be evaluated in relation to the objectives of the subject being studied.
2. Homework will be used to provide experiences that will enhance learning.
3. Homework will not be viewed as punishment or as a substitute for classroom instruction.
4. Homework will be used to help strengthen the self-discipline needed to concentrate.
5. Homework assignments will vary according to the age, learning ability level, physical needs and interests of the students.
6. Homework assignments will reflect the teacher's appreciation of the scope of school-sponsored activities and student responsibilities in other subject areas.
7. Parents are expected to be responsible for creating a learning environment appropriate for completing homework assignments.

GRADING SCALE

The grading scale below is used by all teachers in evaluating most of the student's work. There are some papers and activities that could not and should not be graded by this percentage scale. Semester tests will not be given to elementary students.

92-100---A	4.00	72-77----C	2.00
90-91----A-	3.67	70-71----C-	1.67
88-89----B+	3.33	68-69----D+	1.33
82-87----B	3.00	62-67----D	1.00
80-81----B-	2.67	60-61----D-	0.67
78-79----C+	2.33	<60----F	0.00

GRADE REPORTING

Our corporation has four nine-week grading periods. Parents will be notified at the midterm of the grading period to encourage them to view Harmony Family Access to review their child's current grades. Parents will be notified when report cards have been published at the end of the nine weeks grading period. Paper copies of report cards will be sent home to families without internet access.

PROGRESS AND PROMOTION

The awarding of grades and making decisions relative to promotion or retention is the responsibility of teachers and the building principal. Parents are to be kept informed of their child's progress through report cards, personal contacts, letters, and parent teacher conferences.

HONOR ROLL

To be eligible for scholastic Honor Roll, a student must have a grade of B or better in each of the following areas: Reading, Mathematics, English, Social Studies, Spelling, and Science and Health.

ILEARN Information

Indiana's Learning Evaluation and Assessment Readiness Network (ILEARN) is an assessment system that measures achievement and growth related to Indiana Academic Standards for students in grades three through eight, high school biology, and high school U.S. Government. The assessment system includes:

- A through year assessment for grades 3-8 mathematics and English Language Arts (ELA) with 3 Checkpoints and one end-of-year summative assessment.
- An end-of-year summative assessment for grades 4 and 6 science, grade 5 social studies, high school Biology, and high school U.S. Government.

Data from the ILEARN Checkpoints informs instruction and interventions on the Indiana Academic Standards, supporting student learning throughout the course of the school year. Data from ILEARN end-of-year (summative) assessments is used to check students' mastery of the standards at the end of the year, to evaluate program efficacy, and for school accountability.

Section 1111(b) (2) (l) (ii) of the federal No Child Left Behind Act requires all students be assessed academically in mathematics and reading. In Indiana, the statewide test that meets the NCLB requirement is ILEARN. Every student attending a public, charter or accredited nonpublic school in Indiana must take the required Indiana assessments to graduate or, in the case of IREAD-3, for the promotion to 4th grade. Furthermore, it is a violation of Indiana's compulsory school attendance laws for a parent to refuse to send his or her child to school for the purpose of avoiding tests, including assessments (See IC 20-33-2). The Indiana Administrative Code enforces this requirement by requiring that points be deducted from a school's performance and improvement category scores if the school fails to assess at least 95 percent of its students. The score determines a school's performance and improvement grade. Thus, students' failure to take Indiana's assessments may result in a lower A-F accountability grade.

As with any test, a student who is absent from school on the day (or time) he or she is scheduled to participate in required statewide testing will take the test upon their return to school. Absences for the purpose of abstaining from testing will be marked as unexcused, and class work missed during the student's absence will not be accepted for credit. Students who are absent during an entire test window for the purpose of abstaining from required statewide testing will be unexcused and may be subject to retention, expulsion, additional disciplinary consequences as deemed appropriate by the school principal or his/ her designee. Teachers will not send make up work or spend class time remediating students whose absences are unexcused.

Parents of students who are absent for the purpose of abstaining from testing are subject to consequences under Indiana's Compulsory School Attendance Laws, Ind. Code 20-33-2. Parents of students who are absent during the entire test window will be reported to the Boone County Sheriff's Office for habitual truancy and violation of Compulsory Attendance Laws and will be subject to actions taken by the Boone County Court.

MULTIDISCIPLINARY TEAM

Multidisciplinary Team - An interdisciplinary team of staff members that provide a systemic approach to the prevention, identification, referral, intervention, support and follow-up procedures affecting students with academic and/or behavior concerns which interfere with their own education. Educational testing will be completed based on requirements stated in Article 7, Indiana's Special Education Rules.

THORNTOWN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT PLAN PREPARED IN COMPLIANCE WITH PUBLIC LAW 221

Each school in Indiana is required to submit a comprehensive school improvement plan. It is prepared under the leadership of the building administration, working in cooperation with the school improvement committee appointed in compliance with Indiana Public Law 221. The plan is structured using the guidelines provided in rules approved by the Indiana State Board of Education. It covers a three-year period. The plan is reviewed annually. The staff at Thorntown Elementary School strives to provide continuous improvement in student achievement. This plan is a statement to the community as to how the school expects to fulfill that commitment in the coming years. A complete copy is available online, in the school office and the administration office.

FIRE DRILLS

The signal for a fire drill is a continuous sounding of the fire alarm. There is a larger placard in each classroom denoting the exit students shall use for evacuation. Each teacher will instruct students regarding specific procedures. Drills will be held monthly.

TORNADO/ SEVERE WEATHER ALERTS

The signal for a tornado or severe weather drill is an announcement from the office. The teacher is responsible for the deployment of his or her group. If we are under a severe weather warning at dismissal time, students will be detained and kept in the building. Students will only be released to their parents if parents sign a release statement.

There will be 1 drill conducted each semester.

Additional safety/lockdown drills are conducted each semester in cooperation with the Boone County Sherriff's Office.

PETS IN SCHOOL

We ask that parents receive approval from the principal for their child to bring any animal or pet to school. Please refrain from bringing pets when escorting children to and from school.

CAFETERIA

Harmony Family Access

Western Boone Community School Corporation utilizes Harmony Family Access for online electronic deposit into school lunch accounts. Parents are able to keep track of their student's account balance and deposit money into your student's meal account using your Visa, MasterCard, Discover or American Express. Participation in this service is voluntary; you may enroll at any time.

BREAKFAST AND LUNCH PROGRAM

Breakfast is served each day to any interested student. Type A lunches are served in the cafeteria each day school is in operation. Milk is served with each meal. In an effort to encourage healthy eating choices, soft drinks should not be included in student lunches brought from home. To support the Western Boone Wellness Policy parents should not bring fast food to students in the cafeteria.

Any student who qualifies for free or reduced-price lunch receives 1 milk with their lunch

Each student will use a student pin number that will be kept in the lunchroom. Students can still bring lunch money each week and it will be credited to their account. Information will be available at registration. Make checks payable to Thorntown Elementary School.

It is the parent's responsibility to inform the school nurse of any food allergy their child might have and provide applicable medical documentation. Due to health concerns, the sharing of food is not permitted.

Elementary School Cafeteria Charging Policy- Parents will receive a low-balance notification via email and paper copy once the student's account reaches \$8.00. Students may be served until their account reaches a negative balance of \$8.00. If the account is not replenished, students will be served a cheese/peanut butter sandwich and milk. Once funds are replenished, the account will then be charged for the sandwich and milk. Based on financial criteria, parents may apply for free/reduced meals.

WELLNESS POLICY

The board believes that good nutrition, healthy eating patterns, and physical activity are important for academic achievement and lifelong health. The WBCSC supports participation in the National School Lunch and Breakfast Program and in accordance with federal law, establishes this wellness policy. To promote student wellness, the District supports goals in the following four areas:

Nutrition Education

1. Nutrition education will be included with health education curriculum standards and guidelines.
2. Nutrition education will be offered in lunchrooms as well as in classrooms through coordination between the administration, foodservice and instructional staff.
3. Students in grades K-12 will receive nutrition education to support adoption of healthy eating behaviors.
4. Schools will support nutrition education activities with the coordinated school health program.

Physical Activity

1. Students will be given opportunities for physical activity during the day through physical education classes, daily recess periods for elementary students or the integration of physical activity into the academic curriculum.
2. Students will be given opportunities for physical activity through a range of before and after-school programs including, but not limited to, intramurals, interscholastic athletics, and activity clubs.
3. Schools will encourage parents and guardians to support their children's participation in physical activity, to be physically active role models, and to include physical activity in family activities.
4. Schools will promote good nutrition and lifelong physical activity.

Foods and Beverages on School Campuses

1. All food available for sale to students during the school day including vending machines, student stores, and fund raisers should offer food choices that provide the opportunity for students to select products that reflect healthy and nutritional principles and lifestyles.

2. All food sales must comply with state and federal nutrition program regulations/guidelines.
3. All beverage and food vending machines that are available to students shall provide at least 50% healthy beverages and 50% healthy foods. The following definitions apply to this policy:
Healthy beverages: water, milk, fruit drinks with at least 50 % fruit juice, vegetable drinks, and 100 % fruit juices.
Healthy foods: any food item that does not have more than 30% total calories from fat, more than 10% of the recommended daily value for one of the following nutrients: vitamin A, vitamin C, calcium, iron, protein, or fiber.
4. Prices for all beverages and food items sold to students will be offered at comparable prices for comparable size packages.

Other School-Based Activities Designed to Promote Student Wellness

1. Wbccsc will provide a clean, safe, enjoyable meal environment for students.
2. Wbccsc encourages all students to participate in school meal programs and will make every attempt to protect the identity of students who eat free and reduced-price meals.
3. Wbccsc will schedule lunch times as near the middle of the day as possible.
4. Wbccsc will ensure that school fundraising efforts support healthy and positive dietary products and lifestyles.

Legal Reference: PL 108-265

PARTIES, TREATS, AND CHEWING GUM

Parties may be held for special occasions in the classroom. All treats must be pre-packaged. Flowers and balloons sent to the students during the day for their birthday or a special day will be held in the office until student dismissal. Students will be notified to stop by the office to pick up their gift. Parents, please do not send party invitations to school to be passed out, as classmates who get left out are sometimes saddened by their absence of an invitation. If you do ask to distribute party invitations at school, you must include an invitation for every child in the class. Chewing gum is not permitted at school. The main concern is that gum gets on the carpet and under tables. Soft drinks and candy are not allowed at school unless approved by the teacher.

STUDENT DRESS

School personnel have the discretion to determine whether clothing is appropriate. Safety, comfort, and decency will determine appropriate clothing. Writing and/or pictures on clothing promoting the use of violence, drugs, alcohol, and tobacco should not be worn. Clothing that is offensive to others will not be allowed. Skin-tight or excessively clingy yoga pants, bare midriffs, low hung pants, spaghetti strap tops, see-through or cut out fabric or material, or another attire which draws negative comments or inappropriate attention to your child, should not be worn. Torn or ripped clothing should not be worn. Shoes must be worn at all times. No holes in pants above fingertip length. Open-toed shoes are discouraged, and sandals without ankle straps are not permitted due to safety issues and physical activity during the school day. Shorts and skirts must be fingertip-length. Shoes sometimes called "heelies" are not permitted at school as they damage carpet and leave marks on the floors. Tennis shoes must be worn during physical education class. Hoods (on hooded sweatshirts) are not to be used in the building. Hats should not be worn in the building, unless a special day has been designated. Shirts with "spaghetti straps" are discouraged. Thorntown Elementary School is air-conditioned. The temperature of the rooms will be maintained at a comfortable level. On hot days, students should wear clothing appropriate for the comfort level of the classrooms and not the outside temperature. **Students will go outside whenever possible.** Coats, sweatshirts, and sweaters may be kept in the student's locker. Students are prohibited from wearing cosplay-type attire, such as ears, tails, masks, and other costume accessories, unless it is a part of a school-sponsored activity.

LOST AND FOUND

Lost articles should be taken to the lost and found. Anyone who has lost an article should check the lost and found. All unclaimed articles are available daily for examination and will be located on the gym balcony. Marking items of clothing, especially lunch boxes, hats and gloves, will help us return lost items to the proper person.

TELEPHONE CALLING

Teachers and students are not to be called from the class unless an emergency exists. All calls to the school will be directed through the secretary's switchboard. Messages for students and teachers will be given to them at appropriate times.

No student is to use the phone unless an emergency exists, and he/she has permission from the school secretary, teacher, or administrator.

Parents are encouraged to call by 2:00 in the day if a change in plans has occurred regarding the student going home. Whenever possible, let the student know about any changes before leaving for school.

Student Wireless Communication Device Policy BP - 6425



[REDACTED]

PLAYGROUND

All equipment should be used as it was designed to be used. The following rules will be enforced while students are on the playground:

1. There shall be only one person on a swing. Students shall not stand up / or lay down in the swing while swinging.
2. Students shall sit down when using the slide.
3. Students shall not sit on the monkey bars.
4. Students shall not throw snowballs or slide on ice.
5. Students shall not play tackle football.
6. Students shall stay away from classroom windows.
7. Writing on the asphalt is not allowed.
8. Student play involving karate kicks, "Big Time Wrestling Holds" or punches will not be allowed.
9. Electronic musical devices are not allowed.
10. Instructional assistants have the same authority as a teacher.
11. Failure to follow guidelines for recess could result in the loss of this activity.

Students should not bring the following items to school for use on the playground or classrooms.

1. Hard baseballs
2. Baseball bats of any kind
3. Skateboards
4. Laptops/Tablets
5. Cell Phones
6. Remote powered vehicles
7. Toys of any kind
8. Laser lights (they can cause potential eye damage)
9. Trading cards of any kind

The school cannot accept responsibility for personal items (toys, playthings) brought from home.

*Roller skating, skateboarding, Heelys and other skating activities are prohibited on school grounds.

TOYS FROM HOME

School is the place where attention should be focused on learning. Toys (*including toys, trading cards and electronic devices*) brought from home too often become the focal point and become a distraction from learning. Frequently, toys get damaged and create undue hardship for the teacher, as well as the owner. Therefore, toys are not to be brought to school. Teachers may designate specific "Show and Tell" days whereby toys from home may be brought to school for that day. Students may be directed to keep toys in their bag, or the teacher may confiscate them until a time when the toy(s) can be returned.

DISCIPLINE

Our goal is to create an atmosphere that allows learning to take place. Student supervision and the desirable behavior of students are responsibilities shared by students, parents, and teachers. Each teacher establishes rules for students to follow within their classroom. Students are expected to do what is asked of them while under the jurisdiction of any faculty or staff member.

DISCIPLINARY POLICY OF WESTERN BOONE SCHOOL CORPORATION

The Board of School Trustees of Western Boone School Corporation adopts this policy in accordance with the requirement of Indiana Code 20-33-8-12. All administrators, teachers and staff members of the school corporation shall comply to the extent applicable, with the Due Process and Pupil Discipline Act, Indiana Code 20-33-8, as amended from time to time, in connection with the discipline of students, whether in or outside of the school setting. Any action to expel or suspend a student from school shall be in accordance with the above Act. Additional forms of disciplinary action, which are not covered by the Act, include but are not limited to the following:

- 1) Counseling with the student or group of students.
- 2) Conference with the parent/legal guardian or group of parents/legal guardians.
- 3) Assigning students additional work.
- 4) Requiring a student to remain in school after regular hours to do additional schoolwork or for counseling.
- 5) Restriction of extracurricular activity(s) or other school-based privileges.
- 6) Removal of a student by a teacher from that teacher's class for a period not to exceed one period.
- 7) Assignment by the principal to Lunch Detention, Recess Detention, Homework Detention, ISS, OSS, or Alternative School.

Additional rules of student conduct and procedures relating to student discipline for the Junior-Senior High School, Granville Wells, and Thorntown Elementary Schools are attached hereto and incorporated into this policy.

DISCIPLINE PROCEDURES

Referral of a student to the principal and/or assistant principal is used after the teacher has attempted other appropriate preventive and corrective measures. Once a student reaches the office the seriousness of the case will speak for itself. The case will be dealt with as rapidly, firmly, and fairly as possible. In many instances, parents will be contacted. When a student is suspended out of school, the parent will be contacted as soon as possible. After the student and his/her parents or legal guardians have conferred with administration, the student may be re-admitted to the school at the end of the suspension. It is understood that during an out-of-school suspension the suspended student cannot attend class, participate in any school activity, function, school sponsored event, or be on school grounds. Per Board Policy 60-40, Western Boone Community School Corporation School Board of Trustees will not hear suspension/expulsion appeals.

GENERAL STATEMENTS OF GOOD BEHAVIOR

If every student were to adopt the policy that the main purpose of school is an education, and strive toward that goal, disciplinary problems would be nonexistent. Therefore, the following statements are presented to serve as a guide to acceptable behavior.

- Student disrespect toward teachers, school personnel, students, guests, or oneself will not be tolerated in any form.
- The use of profanity, fighting, littering, running in the building, throwing objects, defacing school or private property, name calling, tardiness to school, screaming or yelling, whistling, horseplay, stealing, tampering with defibrillators, fire extinguishers or fire alarms, gambling, and violence are acts that will not be tolerated and will result in disciplinary action.
- School equipment, supplies and textbooks are furnished for the student's use. The student is responsible for the care and use of such items.
- Students share in the responsibility of keeping the halls, classrooms, and grounds free of litter. Students should make every effort to place trash in the proper containers at all times.
- Students staying after school must be under the direct supervision of a teacher or coach. Anyone without direct supervision must leave the building.

PBIS (POSITIVE BEHAVIOR INTERVENTIONS & SUPPORTS)

The Western Boone School Corporation has adopted PBIS into practice. PBIS is a schoolwide system that operates from the idea that successful individual behavior is linked to host environments or school climates that are effective, efficient, relevant, and durable. (Zins & Ponti, 1990). This is a proactive measure that focuses on teaching expected behavior and reinforcing positive behavior. A PBIS leadership team has been developed in each Western Boone school to support implementation of PBIS across classrooms, to plan celebrations in honor of positive behavior, and to facilitate problem solving meetings that address any concerns with school climate and culture.

SUSPENSION, EXPULSION, AND DUE PROCESS

Recognizing that the behavior of some students may be so disruptive that it interferes with school purposes or educational functions of the school corporation, school officials may find it necessary to remove a student from school. In this event and in accordance with the provisions of IC 20-33-8-9, the Western Boone School Board authorizes administrators and staff members to take the following actions:

1. Removal from class or activity – Teacher: a teacher will have the right to remove a student from his/her class or activity for up to one school period if the student is assigned regular or additional work to be completed in another school setting.
2. Suspension from school – Administrator: a principal (or designee) may deny a student the right to attend school or take part in any school function for a period of up to 10 school days.
3. Expulsion: in accordance with the due process procedures defined in this policy, a student may be expelled from school for a period no longer than the remainder of the current semester plus the following semester, with the exception of a violation of rule 13 listed under the grounds for Suspension and Expulsion in this policy.

Grounds for Suspension or Expulsion: Indiana Code 20-33-8-14

Grounds for suspension or expulsion are student misconduct or substantial disobedience. The following includes examples of student misconduct or substantial disobedience, but are not limited to:

1. Using violence, force, noise, coercion, threat, intimidation, fear, passive resistance, or other comparable conduct constituting an interference with school purposes or urging other students to engage in such conduct. The following enumeration is illustrative and not limited to the type of conduct prohibited by this rule:
 - a) Occupying any school building, school grounds, or parts thereof with the intent to deprive others of its use.

- b) Blocking the entrance or exits of any school building or corridor or room therein with the intent to deprive others of lawful access to or from, or use of the building, corridor, or room.
 - c) Setting fire to or substantially damaging any school building or property.
 - d) Prevention of or attempting to prevent by physical act the convening or continued functioning of any school or educational function, or of any lawful meeting or assembly on school property.
 - e) Continuously and intentionally making noise or acting in any manner so as to interfere seriously with the ability of the teacher or any of the other personnel to conduct the educational function under his/her supervision.
2. Causing or attempting to cause substantial damage to school property, stealing or attempting to steal school property of substantial value, or repeatedly damaging or stealing school property of small value.
 3. Causing or attempting to cause substantial damage to valuable private property, stealing or attempting to steal valuable private property, or repeatedly damaging or stealing private property.
 4. Intentionally causing or attempting to cause physical injury or intentionally behaving in such a way as could reasonably cause physical injury to any person. Self-defense or reasonable action undertaken on the reasonable belief that it was necessary to protect some other person does not, however, constitute a violation of this section.
 5. Threatening or intimidating any student for the purpose of, or with the intent of, obtaining money or anything of value from the student.
 6. Possessing, handling, or transmitting a knife or any other object that can reasonably be considered a weapon, or is represented to be a weapon. "Any object" includes an item that is considered a weapon but is not a firearm as defined in rule 13 below.
 7. Possessing, using, transmitting, or being under the influence of any narcotic drug, hallucinogenic drug, amphetamine, barbiturate, marijuana, alcoholic beverage, or intoxicant of any kind. Low THC Extract products, such as CBD Oil and other unauthorized substances, as defined by state law are included in this rule and/or violations of the school corporation administration of medication policy are included in this rule. Use of a drug authorized by a medical prescription from a physician for the student in question is not a violation of this rule.
 8. Engaging in any unlawful selling of a controlled substance or engaging in a criminal law violation that constitutes a danger to other students or constitutes an interference with school purposes or educational function.
 9. Failing in a substantial number of instances to comply with directions of teachers or other school personnel during any time when the student is properly under their supervision, where the failure constitutes an interference with school purposes and/or educational function.
 10. Engaging in any activity forbidden by the laws of Indiana that constitutes an interference with school purposes or an educational function.
 11. Violating or repeatedly violating any rules that are reasonably necessary in carrying out school purposes or an educational function and validly adopted in accordance with Indiana law, including, but not limited to"
 - a) Engaging in sexual behavior on school property;
 - b) Disobedience of administrative authority;
 - c) Willful absence or tardiness of students;
 - d) Knowingly possessing, using, or transmitting any substance which is represented to be or looks like a narcotic drug, hallucinogenic drug, amphetamine, barbiturate, marijuana, alcoholic beverage, stimulant, or intoxicant of any kind;
 - e) Possessing, using, transmitting, or being under the influence of caffeine-based substance containing Phenylpropanolamine (PPA), or stimulants of any kind, be they available with or without a prescription.

- f) Engaging in speech of conduct, including clothing, jewelry, or hairstyle, which is profane, indecent, lewd, vulgar, or offensive to school purposes.
- 12. Possessing or using in a school building during school hours an electronic paging device or handheld portable telephone in situation not related to a school purpose or educational function.
- 13. Possession of a firearm or deadly weapon: (IC 20-33-8-16) Gun Free School Act of 1994
 - a) No student shall possess, handle, or transmit any firearm or deadly weapon on school property.
 - b) The following devices are considered to be a firearm under this rule:
 - any weapon, which will or is designed to or may readily be converted to expel a projectile by the action of an explosive.
 - the frame or receiver of any weapon described above.
 - any firearm muffler or firearm silencer.
 - any destructive device which is an explosive, incendiary, or poison gas bomb, grenade, rocket having propellant charge of more than four ounces, missile having an explosive or incendiary charge of more than one-quarter ounce, mine, or any similar device.
 - any weapon which will, or which may be readily converted to expel a projectile by the action of an explosive or other propellant, and which has any barrel with a bore of more than one-half inch in diameter.
 - any combination of parts either designed or intended for use in converting any device into any destructive device described in the two immediately preceding examples, from which a destructive device may be readily assembled.
 - an antique firearm.
 - a rifle or a shotgun which the owner intends to use solely for sporting, recreational, or cultural purposes.
 - c) The penalty for possession of a firearm: suspension up to 10 days and expulsion from school for at least one calendar year with the return of the student to be at the beginning of the first semester after the one-year period. The length of the expulsion may be reduced by the superintendent if the circumstances warrant such a reduction.
 - d) The superintendent shall notify the county prosecuting attorney's office when a student is expelled under this rule.

14. Indiana Code 20-33-8-15

In addition to the grounds listed above, a student may be suspended or expelled for engaging in unlawful activity on or off school grounds if the unlawful activity may reasonably be considered to be an interference with the school purposes or educational function, or the student's removal is necessary to restore order or protect persons on school property. This includes any unlawful activity meeting the above criteria which takes place during weekends, holidays, school breaks, and the summer period when students may not be attending classes or other school functions.

SUSPENSION PROCEDURE:

When a principal (or designee) determines that a student should be suspended, the following procedures will be followed:

1. A meeting will be held prior to the suspension of any student. At this meeting the student will be entitled to:
 - a) A written or oral statement of the charges;
 - b) If the student denies the charges, a summary of evidence against the student will be presented; and,
 - c) The student will be provided with an opportunity to explain his/her conduct.
2. The meeting shall precede suspension of the student except where the nature of the misconduct requires immediate removal. In such situations, the meeting will follow suspension as soon as reasonably possible following the date of the suspension.

3. Following the suspension, the parents or guardians of the suspended student will be notified in writing. The notification will include the dates of suspension, describe the student's misconduct, and the action taken by the principal (designee).

EXPULSION PROCEDURE:

When the principal (or designee) recommends to the superintendent (or designee) that a student be expelled from school, the following procedures will be followed:

1. The superintendent (or designee) may appoint one of the following persons as the expulsion examiner:
 - a) Legal counsel
 - b) A member of the administrative staff who did not expel the student and was not involved in the events giving rise to the expulsion.
2. An expulsion meeting will take place if the student's parent requests an expulsion meeting. Failure by a student's parent to request this meeting will be deemed a waiver of rights administratively to contest the expulsion. The request for an expulsion meeting will be in writing, delivered by certified mail or by personal delivery and must be received within 7 days of the postmarked date on the expulsion papers sent by the expulsion examiner.
3. Once a written request is made, the expulsion examiner will notify the student's parents of the date, time, and place of the expulsion meeting.
4. If an expulsion meeting is conducted, the principal (or designee) will present the evidence to support the charges against the student. The student or parent will have the opportunity to answer the charges against the student and present any evidence to support the student's position.
5. Following an expulsion meeting, the expulsion examiner will make a written summary of the evidence heard at the meeting, take any action found to be appropriate, and give notice of the action taken to the student and the student's parents via certified mail.

DETENTIONS:

Detentions are part of the disciplinary action plan for Thorntown Elementary School. Detentions can occur during recess, lunch, or after school. If a conflict occurs with a scheduled detention, it will occur at the next available opportunity. If there is a conflict with an after-school detention, the student's parents must contact the main office to reschedule the assigned detention. Detentions should occur during the same week as the offense whenever possible.

SUSPENSIONS:

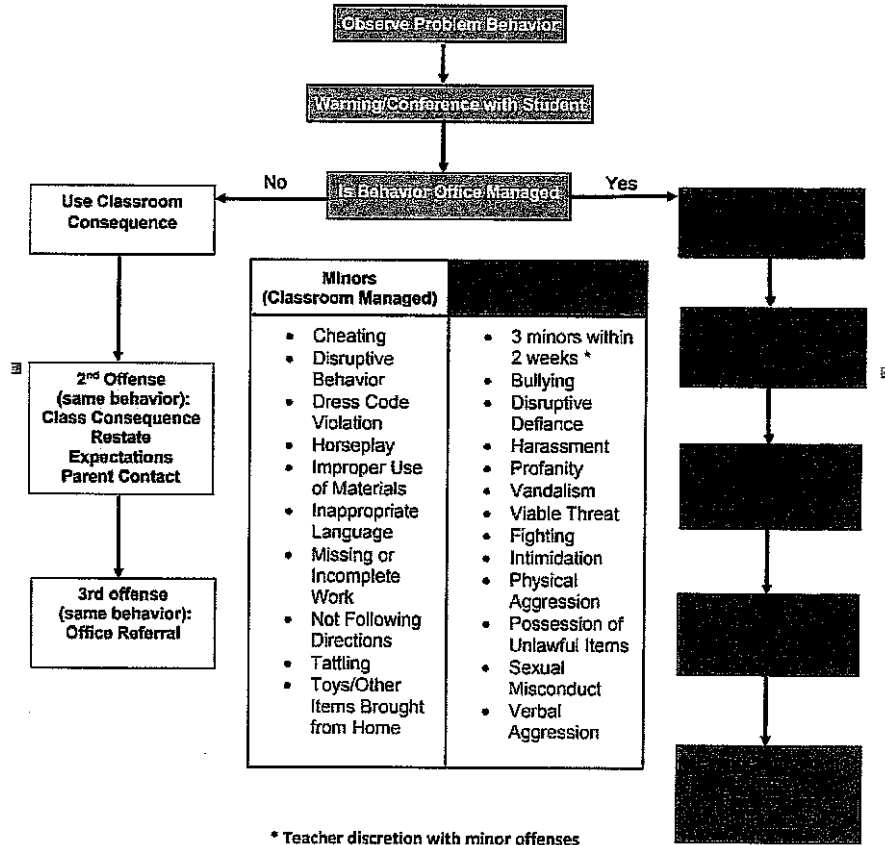
In-School Suspension (ISS) is designed as an alternative to Out of School Suspension (OSS). All students assigned to ISS will complete work in an alternate setting within the school. Out of School Suspension is designed as the last step before expulsion. Western Boone School Corporation and the Juvenile Court System of Boone County may work in conjunction with the students ages 12 to 17 who are suspended out of school to place them in an alternative educational setting during the time of their out of school suspension.

CLASSROOM AND SCHOOL-WIDE RULES:

Thorntown Elementary School recognizes that each classroom presents its own unique environment, thus each classroom will have a set of classroom rules and/or regulations. A student's failure to follow these rules as set forth by the teacher will be viewed as insubordination and referred to the main office for disciplinary action. School-wide rules apply to common areas in and around the school, including but not limited to the cafeteria, hallways, and playground. Students are expected to uphold these school-wide expectations. Violations of these rules may be redirected by any staff member and should be referred to the classroom teacher and/or a school administrator for further action as appropriate.

GENERAL RESPONSE TO MISBEHAVIOR

Thorntown Elementary School Discipline Flow Chart



THORNTOWN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL BEHAVIOR DEFINITIONS

MINOR BEHAVIORS			
Cheating	Presenting work that is not your own	3 Minors within 2 Weeks *	Student engages in repeated minor behavior 3 times within 2 week period
Disruptive Behavior	Engaging in any behavior that disrupts the learning environment	Bullying	Behavior towards another that is repeated, targeted, and reflects an imbalance of power. (Physical, Verbal, Social)
Dress Code Violation	Dressing in a manner that violates the school dress code	Disruptive Defiance	Refusal to comply that disrupts the learning environment; tantrum without a threat of harm to others
Horseplay	Roughhousing; Play that becomes too aggressive	Harassment	Disrespectful behavior toward another based on race, religion, disability, gender, ethnicity, age, or other personal matter
Improper Use of Materials	Use of materials in a way that is not intended	Profanity	Use of obscene language (written or otherwise)
Inappropriate Language	Language that is not true, necessary, and kind; name calling	Vandalism	Intentional destruction of property
Missing/Incomplete Work	Work that is not completed and turned in as assigned	Viable Threat	Threat with intent/means to carry out harm to another; Behavior in which another person feels threatened
Not Following Directions	Behavior not consistent with schoolwide procedures and expectations	Fighting	Students engaged in a physical altercation out of anger, intimidation, or revenge
Tatting	Reporting behavior with intent to get others in trouble	Intimidation	Behavior resulting in a feeling of immediate threat or eminent danger
Toys/Items Brought from Home	Personal items that cause disruption to you or others	Physical Aggression	Angry/emotional physical response that could bring harm to self, property, or others
<i>When little people are overwhelmed by big emotions, it's our job to share our calm, not join their chaos. ~ L.R. Knost</i>		Possession of Unlawful Items	Possession of any unlawful item while at school, on school property, or at a school-sponsored event; Possession will include in your locker, desk, or other personal space.
		Sexual Misconduct	Inappropriate language, gestures, or other behavior of a sexual nature
		Verbal Aggression	Angry or emotional verbal response that disrupts the learning environment
<small>* Use teacher discretion with referring minor offenses, in cases where a behavior support plan might be more in changing a child's behavior.</small>			

BULLYING, CYBER BULLYING, HARASSMENT, AND INTIMIDATION:

1. Thorntown Elementary School shall maintain an environment for all students, teachers, and staff that is free from discriminatory and/or sexual insult, bullying, intimidation, or harassment. Persons who feel they have been offended under this policy should report it immediately to a counselor, teacher, or administrator.
2. Definition of Bullying (IC 20-33-8-0.2) : Bullying is defined as (a) overt, unwanted, repeated acts or gestures, including verbal or written communications or images transmitted in any manner (including digitally or electronically), physical acts committed, aggression, or any other behaviors, that are committed by a student or group of students against another student with the intent to harass, ridicule, humiliate, or harm the targeted student and create for the targeted student an objectively hostile school environment that: (1) places the targeted student in reasonable fear of harm to the targeted student's person or property; (2) has a substantially detrimental effect on the targeted student's physical or mental health; (3) has the effect of substantially interfering with the targeted student's academic performance; or (4) has the effect of substantially interfering with the targeted student's ability to participate in or benefit from the services, activities, and privileges provided by the school.
3. This rule may be applied regardless of the physical location of the bullying behavior when a student committing bullying behavior and the targeted student attend a school within the school corporation and disciplinary action is reasonably necessary to avoid substantial interference with school discipline or prevent an unreasonable threat to the rights of other students to a safe and peaceful learning environment.
4. Any student or parent who has knowledge of conduct in violation of this rule or any student who feels he/she has been bullied in violation of this rule should immediately report the conduct to the school administrator who has responsibility for all investigations of student misconduct including bullying. A student or parent may also report the conduct to a teacher or counselor who will be responsible for notifying the school administrator. This report may be made anonymously.
5. The parents of the alleged perpetrator and the targeted student(s) shall be notified of the reported bullying incidents within five business days of the report of such incidents and on a regular, periodic basis of the progress and the findings of the investigation and of any remedial action that has been taken. During the investigation, the school's priority will be the safety of the victim. The investigation may include a determination of the severity of the bullying incident(s) and whether the transfer of the alleged perpetrator or victim to another school within the school corporation is warranted.
6. False reporting of bullying conduct as defined in this rule by a student shall be considered a violation of this rule and will result in any appropriate disciplinary action or sanctions if the investigation of the report finds it to be false.

Thorntown Elementary School does not tolerate bullying. Action will be taken if bullying occurs, which may include counseling, parental involvement, reporting to authorities, suspension, and expulsion. Our involvement includes appropriate interventions, restoration of a positive climate, and support for victims and others impacted by the violation. In bullying situations, the following actions will be taken (levels may be skipped at the discretion of the administrator based on the seriousness of the offense):

- 1.) First Offense: Educating the person initiating the bullying and the target of the bullying. The

perpetrator will meet with the school counselor and/or a building administrator and receive a verbal warning. The parent/guardian may also be notified.

- 2.) Second Offense: A discipline referral, resulting in loss of privileges and telephone conference with parents/guardians.
- 3.) Third Offense: A discipline referral, resulting in an In-school Suspension (ISS). Parent/guardian and local law enforcement may be notified.
- 4.) Fourth Offense: A discipline referral, up to five days of Out-of-School Suspension (OSS), and notification of the parent/guardian and local law enforcement.
- 5.) Fifth Offense: A discipline referral for 5 or more days of OSS, and/or possible recommendation for expulsion. The parent/guardian and SRO will be notified.

SCHOOL BUS RULES AND REGULATIONS

School busses are school property and therefore, an extension of the school classroom. All school policies regarding student safety, including student conduct, dress code, and possession of alcohol, tobacco, weapons, or vaping devices apply when riding the school bus.

School bus drivers are to have control of all students while transporting them between their homes and school. The driver is responsible for keeping order and maintaining discipline among the students while in the bus or along the route. Students are to be treated in a civil manner and the bus driver must ensure that no one is imposed upon or mistreated while on the school bus. The school bus driver shall also use every precaution in the safety of the passengers and assure that the following regulations are observed by ALL students.

1. Students will go directly to an available or assigned seat upon entering the bus. Standing or loitering in the aisles is **not** permitted while on the school bus. Students may be assigned a seat by the driver. Girls and Boys, 5th grade and above, will not be seated together unless they are siblings or at the driver's discretion. All Pre-K students are required by Indiana State Law to be secured in an appropriate child safety restraint system.
2. Students will remain properly seated, back against the back of the seat, bottom against the bottom of the seat, and feet on the floor. Students may **not** stand or move from seat to seat while the bus is in motion. Students will remain seated and facing forward while the bus is in motion as well as when parked at their destination.
3. Students will be allowed to carry-on up to two bags (backpack/computer/sports bag) but all belongings must sit with the student in their seat/lap. Musical instruments must fit on the student's lap or between their legs and floor. All sports equipment must be secured inside a bag, including sports balls, balloons, bats, helmets, cleats, etc. **ELEMENTARY:** All recess toys, including sports balls, must be secured inside a bag.
4. Students should only use kind words, speaking at a level 1-2. No shouting or profane language. Use of the "F" word will result in an automatic 1-day suspension of bus privileges.
5. Students are not allowed to tease, scuffle, trip, hold, hit, or use their hands, feet or body in any manner that might be considered objectionable.
6. Hairspray, cologne, & perfume are not allowed on the bus.
7. Students may put their individual window down to the white line with the driver's permission. All body parts and belongings will remain inside the bus. Students will keep all body parts and belongings to themselves and seated in their own seat.
8. Students are not permitted to enter or leave the bus until it has come to a complete stop and the door has been opened by the driver.
9. Students who wish to ride the bus should be waiting at the designated boarding station at the pre-arranged

time of arrival for the school bus. Habitual lateness may result in expulsion from the bus.

10. Upon recommendation of the bus driver, school authorities will deny the privilege of riding on the school bus to any student who doesn't comply with these regulations. The driver may deny the privilege of riding on the bus for one day to any student who refuses to conduct him/herself according to the rules. If the driver feels that the student's actions warrant a longer period of riding privilege suspension, he/she may with the School Principal's approval deny the riding privileges indefinitely or until a meeting can be held with the school officials and the parent(s), from which permanent denial may result.

11. Students must be enrolled at their respective school to board/ride a bus to/from school.

Students may only ride their assigned bus. The Transportation Director must approve all transportation changes or assignments. Call Director Lisa Pearson at (765) 485-2406

Students should be at their stop 3-5 minutes before the expected pick-up time and be prepared to wait 3-5 minutes past the expected pick-up time.

Bus drivers will not pick up or drop off passengers at any location other than their designated pick-up or drop-off spot.

If a child misses the bus or forgets something, parents will need to deliver the child or item to school. **DO NOT CHASE DOWN THE BUS**

Students will wait approximately 10 feet away from the road surface or on the sidewalk while waiting for the bus to stop. NO horseplay at the bus stop.

If crossing the roadway, students will wait and watch for the driver's signal that it is safe to cross.

Students should not approach the bus until the driver opens the door and signals that it is safe to board.

Students will only cross in front of the bus.

12. Students may have electronic devices with them on the bus. (Phone, camera, tablet, gaming device, etc.) In doing so, they assume all risk for damage, loss, or theft. Student must have headphones or earbuds to use them. Any distraction caused by the student or device will result in loss of this privilege.

Due to seat availability and rider accountability, students will not be allowed to ride home to friends or family. If the student is already routed on that bus, they may get off at a different stop. Parents/Guardians must contact the driver to make arrangements.

Students are permitted to wear hats or caps on the bus. Hoods are prohibited.

No blankets are to be brought for use on the bus. Students may transport them to and from school in a bag.

USE OF METAL DETECTORS - BP-6235

When the school administration has reasonable suspicion to believe that weapons are in the possession of an identified student, the administration is authorized to use a mobile metal detector to search the student. Any search of a student's person as a result of the activation of the detector will be conducted in private and in accordance with the policy on personal searches. Only school personnel who have been trained in the usage of metal detectors, law enforcement officers assigned to the school corporation, or school resource officers shall operate the metal detectors under the direction of the administration.

In view of the escalating school violence, the potential presence of weapons in our schools, and the school corporation's duty to maintain a safe learning environment, the Board of School Trustees authorizes the use of metal detectors to check a student's person or personal effects. Only school personnel who have

been trained in the usage of metal detectors, law enforcement officers assigned to the school corporation, or school resource officers shall operate the metal detectors under the direction of the administration. School officials or law enforcement officers may conduct metal detector checks of groups of individuals if the checks are done in a minimally-intrusive, nondiscriminatory manner. Metal detector checks of groups of individuals may not be used to single out a particular individual or category of individuals.

If a school official or a law enforcement officer has reasonable suspicion to believe that a particular student is in possession of an illegal or unauthorized metal-containing object or weapon, he or she may conduct a metal detector check of the student's person and personal effects.

Notice of the Board policy and procedures on the use of metal detectors will be sent to parents and students and posted on the websites of the school corporation and of each middle and high school.

The Superintendent shall develop procedures for implementing this policy. The metal detector checks will be done only in accordance with the provisions of the Board policy and procedures by school personnel or law enforcement officers under the supervision of the school administrator.

POLICY RELATING TO RELEASE OF DIRECTORY INFORMATION PERTAINING TO STUDENTS

The school corporation may release to the public certain "directory information," which means information contained in an education record of a student that would not generally be considered harmful or an invasion of privacy if disclosed. This includes, but is not limited to, the student's name, address, parent home and work telephone number, major field of study, participation in officially recognized activities and sports, height and weight of members of athletic teams, dates of attendance, awards received, motor vehicle description and license plate number, hair and eye color, race, sex, age, height, weight, grade level, date of birth, and other similar information. This information may be released without parental consent to media organizations, colleges, civic or school related organizations, governmental entities, and members of the public at large when deemed appropriate by school officials.

Parents desiring to object to the disclosure of any or certain categories of directory information should request from the Superintendent's office a form on which to deny consent for the release of all directory information or to selectively deny consent by indication which categories of directory information they do not wish released about their child.

Board approved 12/11/89

Western Boone County Community School Corporation NETWORK AND INTERNET ACCEPTABLE USE POLICY FOR STUDENTS BP - 6390

Access to the Internet enables students to explore thousands of libraries, databases, and other resources. The corporation expects faculty to blend thoughtful use of the Internet throughout the curriculum and provide guidance and instruction to students in its use. Access to Internet resources will be structured in ways that point students to those evaluated prior to use. However, at times, students will be able to move beyond those resources to others not previewed by staff. Outside of school, families bear responsibility for the same guidance of Internet usage as they exercise with other information services.

Students utilizing corporation-provided Network and Internet access (Network) must first have the permission of and must be supervised by Western Boone County Community School Corporation's (WBCCSC) professional staff. Students utilizing school-provided Internet access are responsible for good behavior online just as they are in a classroom or other area of the school. The same general rules for behavior and communications apply.

The purpose of the Network, as it relates to students, is to facilitate and support educational objectives. To remain eligible as users, students' use must be in support of and consistent with the educational objectives

of the WCCSC. Access is a privilege, not a right. Users should not assume or expect that files stored on school-based computers will be private. Electronic messages and files stored on school-based computers may be treated like school lockers. Administrators and faculty may review files and messages to maintain system integrity and ensure that users are acting responsibly.

The intent of this policy is to ensure students understand the corporation's expectations of their Network use and to ensure that students comply with all Network and Internet rules approved by the corporation set forth in this policy.

In exchange for the use of the Network resources either at school or away from school, the student understands and agrees to the following:

A. The use of the Network is a privilege, which may be revoked by the corporation at any time and for any reason. Appropriate reasons for revoking privileges include, but are not limited to, altering system software, placing unauthorized information, computer viruses or harmful programs on or through the computer and/or Network. The WCCSC reserves the right to log computer use, monitor file server space, remove files, limit or deny access, and refer the student for other disciplinary actions.

B. The corporation reserves all rights to any material stored in files and will remove any material, which the corporation, in its sole discretion, believes may be unlawful, obscene, pornographic, abusive, or otherwise objectionable. Students may not use their corporation-approved computer account to obtain, view, download, or otherwise gain access to, distribute, or transmit such materials.

C. All information and services and features on corporation resources are intended for the private use of its registered users and any use of them for commercial-for-profit or other unauthorized purposes (i.e. advertisements, political lobbying) is expressly forbidden.

D. Corporation resources are intended for the exclusive use of their registered users. The student is responsible for use of his/her account, password, access, and privileges. Any problems arising from the use of the student's account are the responsibility of the account holder. Use of an account by someone other than the registered account holder is forbidden and may be grounds for disciplinary action including but not limited to the loss of Network privileges.

E. Any misuse of the account and/or access to the Network will result in suspension of the account privileges and/or other disciplinary action determined by the WCCSC. Access includes the use of school computers, personal communication devices such as cell phones, and any other device connecting to the Internet or Network. Students are not allowed to connect personal equipment to the Network without prior approval and only for educational purposes. Should a student use a personal device to connect to the Internet via other means (i.e. Cellular Network) while on school grounds, this acceptable use policy also applies. Misuse shall include, but is not limited to:

1. Intentionally seeking information on, obtaining copies of, or modifying files, other data, or passwords belonging to other users
2. Disrupting the operation of the Network or any other computer system through abuse of or vandalizing, damaging, unauthorized access/hacking, or disabling the hardware or software
3. Malicious use of the Network through cyberbullying, hate mail, harassment, profanity, vulgar statements, or discriminatory remarks
4. Interfering with others use of the Network or accessing the materials, information, or files of another without their prior approval
5. Use for non-curricular/educational communication such as, but not limited to instant messaging and online chatting. Responding to unsolicited online contact is strictly prohibited for student safety.
6. Unauthorized installation, downloading, copying, or use of licensed or copyrighted software or plagiarizing materials
7. Unauthorized disclosure, use, and dissemination of personal information
8. Misrepresenting others on the Network or allowing anyone else to use an account other than the account holder
9. Accessing, uploading, downloading, or distributing pornographic, obscene, or sexually explicit material. "Sexting" is also expressly forbidden.

10. Violating any local, state, or federal statute

F. Corporation Network resources are to be used exclusively for the support of the academic program, not for entertainment.

G. Students bringing data files into the system agree to check the file with a virus- detection program before opening the file for use. Should the student deliberately or maliciously infect the Network with a virus or cause damage through other vandalism, the student will be liable for any and all repair costs to restore the Network to full operation and will be subject to additional disciplinary measures.

H. The student may only log on and use the Network under the immediate supervision of a staff member and only with the student's authorized user account.

Violation of corporation policy and rules will result in appropriate discipline, which may include suspension of computer access to be determined by the Wbccsc staff. Additional disciplinary action will be determined at the building level in keeping with rules set forth in the student handbook. When or where applicable, law enforcement agencies may be involved. Students and parents are liable for damages to corporation owned equipment due to misuse or neglect.

The Wbccsc makes no warranties of any kind, neither expressed nor implied, for the Network/Internet access it is providing. The corporation will not be responsible for any damages users suffer, including, but not limited to, loss of data resulting from delays or interruptions of service. The corporation will not be responsible for the accuracy, nature, or quality of information.

Wbccsc will make all reasonable attempts to prevent unauthorized access to students' personal information through the Internet. The corporation's intent is to make Network/Internet access available for educational goals and objectives. The corporation will filter and monitor students' Internet activities.

Corporation Internet traffic travels through a content filter which blocks access to content that is obscene, pornographic, inappropriate for students, or harmful to minors. Even though the corporation institutes these technical methods/systems to regulate students' Internet access, these methods cannot guarantee 100% filter accuracy or compliance with the corporation's acceptable use policy. The corporation is committed to helping students use the Internet responsibly, but it is not possible to monitor student usage at all times. To that end, building principals are responsible for providing training so that teachers and staff under their supervision are knowledgeable about this policy and its accompanying guidelines. The Board expects that staff members will provide guidance and instruction to students in the appropriate use of the Network and all corporation technology resources. Such training shall include, but not be limited to, education concerning appropriate online behavior, including interacting with other individuals on social media and in chat rooms, and cyberbullying awareness and response. Ultimately, parents and guardians of minors are responsible for setting and conveying the standards that their children should follow when using media and information. By using the corporation's Network/Internet resources, students agree to the rules and regulations set forth in this policy. This policy, upon the Wbccsc Board of Trustees approval, will be published on each school and corporation websites, student handbooks, and available in hard copy in each building's office.

Date Adopted: 03/08/10

Date Revised: 01/10/22

FAMILY EDUCATIONAL RIGHTS AND PRIVACY ACT (FERPA)

The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) afford parents and students over 18 years of age ("eligible students") certain rights with respect to the student's educational records. These rights are:

1. The right to inspect and review the student's education records within 45 days of the day the School receives a request for access.

Parents of eligible students should submit to the school principal a written request that identifies the record(s) they wish to inspect. The School official will make arrangements for access and notify the parent or eligible student of the time and place where the records may be inspected.

2. The right to request the amendment of the student's education records that the parent or eligible student

EDUCATION & OPERATION FUND COMPARISON REPORT

As of April 30, 2026, the Education Fund cash balance was \$5,589,624. The Education Fund expenditures for April 2026 were \$989,929. As of the end of April 2026, a total of 29% of the 2026 appropriation was expended.

As of April 30, 2026, the Operation Fund cash balance was \$2,932,929. The Operation Fund expenditures for April 2026 were \$406,378. As of the end of April 2026, a total of 28% of the 2026 appropriation was expended.

Western Boone County Community School Corporation has investments in the form of various interest-bearing accounts, deposits and treasuries with financial institutions and has earned interest as follows:

<u>Financial Institution</u>	<u>2026 YTD Interest Earned</u>
Home National Bank	\$59,146.83 Interest
North Salem State Bank	\$18,031.79 Interest
Trust Indiana	\$91,113.63 Interest
Key Bank	\$1,311.00 Interest

FYI: The April 2026 - Fund, Appropriation, and Revenue Reports are posted to the School Board Document Site