



# District Policies for Student Handbooks

## Elmwood Park C.U.S.D. #401

### Parent/Student Sign-off Sheet



*Please fill out one sign-off sheet per student and return to the school no later than five (5) school days after your first day of classes.*

## **UNDERSTANDING AND ACCEPTANCE OF STUDENT HANDBOOK POLICIES AND PROCEDURES**

Every student receives a Student Handbook during the opening week of the school year. Teachers and the school administration have discussed the contents with all students. **Read the handbook and policies carefully so that you are aware of the procedures and rules. We will refer to its contents with students, throughout the year.** This Handbook outlines our rules and expectations for your child. In a sense, it then becomes a contract between parent, student and school. We, therefore, request both a parent and student signature indicating the awareness of the contents of this Handbook and District Policies. Each school may have a directive that is specific and pertinent to their grade levels. Be sure to review your child’s school handbook. These are designated policies required for the student handbook. All Board Policies are available to the public at the District Office and online on the District’s website. **Please return this sign-off sheet no later than the five (5) school days after your first day of classes.**

### **PART 1: DISTRICT POLICIES FOR STUDENT HANDBOOKS**

All District student handbook policies are posted on our website [epcUSD401.org](http://epcUSD401.org) “District Policies for Student Handbooks.” Hard copies are available in the office at each school. The handbook Board Policies may be amended by Board approval during the year.

### **PART 2: CELLULAR PHONE ACCEPTABLE USE POLICY AND PARENTAL PERMISSION**

Using a cellular telephone, video recording device, personal digital assistant (PDA), or other electronic device in any manner that disrupts the educational environment or violates the rights of others, including using the device to take photographs in locker rooms or bathrooms, cheat, or otherwise violate student conduct rules is prohibited. Unless otherwise banned under this policy or by the Building Principal, all electronic devices must be kept powered-off and out-of-sight during the regular school day unless: (a) the supervising teacher grants permission; (b) use of the device is provided in a student’s individualized education program (IEP); or (c) it is needed in an emergency that threatens the safety of students, staff, or other individuals.

Each school has different guidelines/restrictions regarding cell phone use (especially Elm Middle School and the High School). Please be sure you review these guidelines with your child(ren).

### **PART 3: PUBLICATION OF STUDENT PHOTOS**

I understand and acknowledge that from time to time, Elmwood Park Community Unit School District 401 may publish student photographs or images in various school publications. Publications in which my child’s photograph or image may appear include, but are not necessarily limited to, the yearbook, school brochures, video recordings, the school newspaper and the District’s website. I understand that information posted on the District’s Internet site will be available to all users of the Internet. I also understand that District 401 cannot restrict either the scope of the audience or the use of such information by visitors to the District’s Internet site. I understand that I have the opportunity to inspect, copy and challenge the contents of the above-described information. I understand that unless I request in writing that I do not want such information released, District 401 may publish photographs or images of my child that do not identify my child without my consent. I further understand that in order for District 401 to publish a photograph or image of my child with identifying information, I must give my written consent.

### **PART 4: ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATION**

Students and their parents should carefully review Board Policy 6:235 *Acceptable Use and Internet Safety* regarding permissible use of District technology resources. Parents and students should sign this Agreement where indicated to evidence their agreement to follow the District’s rules and regulations as set forth in the Acceptable Use and Internet Safety Policy. Students will be allowed to use District technology resources, including computers and access the Internet, pursuant to the Acceptable Use and Internet Safety Policy after they have returned this Agreement signed by the student and his/her parent or guardian. Please retain the attached Policy or refer to the online policy for future reference.

### **STUDENT**

I have read and I understand the School District’s Acceptable Use and Internet Safety Policy. I agree to follow the District’s rules and regulations set forth in the Policy. I understand that failure to follow the District’s Acceptable Use and Internet Safety Policy will result in appropriate disciplinary action that may include loss of computer access privileges, out-of-school suspension and/or expulsion.

**PARENT(S)/GUARDIAN(S)**

I have read and I understand the School District's Acceptable Use and Internet Safety Policy. I understand that the District's technology resources, including the District's network and access to the Internet, are for educational purposes only. I also recognize that it is impossible for the District to prevent access to all non-educational materials and that the responsibility for appropriate use of District technology resources ultimately rests with the computer user. I agree to instruct my child accordingly. I further agree to indemnify and hold harmless the Board of Education, its Board members, and the Board's employees and agents for any harm caused by my child's use of the District's technology resources. I accept full responsibility for supervision of my child's use of any District technology resources, including any use of District means of access to the Internet that may occur outside the District's schools. I understand that my child's failure to follow the District's Acceptable Use and Internet Safety Policy will result in appropriate disciplinary action that may include loss of computer access privileges, out-of-school suspension and/or expulsion.

**PART 5: NOTICE FOR DIRECTORY INFORMATION**

The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA), a Federal law, requires that Elmwood Park Community Unit School District 401, with certain exceptions, obtain your written consent prior to the disclosure of personally identifiable information from your child's education records. However, the District may disclose appropriately designated "directory information" without written consent, unless you have advised the District to the contrary in accordance with District procedures. The primary purpose of directory information is to allow the District to include this type of information from your child's education records in certain school publications. Examples include the following:

- A playbill, showing your student's role in a drama production;
- The annual yearbook;
- Honor roll or other recognition lists;
- Graduation programs; and
- Sports activity sheets, such as for wrestling, showing weight and height of team members.

Directory information, which is information that is generally not considered harmful or an invasion of privacy if released, can also be disclosed to outside organizations without a parent's prior written consent. Outside organizations include, but are not limited to, companies that manufacture class rings or publish yearbooks. In addition, two Federal laws require local educational agencies (LEAs) receiving assistance under the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (ESEA) to provide military recruiters, upon request, with three directory information categories - names, addresses and telephone listings - unless parents have advised the LEA that they do not want their student's information disclosed without their prior written consent.

If you do not want Elmwood Park Community Unit School District 401 to disclose directory information from your child's education records without your prior written consent, you must notify the District in writing **no later than the five (5) school days after your first day of classes**. The District has designated the following information as directory information:

- Student's name
- School
- Participation in officially recognized activities and sports
- Weight and height of members of athletic teams
- Photograph
- Degrees, honors, and awards received
- Grade level

**BY SIGNING BELOW, WE ARE INDICATING TO THE ADMINISTRATION THAT WE HAVE READ, DISCUSSED, UNDERSTAND AND WILL ABIDE BY THE TERMS OF PART 1, 2, 3, 4 AND 5 OF THIS FORM, AND THE GENERAL RULES OF ALL THE DISTRICT STUDENT HANDBOOK POLICIES AND PROCEDURES.**

Name of Student (please print) \_\_\_\_\_ Grade \_\_\_\_ Homeroom/Academic Lab Teacher \_\_\_\_\_

Student Cell Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ Model/Service Provider \_\_\_\_\_  
**(not necessary for Early Childhood Center and High School students)**

**Student Signature** \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
**(not necessary for Early Childhood Center students)**

Name of Parent/Guardian \_\_\_\_\_

**Parent Signature** \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_